



Ministry Vacancy Information Packet

Unity of Santa Maria, CA
September 2023

About the Ministry

Unity of Santa Maria

Unity of Santa Maria is located in the community known as Orcutt in a residential area of newly built houses and older homes. The population of Santa Maria/Orcutt is approximately 150,000 and is mainly an agricultural community. There has been an influx of wineries in recent years along the central coast, which has shifted the focus from ranching to California's robust wine industry.

There is a park within walking distance with hiking trails, a picnic area, soccer fields, and a dog park.

Unity of Santa Maria sits on a property of approximately two acres. There is a house, built in the 60's where services used to be held prior to the chapel being built in the 1980's. The Chapel of Light is a beautiful, unique chapel with a glass pyramid dome that lets in light. The walls are wood. There is a baby grand piano and musicians love our space due to the excellent acoustics. There are monitors (3) mounted on the walls and a sound system. The chapel seats 250 people, theater style. There is a prayer room and supply room, along with an attic for storage, and an inviting entrance with a foyer and handicap-accessible bathrooms.

The grounds are well-landscaped and there is plenty of shade from the trees that grace the property. There is a memorial garden to remember our beloved supporters.

Locality: Unity of Santa Maria is located in North Santa Barbara County on the beautiful Central Coast of California, smack between Los Angeles to the south and San Francisco to the north. We are 70 miles north of Santa Barbara and 25 miles south of Pismo Beach and 40 miles from San Luis Obispo, which has an easily accessible airport and is the home of Cal-Poly.

We have a year-round median temperature of 72 degrees and our area boasts many hiking trails, vineyards and beaches close by.

Popular attractions include the beautiful beaches along the coastline for day use, camping, surfing and dog walking. There are lakes nearby: Lopez Lake and Oso Flaco lake. Bird watching, hiking, swimming, biking, horse riding are some of the outdoor activities to be enjoyed.

Santa Maria boasts the Pacific Conservatory of Performing Arts (PCPA) which features professionally acted and directed plays. For the light-hearted, there is the Melodrama playhouse. The local colleges present music and dance performances. There are concerts from the Santa Maria Philharmonic Orchestra and a ukulele band through the OASIS senior center. Unity of Santa Maria is in close proximity to colleges, universities, and Vandenberg Space Force Base.

The Old Orcutt section of town offers a variety of restaurants, both established and new. Within Santa Maria, there are yoga studios, gyms, and Pilates studios. Popular events in the area include Hispanic, Native American, and Japanese festivals.

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

There is an active Unity ministry in Arroyo Grande approximately 20 miles north. We have a good relationship with them. The San Luis Obispo Unity is now online only. There is a Unity of Santa Barbara 75 miles south.

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

- Small/Spirit Group Ministries **X**
- Community Outreach/Compassionate Social Action **X**
- Publications
- Social Media (ex: Facebook, Twitter, livestreaming, etc.) **X**
- Other (please list)

PEOPLE

Size of mailing list: 100
Average Sunday attendance: 35
Formal (voting or active) membership: 30

Special Groups:

Charlie’s Angels service group, Prayer team, and Prayer circle,

Church staff/other employees:

All Volunteers

MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

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

Name: Rev. Vicky Elder of West Central Region served as our transition coordinator

Dates: If YES, enter date range of engagement here. (month/year)

Workshops Given and Topics Covered: If YES, list workshops/ topics or areas of focus here

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

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

Date: If YES, enter the approval/launch date. (month/year)

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

1. Chapel of Light built in 1988
2. Beneficiaries of a trust receiving approximately \$40,000 per year in 2008
3. Unity of Santa Maria survived the pandemic, the retirement of our minister of 5 years in 2019, and the resignation of our newly hired minister in 2022.

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

- Gratitude Service and Thanksgiving feast the Sunday before Thanksgiving
- Burning Bowl and White Stone Ceremony at the first of the new year
- Candle lighting service in December
- Unity World Day of Prayer

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

- Establish an online presence for Sunday services and special events
- Grow the congregation
- Grow in consciousness
- Attract younger people and families

INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

Articles of Incorporation – Date:1970

Bylaws – Date Adopted/Revised: August 2023

Bylaws available upon request from UWM Member Support Employment Services.

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

Section III: About the Position

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

- 6 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
- 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
- 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
- 2 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
- 4 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.

9

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

5

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: Bi-lingual Spanish/English desirable. Develop and lead new member class.

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

[click to rate](#)

Online

[click to rate](#)

Hybrid

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

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.

- | | | | |
|----------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | 70's and up | <i>click to rate</i> | 20's & 30's |
| 2 | 50's & 60's | <i>click to rate</i> | Teens & Young Adults |
| 3 | 30's & 40's | <i>click to rate</i> | 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 |
| 2 | Prayer & Meditation / Pastoral Care |
| <i>click to rate</i> | SpiritGroups |
| 3 | Development and Facilitation of Classes |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Outreach in the Community |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Earth Care |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Interfaith & World Religions |
| <i>click to rate</i> | 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 |
| 2 | Bible and Metaphysics |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Fillmore (only) |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Classic Unity Authors |
| 3 | New Thought Authors |
| <i>click to rate</i> | World Religions |
| <i>click to rate</i> | Current Trending Spirituality |

POWER OF FOCUSED MINISTRY

WHO does this ministry serve?

We serve anyone who is interested in Unity and new thought teachings. We offer an opportunity for long-time congregants and newcomers alike to meet for connection, spiritual inspiration, prayer, and meditation.

WHY do you exist as a ministry?

Unity of Santa Maria exists as a spiritual home for those who align with new thought beliefs and provides a place to gather and connect spiritually and socially.

What demographic resonates to the answer of your WHY question?

It could be anyone of any age and background

Describe your vision of the perfect ministry.

The perfect ministry teaches spiritual principles and demonstrates how to apply those principles to our everyday lives. It is a group of people who come together to pray, connect, care and support one another.

=====

Vacancy Fill by Date: We would like to fill the position by the end of 2023

Proposed Salary: \$30,000 annual

Moving Expenses: Negotiable

Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc.: \$250 monthly toward retirement, \$250 monthly toward medical insurance, cell phone provided.

Manse available with private bedroom, private bathroom, and minister’s private office. The living room, kitchen, and hall bathroom/laundry facilities are shared on Sundays with the church. Pets are negotiable. Utilities included. The manse is attached to the Activity Center and church office where social activities, classes, and meetings take place.

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

The housing market is above the national average, but moderate for California. A one-bedroom apartment is \$2,360 on average. Two-bedroom apartments run \$2500 on average. Santa Maria/Orcutt has some distinguished schools in the district.

Additional Comments:

Unity of Santa Maria is seeking a part-time minister with the goal of becoming full-time as the ministry evolves. We are seeking a minister who has leadership skills, who teaches spiritual principles and lives the principles. Sunday service presented in an engaging manner that inspires both our hearts and minds. Our goal is to rebuild our community post-Covid and add a virtual presence. We encourage meditation and prayer during Sunday service and also in classes and workshops. It is important the minister has up-to-date technology skills and is open to expanding the ministry virtually as well as in person. Please have demonstrated success and acumen in a variety of technologies and success in delivering hybrid presentations for Sunday services and classes. Please be skilled at compassionate, active listening, and dealing with different points of view.

Santa Maria/Orcutt is a lovely community with a bit of a rural, low key vibe.





Release of Information Authorization

I, the Board President of Unity of Santa Maria 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.

Ruthanne Jennings

Board President

May 30, 2023

Date