



# Ministry Vacancy Information Packet

Unity of Gainesville, Florida

June 2024

# About the Ministry

## OVERVIEW

**Locality:** Unity of Gainesville is on a well travelled 4 lane divided street in Northwest Gainesville, 1 mile to I-75, 5 miles to downtown Gainesville

**Physical Description:** Located on approx. 5 acres, which includes some woods, wetlands, reservoir, parking lot, gardens, small labyrinth, 2 storage sheds, and a stucco building approx. 5,000 s.f. (with sanctuary, gathering room, bookstore, 2 offices, prayer room, 4 classrooms, 4 restrooms).

**Proximity to Other Unity Ministries and/or New Thought Centers:**

**Similar to Unity in Gainesville:** Spirit of Truth (very small), United Church of Gainesville (large, diverse)

**Do you participate in any of the following activities?** *(Check all that apply)*

- Small/SpiritGroup Ministries
- Community Outreach/Compassionate Social Action
- Publications
- Social Media (ex: Facebook, Twitter, livestreaming, etc.)
- Other (please list) Bread of the Mighty; weekly enews, YouTube, Facebook, livestreaming, ACIM, (h-line classes, ongoing spiritual growth group, men's group, membership

## PEOPLE

**Size of mailing list:** 285  
**Average Sunday attendance:** 35-60  
**Formal (voting or active) membership:** 75-80

**Special Groups:**

Men's group, spiritual study groups, A Course in Miracles, Tai Chi, QiGong, AA, Al-Anon, A Year Long Journey of Living an Awakened Life, crochet, drumming, and many other classes. In addition, community groups rent our space and provide many additional classes and opportunities.

**Church staff/other employees:**

Administrator, informal contracts for housekeeping and Grounds

## MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

Has the ministry worked with a UWM Consultant or Transitional Specialist?  Yes  No.

Name: Rev. Betty Martin

Dates: ~12/21 – 03/23

Workshops Given and Topics Covered: Board training; Vision, Mission, Core Values; Financial responsibility, Art of Quantum Living

## MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

Has the ministry developed Vision, Mission, and Core Value statements?  Yes  No.

Date: 02/21

### What have been the three most important events in the history of your ministry?

1. Forming of the Unity Study Group in 1977, which evolved into Unity of Gainesville, FL church
2. Hired first minister-Rev. Joe Bettancourt 1983
3. Built and moved into our current new church in 1994; paid off mortgage 2019

### In the last 3 years, what activities/special events in the ministry were all attended/appreciated?

- The White Stone ceremony
- Christmas Candle Light service
- New Year's Burning Bowl service
- World Day of Prayer

### What does the congregation want to accomplish in the next 3 years?

- Spiritual ministerial leadership
- Financial security
- Growing of a vibrant Church family

## INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

**Articles of Incorporation – Date:** February 1984

**Bylaws – Date Adopted/Revised:** Revised May 2023

Check here if your bylaws are structured in accordance with the Unity Worldwide Ministries bylaw template:  <https://www.unityworldwideministries.org/recommended-bylaws-unity-ministry>

# About the Position

## MINISTERIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND EXPECTATIONS – 1 IS TOP PRIORITY, 9 IS LEAST IMPORTANT

- 1 Building Leaders and Teams, and Empowering Others**
  - Keeps mission, vision, values, and the WHY this ministry exists current
  - Plans for continual training of leadership and volunteers, ministry growth, and outreach
  - Implements training for boards, staff, and volunteers and fosters a team-based culture
  - Plans for training and utilizing licensed Unity teachers (LUT) as an integral part of the ministry
  - Planning for building financial development strategies
  - Incorporates training for Youth & Family Ministry, youth, YOU, Next Generation
  - Develops and leads worship experiences collaboratively with others involved
  
- 2 Focus on Prayer, Meditation, Pastoral Care, Chaplaincy**
  - Demonstrates prayer consciousness and facilitates prayer & meditation classes & experiences
  - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to others' needs and emotions
  - Focus on the pastoral care needs of the intergenerational congregation
  - Helps people develop a spiritual life and a prayer consciousness within the ministry
  - Ministers to people in crisis, offer guidance in solving problems
  - Makes hospital visits, visits shut-ins and nursing homes, prayer with members
  - Facilitates training for chaplains and utilizes chaplains within the ministry
  
- 7 Outreach into the Local Community**
  - Demonstrates a desire to engage and support the local community members
  - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to others' needs and emotions
  - Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
  - Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
  - Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
  - Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
  - Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view
  
- 5 Working with a Specific Group (Kids, teens, seniors, men, women, LGBTQ, etc.)**
  - Maintains confidentiality, understanding the laws around mandated reporting
  - Helps people of all ages develop a spiritual life and a prayer consciousness within the ministry
  - Models and teaches open attitudes with a diverse population
  - Ministers to individuals and families in crisis, offer guidance in solving problems
  - Act as a resource to additional community and support services
  
- 3 Spiritual Social Activism**
  - Invites others to become involved and is a team player
  - Models and teaches open attitudes, active listening, and tolerance with a diverse population
  - Consciously educates themselves and others on the topic
  - Maintains a respectful presence regarding spiritual social activism
  - Helps to develop an inclusive consciousness within the ministry
  
- 6 Audio/Visual(A/V) Technology Acumen**
  - Adept with a variety of A/V technologies to enhance the overall worship experience
  - Skilled in the use of virtual meeting applications (Zoom, WebEx, Meet, Teams, etc.)
  - Demonstrated success in delivering virtual and hybrid presentations and training
  - Embraces the use of social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) in support of the ministry's mission, vision, and values.

