



Ministry Vacancy Information Packet

Spiritual Life Center
Sacramento, CA

October 2024

About the Ministry

OVERVIEW

Spiritual Life Center is located in Sacramento, CA, a city with big city amenities and a small city ambiance. Autumn starts in September and ends in early December and Spring begins in late March and lasts through May. Both seasons are delightful. Located in central California, Sacramento is only 2 hours from the Bay Area, Lake Tahoe and Napa's wine country.

Our ministry is 26 years strong and has had only two Senior Ministers, both of whom have left/are leaving to retire. Our church combines the principles of Unity and Interfaith beliefs and practices. Emphasis is placed on prayer, meditation and personal growth. We are a Mission-Centric Ministry, and all are welcome. We have an amazing Music Team and through our message, music and prayer, we cultivate an experience with God/Spirit/Higher Power.

Our core values begin with Our Unity Principles: 1. God is absolute good and everywhere present. 2. People are inherently good. 3. Our thoughts create our experiences. 4. Prayer and meditation are how we connect with God. 5. We must take action.

In addition, we welcome diversity, inclusion and connection with all people. We believe in helping people find their spiritual path and achieve personal transformation individually and in community with others.

We hold a vision of a safe place for youth as well as adults and our aging congregants. We do this by providing activities that people of all ages can plug into and grow into. Lastly, we hold a vision and act for World Peace and positive energy.

Over the years, we have engaged in a variety of church and community activities: community picnics, Bingo, Plays, Cabarets, Christmas Bazaars, Holiday giving to foster children, a yearly fundraising Gala, joint presentations with other religions, etc.

Most of these activities can be accessed by our disabled congregants and people who might want to experience SLC before attending in person through video streaming, Facebook, and YouTube.

Locality: Sacramento, CA

Physical Description: Overview of Sacto: Sacramento celebrates its history as an ancient home to native American's, one of the first settlements in northern California for Europeans, the transformative changes brought by the gold rush and transcontinental railroad and the oldest art gallery in the Western U.S. Sacramento is now ranked as the second most diverse city in the U.S. and one of the best cities in California. Sitting in the heart of California's Central Valley, Sacramento offers local food and wine grown in some of the most fertile land in the country. With a mild climate of

warm, dry summers and wet, cool winters without snow, residents enjoy outdoor activities year-round in a myriad of outdoor spaces including our river parkways that bisect the urban area.

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

Unity Churches

- Unity of Sacramento – Sacramento: 9 miles
- Unity Spiritual Community – Citrus Heights: 11 miles
- Unity Center of Davis – Davis: 25 miles
- Unity of Roseville – Roseville: 15 miles
- Unity of Auburn – Auburn: 28 miles

Christian Science Churches

- First Church of Christ, Scientist – Sacramento: 6 miles
- First Church of Christ Scientist – Carmichael: 3 miles
- Fifth Church of Christ, Scientist – Sacramento: 2 miles
- Christian Science Church – Roseville: 13 miles

Science of Mind

- Center for Spiritual Awareness – West Sacramento: 14 miles
- Sacramento Center for Spiritual Living – Carmichael: 6 miles
- Foothill Center for Spiritual Living / Science of Mind – Auburn: 32 miles

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.)

PEOPLE

Size of mailing list: Physical Mail = 220 Email = 1,571
Average Sunday attendance: 120 plus a small online following
Formal (voting or active) membership: 112

Special Groups:

SLC Board of Trustees Committees 2024

- Board of Trustees (meets monthly)
- Finance Committee (meets monthly)
- Welcome/Membership Committee (meets as needed)
- Thrive Committee: Strategically Plans for Financial Sustainability & Membership Growth (meets as needed)
- Ad Hoc New Board Trustee Recruitment Committee (meets as needed)
- New Minister Search Committee (meets as needed)
- Ad Hoc Facilities Committee: For major projects requiring funding approval from BOT

