



Unity Spiritual Center Westlake, OH

Ministry Information Packet

About The Ministry

THE MINISTRY – OVERVIEW

Unity Spiritual Center in Westlake, Ohio, is a vibrant spiritual community with 200 active members. The larger congregation of people who attend services and/or classes and events at USC brings the total number to around 400. Located on six acres of prime property in the prosperous Cleveland suburb of Westlake, the campus of USC includes Unity Hall built in 2009, a beautiful new building used for services and events, a spacious fellowship room, a small chapel overlooking a meditation garden, and a 90-foot outdoor labyrinth.

Although the church itself has been around since the 1920s in other locations, Unity Spiritual Center has evolved in the last decade to truly become a center of spirituality and personal growth. It remains founded on Unity principles and nurtures the spiritual quest of its members in the spirit of the Fillmores. USC has a broad base of highly active volunteers because of the community-based horizontal structure that the most recent ministers established, empowering many people to assume active roles in church operations. A spirit of respect, love, and support among its members is very apparent at Unity Spiritual Center, enabling the center to thrive despite the difficulties many churches face in these economic times.

Locality: Northeast Ohio Region; prosperous western suburb outside Cleveland, OH; Close proximity to three interstate highways.

Physical Description: Beautiful residential area, 10 minutes from Lake Erie, close to Cleveland's Metro Parks Emerald Necklace w/ nearly 23,000 acres of land including 18 reservations, 7 nature/visitor centers, 8 golf courses, and more. We are less than 10 minutes away on I-90 to restaurants, movies, and shopping at Crocker Park shopping center. Northeast Ohio is home to world-class museums and performing arts, three major league sports teams, more than a dozen colleges, and universities, and the #2 ranked hospital system in the USA (The Cleveland Clinic). The cost-of-living index is 96.1 (USA baseline = 100).

More information about the area can be found here:

<https://www.cityofwestlake.org/>

<https://www.crockerpark.com/>

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

Four Unity Churches within 30 miles.

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

- Small/SpiritGroup Ministries
- Community Outreach/Compassionate Social Action
- Publications Weekly Newsletter by email
- Social Media (ex: Facebook, Twitter, livestreaming, etc.)
- Other (please list) Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Weekly Livestream

PEOPLE

Size of mailing list: 1100
Average Sunday attendance: 175-200 pre-COVID
Formal (voting or active) membership: 222

Special Groups:

- Worship Teams: Music and Platform
- Sunday Service Teams: Welcoming, Kitchen Angels, Counters, A/V
- Care and Support Teams: Prayer, Inreach, Outreach, Community Love in Action
- Building and Grounds Teams: Inside Church Property/Design, Outside Church/Prosperity House, Technology, Labyrinth
- Office Teams: Prosperity Planning, Lending Library, Correspondence, Business Office, Prosperity Visionary Team
- Youth and Family: Services
- Other: Marketing, Community Development, Nominating Committee, Fall Program Team, Endowments, Special Events, Special Groups, Earth Care Ministry

Church staff/other employees:

Office Manager, Bookkeeper, Custodian, Youth Director

MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

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

Name: Rev. Greg Coles

Dates: May 30, 2021

Workshops Given and Topics Covered: Holding Sacred Space and Sacred Listening Circle

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES

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

Date: 2015

Mission

Unity Spiritual Center is a dynamic community, empowering all to embrace and express the Divine as we share our unique gifts in an evolving world.

Vision

We are love in action, honoring the Divine within all.

Core Values

- Acceptance
- Love
- Community
- Connection to Spirit
- Service

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

1. Building and Opening of our sanctuary, Unity Hall – 2009-2011
2. Building of outdoor walking meditation labyrinth, 90 feet in diameter - 2000
3. Celebration of sixty years of continuous service of our church organist - 2021

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

- Presentation and lecture from author and speaker – Neale Donald Walsh
- Presentation and lecture from author and speaker – Panache Desai
- Annual Summer Women’s Retreat

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

- Rebuilding community, fellowship, and attendance, post Covid-19
- Broaden demographic diversity – age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality
- Reduce financial debts to zero

INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

Articles of Incorporation – Date: 03/05/1964

Bylaws – Date Adopted/Revised: 02/04/2018

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

We are looking for a minister who embodies the following qualities and skills:

Lives Unity Principles; Dynamic and polished speaker; Empathy and ability to connect with others on a personal level; Engaging and knowledgeable teacher; Diversity & Inclusion in Action; Commitment to Youth; Compassionate pastoral care; Knowledge of other spiritual traditions.

