

AIDA DOSS HAVEL



Aida Doss Havel was born in California and moved gradually eastward, first to Arizona and then to Raleigh, which she has called home since the age of 9. She graduated from Sanderson High School, Davidson College, and UNC's School of Law. She is happily married to John Michael Havel, a graphic designer working for the Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park.

Since 1985, Aida has practiced law in Raleigh, focusing primarily on family law cases, and it is in these cases, as difficult and challenging as they are, that she finds great satisfaction. Although Aida occasionally still sets foot in a courtroom, she now prefers to resolve cases peacefully through mediation and collaborative law (ask her about it!) She employs techniques such as reflective listening and non-violent communication.

Aida likes to say that she was "raised spiritual" and that her parents were spiritual before "spiritual" was cool. She has been exposed to a wide variety of mystical and metaphysical schools of thought, and encourages everyone to find a path that speaks to him or her. She was a member of Unity Church of Raleigh for 18 years before migrating to Unity Church of the Triangle in early 2007. Since joining UCT, Aida has helped plan and set up special events, decorated the Christmas tree, "clicked" the slides on Sunday mornings, and taken the 4T class. But what she enjoys most are the outreach opportunities that UCT offers. Aida has participated in the St. Bernard Project in New Orleans, the Migrant Workers' Dinner, the preparing and serving of meals with Wake Interfaith Network, many of the food and clothing drives, and currently, the Homeless Support Circle.

Aida's statement on why she wants to be on the Board of UCT: "I am interested in finding positive, holistic, practical, and spiritual solutions to what appear to be thorny and difficult problems. I love asking questions, thinking creatively and in an out-of-the-box manner, and building consensus in groups. UCT is currently experiencing some interesting challenges, and I would greatly enjoy helping to find creative and spiritual ways to meet those challenges. If chosen to serve, I will listen, keep an open mind, and seek guidance in making decisions."