Office Teams Paid Staff, Contractors, and Volunteer Team Members

- Senior Management Team
- Ministry Team
- Production/Livestream Team
- Podcast Team
- Events, Groups, Logistics (EGL or Eagle)
- Accounting Team
- Administrative Team
- Community Action Team
- Facilities/Maintenance
- Logistics
- Youth Education Office Team
- Prayer Chaplain Program

Branches of our SLC Family Tree Requires Human or Financial Resources

- Sunday Experience & Special Services
- Music & Arts Vacant Positions
- WOW Wednesday Services
- Weekly Community Meals
- Weekly Podcasts
- Youth & Family Programs
- Chaplains Program
- Community Giving Program
- Fall Faith-in-Action
- Adult Education
- Events Social Gatherings & Fundraisers
- Quantum Living Training
- Spirit Groups

Current Small Groups

- Power of Silence
- A Course in Miracles
- Spiritual Exploration
- Raising Our Social Consciousness Book Club on Zoom
- Sunday Lunch Group
- Men of Spirit
- Women of Spirit

Church staff/other employees:

- Rev. James Trapp: Senior Minister
- Rev. Deborah Phillips: Associate Minister/Operations Manager
- Paula Mandella; Director of Music & Arts
- Elaine Laroa: Finance Manager/ Marketing/Youth Ed
- Nancy Hilton: Office Manager
- Patty Peters: Logistics
- Rose Lonsway: Prayer Chaplain Coordinator

MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

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

Name: Joann Burns Dates: July, 2024

Workshops Given and Topics Covered: Zoom call regarding ministerial search.

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

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

Date: October, 1998

Our core values begin with Our Unity Principles:

- God is absolute good and everywhere present.
- People are inherently good.
- Our thoughts create our experiences.
- Prayer and meditation are how we connect with God.
- We must take action.

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

1. Easter at the Mosque
2. Recovery from Covid
3. Passing of Founding Ministers

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

- Annual Gala
- Interfaith Events
- Online Streaming During Covid Shutdown

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

- Financial Stability
- Vibrant, diverse, large congregation – Increased membership commitment
- Enhanced Youth Program

INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

Articles of Incorporation – Date: 10/16/1998

Bylaws – Date Adopted/Revised: 10/16/1998 revised 9/2022

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

- 1 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

- 2 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

- 3 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

- 5 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.

- 7 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

- 7 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

- 1 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: A strong leader who interacts easily with a diverse group of people, has a good sense of humor, is personable, has a background in both Unity and Interfaith, and has experience growing a church membership.

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
- Hybrid

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

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

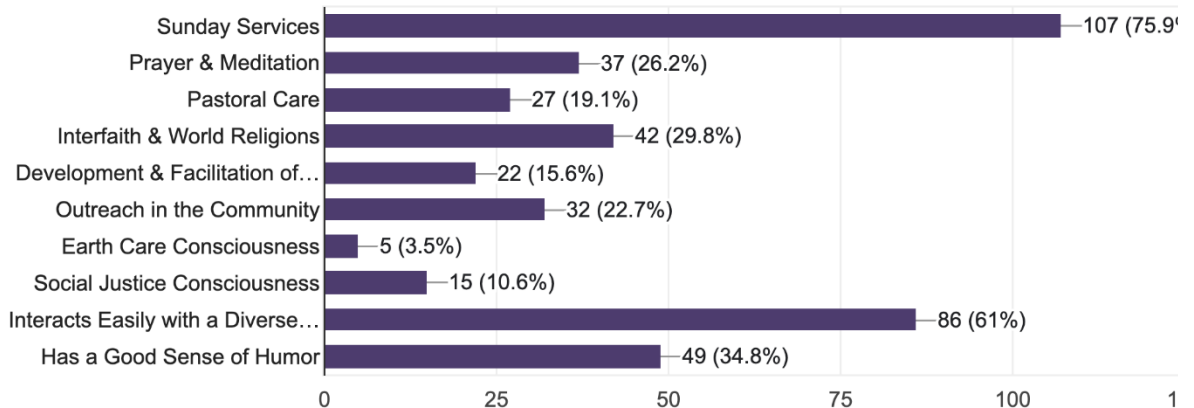
3. **Age Groups.** Please identify the TOP THREE age groups in which your ministry is focused. Rank your top three in order: 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your top age demographic group.