- 8      **Environmentalism**
  - Knowledgeable of and proficient in environmental awareness for this geographic location
  - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to the environment and connection to the planet
  - Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
  - Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
  - Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
  - Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
  - Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view
  
- 9      **Health & Wellbeing**
  - Knowledgeable of and proficient in health, healing, exercise & nutrition
  - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to the mind-body connection
  - Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
  - Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
  - Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
  - Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
  - Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view
  
- 4      **Administration**
  - Knowledgeable of and proficient in applying ministry bylaws, policies, and procedures
  - Proficient in executing fiduciary responsibilities, developing prosperity awareness, and maintaining a balanced budget
  - Follows office management best practices and use of office systems (software)
  - Empowers staff and volunteers, delegates well
  - Implements training for boards, staff, and volunteers and fosters a learning culture

**Other specific qualities, experiences, leadership skills, vision, etc., you are seeking not already addressed:** n/a

**SPIRITUAL EXPERTISE AND EDUCATIONAL ACUMEN**

**1. Ministry Location.** Place an “X” next to the primary location of the ministry’s current demographic. (Select one)

- In-person
- Online
- x       Hybrid

**2. Ministry Type.** Place an “X” next to the description that best describes this ministry. (Select one)

- x       Congregation-Based
- Community-Based
- Service-Based

**3. Age Groups.** Please identify the TOP THREE age groups in which your ministry is focused. Rank your top three in order: 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your top age demographic group.

<a href="#"><i>click to rate</i></a>	<b>70's and up</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20's &amp; 30's</b>
<a href="#"><i>click to rate</i></a>	<b>50's &amp; 60's</b>	<a href="#"><i>click to rate</i></a>	<b>Teens &amp; Young Adults</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>30's &amp; 40's</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Kids &amp; Families</b>

**4. Interests/Area of Expertise:** Please identify the TOP THREE areas of expertise needed from the incoming minister. Rank your top three in order: 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your strongest area of need/focus.

**1**            **Sunday Services**

**2**            **Prayer & Meditation / Pastoral Care**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **SpiritGroups**

**3**            **Development and Facilitation of Classes**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Outreach in the Community**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Earth Care**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Interfaith & World Religions**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Current Trending Spirituality**

**5. Spiritual Expertise and Educational Acumen:** Please identify the TOP THREE areas of expertise needed from the incoming minister. Rank your top three in order: 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your strongest area of need/focus.

**1**            **Unity Foundational Teachings**

**3**            **Bible and Metaphysics**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Fillmore (only)**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **Classic Unity Authors**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **New Thought Authors**

[\*click to rate\*](#)    **World Religions**

**2**            **Current Trending Spirituality**

**POWER OF FOCUSED MINISTRY**

**WHO does this ministry serve?**

Individuals and families of all ages, transitioning from a graying church to a family and younger generational church. Much diversity as able to draw from two colleges and three well known medical centers of the southeast.

**WHY do you exist as a ministry?**

To provide an open, accepting, supportive, loving, spiritual home to all who seek individual spiritual nourishment, development, and transformation.

**What demographic resonates to the answer of your WHY question?**

20's – 50's

**Describe your vision of the perfect ministry.**

A perfect ministry involves a blending of the knowledge, skills, and aptitudes of the spiritual leader, the Board of Trustees, and the congregation toward common goals and fulfillment of the vision, mission, and core values of our ministry. We work individually and together to support, encourage, nourish, and guide one another on our spiritual paths for the highest good of ourselves and our church.

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**Vacancy Fill by Date:** ASAP

**Proposed Salary:** \$18,000 (negotiable)

**Moving Expenses:** Negotiable

**Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc.:** Negotiable

**Housing market, school districts, etc., in your locale:**

Gainesville is known as the City of Trees and the Alachua County slogan is "Where culture and nature meet." University of Florida, Santa Fe College are a central part. Well rated primary and secondary schools, both public and private are available. A member of Unity is available to assist in exploring the housing market. Websites for City of Gainesville and for Alachua County provide much information. In recent years, Gainesville, FL was highly rated as an ideal place to live. Progressive, eclectic, suburban community with diverse interests, opportunities, and resources.

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**Additional Comments:** None



## Release of Information Authorization

I, the Board President of Unity of Gainesville, FL on behalf of the Board of Trustees, authorize ministerial applicants to obtain any pertinent information regarding ministry history from the permanent ministry file in Unity Worldwide Ministries' home office.

*Lauri Mills*

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Board President

June 1, 2024

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Date