

Subject: Board of Trustees – New Member Installation Ceremony

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New Board of Trustees Member Installation Ceremony

This ceremony can take place at your Annual Meeting after the new board members have been elected, or at the first Sunday Service following the Annual Meeting when the officers have also been established.

Minister: This morning we are lighting three candles.
The center one – white for the One Spirit – represents the One Life which unites us all.
(Light the Candle)

The silver candle is for the preciousness of our spiritual community. A safe harbor for all to anchor in while we explore the possibilities for the full expression of God within our own lives. This candle also represents the past as it has unfolded here, and we recognize all the people who have played a part in bringing about this moment today. We especially honor those Board members who have just completed their term of office.
(Light second candle)

The gold candle is for our new Board of Trustees members, and for vision we have as a spiritual community. Because they have chosen to make this commitment to be a co-creator and leader in our church we are enriched. (Light the third candle)

You can see that the light is stronger and brighter now. These three candles give visibility to the biblical saying that where two or more are gathered God is more fully present.

Call the members of the Board from the past year who are leaving the Board to the front of the room. Introduce each one and honor them for their service. Present the outgoing members with a gift of appreciation. (Some ideas follow this ceremony). Introduce and give special recognition to the Board Member's family in attendance. They leave the platform.

Bring the Board of Trustees who will serve in the coming year to the front of the room, the newly elected or appointed Board members. Introduce each one and tell something of their qualifications to serve. Introduce and give special recognition to the Board member's family in attendance. Conduct the following installation ceremony.

Commitment:

(Minister or Board President):

You have been elected to the Board of Trustees of _____ because the members of this church believe you to be their worthy representative. They believe you to possess the qualities of leadership which will embrace and carry out our vision.

Election to the Board is both an honor and privilege, and with this privilege comes personal and organizational responsibilities. In accepting this position on the Board you are making a commitment both to serve and to lead our congregation according to our shared values and principles. Do you so commit?

Every Board Member needs a deep commitment to their spiritual life. Do you have such a commitment?

If a conflict arises between your position as a board member and your personal opinions will you commit first to prayer, second to speaking only to the involved parties, and third to acknowledge this conflict before the board and take positive measures to eliminate the conflict?

Will you commit to support in a positive manner all actions initiated by the Board, even when you are in a minority position on such actions?

With full commitment and a bond of trust established by this ceremony you are now duly installed as the Board of Trustees of _____ for the year of _____.