



Ministry Vacancy Information Packet

Unity Church of Citrus County
Lecanto, FL

September 2024

About the Ministry

THE MINISTRY - OVERVIEW

We desire a passionate and compassionate person to continue growing our ministry and help fulfill our mission which is 'to be a loving, accepting spiritual community transforming lives through prayer, education, fellowship and sacred service'. We have a church focus ministry group and we also reach out into our community to be of service and for mutual support. We have physical exercise classes as well as classes for spiritual growth and awareness. We seek someone who loves and lives the Unity principles which we consider a 'lifeline for a lifetime' which was the name of our most recent new member Unity basics class.

We are fortunate to have two retired ministers, seven prayer chaplains, and two registered licensed Unity teachers among our congregants as well as many talented and dedicated volunteers.

As a fundraiser, we recently updated our historical book with interviews covering our past 30 years from 1991 to 2021. We do many fundraisers including cruises as a community and will be doing a chili cookoff in November. Having fun together is a priority.

Locality: Citrus County, Central Florida

Unity Church of Citrus County is located in a rapidly growing area of Florida's Nature Coast. Citrus County is called the nature coast and has been in a 21% growth period since 2010. Our 2024 county population is 170,884 up from 150,153 in 2019. There are seven Rivers in Citrus County and eighteen lakes, so people come from around the country for our ample water activities with manatees, fishing, scalloping, scuba diving and much more.

There are always arts, crafts and seafood festivals on both sides of the county. We have an Art Center of Citrus County in Hernando which has theater presentations year-round as well as the Valerie Theater in Inverness where we sponsor our Woodview players theater presentations.

Physical Description:

Unity Church of Citrus County is a beautiful building that sits high on a hill in Citrus County. Our building sits on over 13 ½ acres of wooded rural area with a meditation trail around the building, a children's playground, a labyrinth, and a fire pit with plenty of room to grow. Inside the Church, we have a number of offices and classrooms, a beautiful sanctuary, a bookstore, and a café (i.e., the Gratitude Café) where, among other activities, congregants can meet for a bite to eat and have fellowship.

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

Approximately 36 miles to Unity of Ocala, 47 miles to Unity of Fruitland Park

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) [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

PEOPLE

Size of mailing list: 347
Average Sunday attendance: 65
Formal (voting or active) membership: 94

Church staff/other employees:

Part-time: Administrator, office and finance

After some time without a musician, in May 2023 we hired one of the best musician/entertainers around. We love him and he and his young family have become involved in our FYM.

MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

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

Name: Rev. Dan Holloway

Dates: October 2023 to present

Workshops Given and Topics Covered: Annual Board Training, Honoring our Past, Creating our Future and Mission, Vision and Values

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

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

Date: June 2024

Vision: A world lovingly transformed through shared spiritual awakening.

Mission: To be a loving, accepting spiritual community transforming lives through prayer, education, fellowship and sacred service.

Values:

- **Spirit-Led** - Spirit guides our thoughts and actions as we co-create a world that works for all.
- **Positivity** - We are a positive path for spiritual living.
- **Generosity** - We are in the flow of God's inexhaustible supply and share freely with the world.
- **Transformation** - We are a dynamic spiritual community on the leading edge of spiritual evolution. We teach universal spiritual principles that change lives.
- **Diversity** - We affirm that all people are created with sacred worth. We are guided by spirit in our thoughts and actions. We promote greater understanding among people in a spirit of unity and oneness.
- **Integrity** - We model honesty, trustworthiness, respect and loyalty in all our relationships. We practice compassion, warmth, and sincerity in a safe and loving environment. We act from a place of wholeness and are ethical in all our actions. We keep our word.

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

1. Church status in 1995; Purchased building in Inverness, FL
2. Bought acreage in 1999; constructed building in 2003
3. Purchased additional land in 2008

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

- Tibetan Monks February 2024
- Finding yourself in transition; LGBTQ Bar-B-Que
- World Day of Prayer and Latest New Member Class

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

- Increase membership
- Expand the youth and family ministry
- Pay off mortgage
- Plan to build larger sanctuary

INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

Articles of Incorporation: November 1, 1995 **Bylaws – Last Revised: June 2, 2024**

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

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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

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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

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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

4

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

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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

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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.

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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

8

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

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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:

Ability to communicate well and provide Sunday messages that are relevant to the congregation and presented in a manner that draws their attention and keeps their interest.

SPIRITUAL EXPERTISE AND EDUCATIONAL ACUMEN

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

[click to rate](#) In-person

[click to rate](#) Online

X Hybrid

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

X Congregation-Based

[click to rate](#) Community-Based

[click to rate](#) 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.

<u>1</u>	70's and up	click to rate	20's & 30's
<u>2</u>	50's & 60's	click to rate	Teens & Young Adults
click to rate	30's & 40's	<u>3</u>	Kids & Families

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.

<u>1</u>	Sunday Services
<u>3</u>	Prayer & Meditation / Pastoral Care
<u>2</u>	SpiritGroups
click to rate	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.

<u>1</u>	Unity Foundational Teachings
<u>2</u>	Bible and Metaphysics
click to rate	Fillmore (only)
click to rate	Classic Unity Authors
<u>3</u>	New Thought Authors
click to rate	World Religions
click to rate	Current Trending Spirituality

POWER OF FOCUSED MINISTRY

WHO does this ministry serve?

Women 65 and over

WHY do you exist as a ministry?

To share our loving, accepting spiritual community, transforming lives through prayer, education, fellowship and sacred service.

What demographic resonates to the answer of your WHY question?

Everyone looking for a positive path for spiritual living.

Describe your vision of the perfect ministry.

A congregation that loves and lives the Unity Principles.

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Vacancy Fill by Date: November 1, 2024

Proposed Salary: \$33,000 - \$37,000

Moving Expenses: Negotiable

Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc:

Two weeks of vacation, annual wellness time and one Sunday a month off

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

There are 1545 homes for sale in Citrus County with a median price of \$280,308, which is an increase of 2.0% since last year.

The Citrus County School District is a public school district in Florida that serves students from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in the cities of Crystal River and Inverness, and surrounding communities. The district includes 23 campuses, 11 elementary schools, four middle schools, three high schools, a charter school, and two alternative schools. The district's address is 1007 W. Main Street, Inverness, Citrus County, Florida, 34450-4698

The cost of living in Citrus County, Florida is 12.2% lower than the US average and 14.8% lower than the Florida average. This includes housing, food, childcare, transportation, healthcare, taxes, and other necessities.

Here is some other cost of living expenses in Citrus County:

- Sales tax: The minimum combined sales tax rate for 2024 is 6%, which includes both state and county sales tax. There is no state income tax in Florida.
- Electricity: The average monthly electric bill for residential customers is \$255.

Additional Comments:

The new Shoppes at Black Diamond at the corner of Hwy 486 and Hwy 491 in Lecanto are starting to open to the delight of the community. There's a Target super center, Aldi, Seven-Eleven, Panera, Texas roadhouse with one additional space still for lease.

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Release of Information Authorization

I, Board President of Unity Church of Citrus County 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.

Darlene Morris
Board President

August 22, 2024
Date