	70's and up		20's & 30's
1	50's & 60's & 70's		Teens & Young Adults
2	30's & 40's	3	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.

- 1** Sunday Services
- 3** Prayer & Meditation / Pastoral Care
- SpiritGroups
- Development and Facilitation of Classes
- Outreach in the Community
- Earth Care
- 2** Interfaith & World Religions
- Current Trending Spirituality

Please select your TOP THREE areas of interest for our incoming Minister. Please select c
141 responses

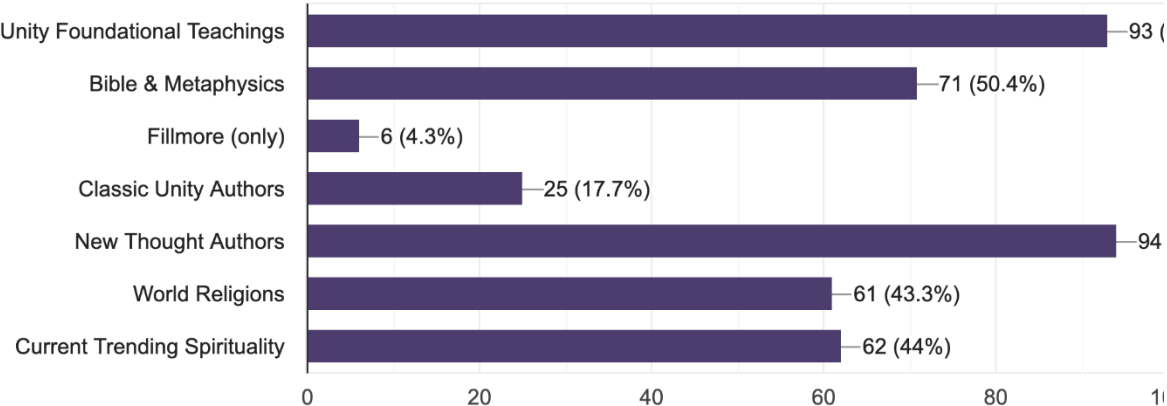


5. **Spiritual Expertise and Educational Acumen:** Please identify the TOP THREE areas of expertise needed from the incoming minister. Rank your top three in order: 1, 2, and 3 with 1 being your strongest area of need/focus.

- 1 **Unity Foundational Teachings**
- 3 **Bible and Metaphysics**
- Fillmore (only)**
- Classic Unity Authors**
- 2 **New Thought Authors**
- World Religions**
- Current Trending Spirituality**

Please select your TOP THREE areas of Spiritual Expertise and Educational Acumen needed from the incoming minister. Please select only 3:

141 responses



POWER OF FOCUSED MINISTRY

WHO does this ministry serve?

Longstanding Unity community of seniors 50+, along with a growing number of demographics including non-Unity members

WHY do you exist as a ministry?

To transform lives to make a positive difference in the world as we love, serve and remember

What demographic resonates to the answer of your WHY question?

All congregants

Describe your vision of the perfect ministry.

Spiritual Life Center is a loving, vibrant family that welcomes home all people and accepts everyone — no exceptions. Weaving ancient spiritual traditions with emerging wisdom, we cultivate a spiritual deepening with The Divine, each other, and the planet.

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Vacancy Fill by Date: Jan - March, 2025

Proposed Salary: \$66,000

Moving Expenses: Negotiable

Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc.:

Negotiable

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

The cost of living in Sacramento is 22% lower than the California Average. The median price of a home is \$490,000. The median price of an apartment is \$1,800. School Districts: Sacramento City Unified School District, San Juan Unified School District, Elk Grove Unified School District, etc.

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Release of Information Authorization

I, the Board President of Spiritual Life Center 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.



Josie Latiker Johnson
Board President

09/28/2024

Date