

## Rev. Parisa Parsa Bio

Rev. Parisa Parsa roots her ministry in the transforming power of love, practiced in community and solidarity. She works with congregations and nonprofits to harness the gifts of diversity to navigate change and align everyday practices with values and mission. Born in Iran to an Iranian father and American mother and transplanted to the US after the Islamic Revolution, she is committed to pluralism in cultural and religious practices and to constructively engaging conflict.

A graduate of the University of New Mexico and of Harvard Divinity School, Parisa was ordained to the Unitarian Universalist Ministry by 20 of the member congregations of the UU Urban Ministry (including ASC!) in 1998. She served as the UUUM's Associate Minister at Large and Director of Renewal House, as consulting minister at the UU Fellowship of Los Gatos, Minister at Large with the Faithful Fools Street Ministry in San Francisco, Minister at First Parish in Milton, UUA New England Region staff, and most recently Interim Minister at First UU Society in Newton. Her work in nonprofits has included serving as Executive Director of [Essential Partners](#) (fka the Public Conversations Project) and CEO of [Cortico](#), a technology nonprofit associated with the Center for Constructive Communication at MIT.

Parisa's service to UU organizations has included serving on the board of the UU Legislative Ministry of California, The Pacific Central District Board, the UU Funding Program's Fund for a Just Society, the board of the UU Minister's Association with the portfolio for Antiracism, Antioppression and Multiculturalism, chairing the board of Meadville Lombard Theological School, and serving as denominational counselor and teaching UU Polity at Harvard Divinity School. She has published essays in several Skinner House publications including *The Seven Principles in Word and Worship*, *Turning Point: Essays on a New Unitarian Universalism*, and *Little Did I Know*.