



Starting Ministry without Following Established Procedures

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a coherent process for handling situations in which ministers begin ministries without following established UWM policies and procedures.

2.0 Scope

Unity Ministers who start ministry without following UWM policies and procedures.

3.0 Policy

When a UWM member minister begins a ministry without following established UWM policies and procedures, UWM recognizes the unilaterally binding decision on the part of the minister to rescind UWM membership.

4.0 Definitions

- 4.1 Unity ministers: individuals licensed or ordained by UWM
- 4.2 Unilaterally binding decision: a decision that is made by only one person without taking into consideration other parties. Such a decision binds that individual to certain consequences.

5.0 Responsibilities

- 5.1 Member services will research reports that minister has started a ministry outside of UWM policies and procedures.
- 5.2 Director of Member Services will communicate with minister, if minister is unwillingness to comply with policies and procedures, Director of Member Services will report this to Board of Trustees.
- 5.3 Board Chair will communicate with the minister via letter.
- 5.4 Board of Trustees will make decision to recognize unilaterally binding decision.

6.0 Procedures

- 6.1 When UWM becomes aware that minister has started a new ministry without following established policies and procedures, Member services staff will research the situation to determine accuracy of report, and the circumstances of the situation.
- 6.2 Director of Member Services will call minister and attempt to collaborate with minister in resolving situation.
- 6.3 If minister is unwilling to comply with policies and procedures, Director of Member Services will make a written report to the Board of Trustees.
- 6.4 Board Chair will write a letter to the minister, informing him/her of the consequences of his/her actions and giving a deadline to come into alignment with policy.

- 6.5 If minister chooses not to align with policy, Board of Trustees will make decision to recognize unilaterally binding decision.
- 6.6 Board Chair will write letter to minister informing him/her of board decision.
- 6.7 Minister will be considered disaffiliated, and this information will be posted on UWM's employment page.
- 6.8 All documentation pertaining to this situation will be placed in confidential file under supervision of the Director of Member Services.