

# REV. ERIK DAVID CARLSON

EXECUTIVE, ORGANIZER, MINISTER

## SUMMARY

Accomplished Chief Executive & Lead Minister with extensive experience in non-profit management, leadership, media, fundraising and interfaith advocacy.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Unitarian Church North, Mequon, WI • 2026 - present

Minister: Help coordinate worship, pastoral care, leadership development, adult faith formation and membership programming.

### First Unitarian Society, Milwaukee, WI • 2026

On-call pastoral care associate.

### Ascension Health Services, Racine & Franklin, WI • 2025 - present

Associate Hospital Chaplain serving ICU, oncology and emergency departments.

### Bradford Community Church UU, Kenosha, WI • 2016 - 2025

Lead Minister & CEO: Oversee all worship, R.E., pastoral care, outreach, programming, membership, staff, leadership, fundraising, etc.

- Increased membership by 33%,
- Led two capital campaigns exceeding \$120K, established endowment,
- Transitioned to live service broadcasts during Covid,
- Helped lead response to shootings of Jacob Blake and by Kyle Rittenhouse,
- Negotiated successful restoration/improvement of sign lost during protests,
- Supervised one student minister, one assistant minister during tenure,
- Managed branding, publicity, and media strategy.

### Unitarian Universalist Church of Stockton, IL • 2010 - 2016

Minister: Oversaw all worship services, R.E., pastoral care, outreach, programming, membership, staff, leadership, fundraising, social justice, etc.

### Revolution Media, Boston, MA • 2002 - 2012

- Lead site and interface designer for webhosting company,
- Responsible for hundreds of church and non-profit websites,
- Pioneered church use of social media, online donations, live broadcasting.

### Rush University Medical Center • 2006 - 2007

Chaplain for the Department of Health and Human Services.

### VinFen, Inc., Boston, MA • 2002 - 2005

Provided care to residents with mental health concerns in multiple settings.

### The-Reference, Inc., Boston, MA • 2000 - 2001

Senior technical writer, customer support for portfolio management software.

## ORGANIZING AND ACTIVISM

### CUSH Religious Leaders Caucus • 2016 – 2025

Co-Chair of local Gamaliel affiliate, established group covenant, led interfaith vigils and protests, met with elected officials, wrote press statements, etc.

### Stockton Ministerial Association, Stockton, IL • 2010 - 2016

Co-Chair: Led meetings, public worship, monitored finances for local food pantry.

### Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees • 2011 - 2013

Managed \$56M in budgets and \$70M of property transactions during tenure.

### Central Midwest District of UUA Board of Trustees • 2011 - 2013

Assisted with transition to MidAmerica Region, governance and staff changes.

### Greater New Orleans UUs, New Orleans, LA • 2007 - 2008

- Managed website, online donations, materials for \$2.7M campaign,
- Produced monthly series *Ethical Living in NOLA* for NOA-TV with 20K viewers.
- Represented churches in All Congregations Together, the Committee to Reopen Charity Hospital and Kids Rethink NOLA.



## RELEVANT SKILLS

- Staff Supervision
- Institutional Management
- Community Engagement
- Public Relations
- Public Speaking
- Outreach
- Fundraising
- Campaign Management
- Communication
- Digital and Social Media
- Art Direction & Graphic Design
- Pastoral counseling
- Worship leading
- Music coordination

## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

**Northwestern University / Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary**  
Doctor of Ministry, exp. 2027.

**Meriter Hospital, Madison, WI**  
Clinical Pastoral Ed. (CPE) II, 2010.

**University of Chicago / Meadville Lombard Theological School**  
Master of Divinity, 2009, work in management, Policy Governance, comparative religions.

**Rush University, Chicago, IL**  
Clinical Pastoral Ed. (CPE) I, 2006.

**Tufts University, Medford, MA**  
BA, English, 2000, dean's list, honors.

## RECOGNITION

**Featured Story on Vice News** Feature aired on 9/10/2020 on response to Kenosha shootings, protests.

**Meadville Lombard Award** for exemplary service to the UU faith.

**UUA Donna DiSciullo Award** for Young Adult & Campus Ministry.

## MORE INFORMATION

Professional Portfolio at:  
<https://ErikDavid.com>

## CONTACT ERIK DAVID CARLSON

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