Position Description

The Minister of Unity Spiritual Center will have specific responsibilities and duties in two areas: as Spiritual Leader of the Ministry, and as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation. Specific activities may overlap in these two areas and are not listed in order of importance.

- Plan and lead worship services including Sundays, Christmas, Easter, and other special services as needed in coordination with the Worship Team.
- Maintain a relationship based on mutual respect with Unity Worldwide Ministries and Unity Great Lakes Region, including attending conventions and conferences to remain up to date with the evolving ideas within the Unity movement.
- Perform weddings, memorial services, baptisms, christenings, and other services, as needed.
- Teach courses and workshops that are consistent with Unity principles, including an annual course to support the consciousness of prosperity and tithing within the community.
- Approve workshops and courses facilitated by other instructors, including guest speakers.
- Continue to evaluate and enhance new member procedures.
- Consider developing a path for Youth to become full members of the church. A change to bylaws may be required.
- Working with the Board of Trustees, develop a plan for increasing the number of members and non-members of Unity Spiritual Center to foster a deeper relationship with the Spirit and with fellow members and congregants.
- Encourage congregants and members in their commitment in sharing of their time and talents with Unity Spiritual Center.
- Support the pastoral care needs of the community including prayer, spiritual counseling, hospital visitation as requested.
- Be a voting member of the Board of Trustees. Attend all Board meetings and participate in all discussions in person, or electronically when necessary.
- Attend Sacred Service meetings as necessary, and participate in these committee discussions in person, or electronically when necessary.

Beneficial Skills

- An understanding of social media and its benefit in promoting Unity teachings and growing awareness of Unity Spiritual Center in the community
- An understanding of Zoom in providing classes, discussions, and opportunities to connect online
- An understanding of Non-violent Communication, or other methods that promote dialogue through difficult conversations

Vacancy Fill by Date: In Divine Order

Proposed Salary: \$50,000-\$60,000 annually

Moving Expenses: Paid for by the ministry

Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc.:

We provide medical insurance, manse as a portion of salary directed by Minister, cell phone, and vacation time.

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

Excellent, well-run schools, a variety of residential areas in Westlake and surrounding suburbs.

Authorizations and Releases

Release of Information Authorization

I, the Board President of Gregory D. Skuderin 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.



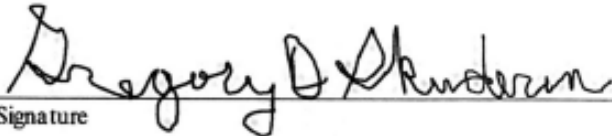
Board President

April 22, 2021
Date

- A. I will first seek the full approval of Unity Worldwide Ministries and the cooperation of already active and recognized Unity leaders in the vicinity ~~not attempt to~~ before carrying on Unity work in any city.
- B. I work in harmony and accord with Unity Worldwide Ministries in my speaking and teaching programs.
- C. I will, to the best of my ability, communicate the Unity Worldwide Ministries' values, mission, vision, and goals in service to my ministry.
- D. I will adhere to the policies and bylaws of Unity Worldwide Ministries.

VII. My Pledge

I sincerely devote myself to living in accord with this Code in letter and in spirit. I recognize our Unity Worldwide Ministries and this Code of Ethics as a framework in which I individually agree to function. I recognize that such an agreement augments our mutual and individual effectiveness. If I find myself contemplating or actually functioning outside of this framework, I agree to seek the kind of help described in Section V. (B). Failure to seek such help will mean that, by my own choice, I am functioning outside of the framework of this Code and consequently placing myself outside of Unity Worldwide Ministries.


Signature

Gregory D. Skuderin, President, Board of Trustees
Print Name

April 22, 2021
Date