



2018 Convention Team Members

We are blessed to have so many talented, inspired members on the Convention Ministry Team!



Rev Richard Bunch, Chair, UWM Board of Trustees

Richard is an ordained Unity minister (2006). “Since that first Sunday at Unity of El Paso, Texas, in 1997 until the present, I have been committed to my inner spiritual journey and developing leaders around me. I am serving as the Chair of the Board of Trustees at Unity Worldwide Ministries and on the planning convention team. I continue to grow and evolve as an instructor at Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute, reaching many students through our global online teaching platform. My life continues to be transformed as I ‘Grow in Spirit’ and experience ‘Transformed Lives ... Transforming the World.’ ”



Rev Louis Olivieri LUT, Event Specialist, Unity Worldwide Ministries

Louis is a licensed Unity teacher (licensed in 2011) and Interfaith minister and has contracted with UWM to be our Event Specialist. Louis' role will be all event planning at UWM including the convention and the annual summit. Louis is also active at his home center, Unity of New York, New York City, N.Y., where he most recently served as pastoral director. If you have questions concerning [convention](#) or the [annual summit](#), you can [direct them to him](#).



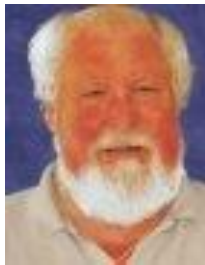
Debbie Allen LUT, Global Assistance Specialist, Unity Worldwide Ministries

Debbie is a licensed Unity teacher (2003) and joins this team as the staff rep. “I have worked for UWM for 20 years in several different positions and am now serving as the Global Assistant Specialist and loving every minute of my time. I will be assisting Louis as we plan the best convention ever. I look forward to seeing you all at convention.”



Rev Sharon Ketchum, 1st Vice Chair, UWM Board of Trustees

Sharon is an ordained Unity minister (1999). "As 1st Vice Chair of UWM's Board of Trustees, one of my privileged duties is to serve on the convention team so I can be educated for next year's convention when I am scheduled to be Chair. What a great group of people to work with! I have attended all but one convention over the last 20 years and it truly is a privilege to be part of the co-creating process."



Chris Ashe, Wisdom Quest Ministries, Prescott Valley, Ariz.

Chris has been a whole life coach providing personal and business coaching services to people from all walks of life. He served on the Peace Team for six years under Rev Dr Gary Simmons and has recently returned to serve with this team. With his late wife, Rev Bonny Gilbert Ashe, he co-founded Unity in the Foothills, Litchfield, Conn. Chris is now providing consulting, training and mediation services to churches under their alternative ministry called Wisdom Quest Ministries. Chris has loving served on the convention team for over 10 years.



Rev Diane Scribner Clevenger, Unity of Naples, Fla.

Diane is an ordained Unity minister (1997). "I've had the delight of being a member of the Convention Team for several years. Serving Unity Worldwide Ministries in this way has opened my eyes to the clear intentions and mindful work that goes on at this level in Unity, and what it takes to produce our international events. I love interacting with the people who are drawn to our conventions, the widely diverse environments in which we stage them, and the inspiring exchange of positively progressive, inclusive ideas that are generated when we, from Unity, comes together as One!"



Rev Shawn Moninger, Unity of Norwalk, Conn.

Rev Shawn is an ordained Unity minister. He has been the senior minister at Unity Center of Norwalk, Conn., since September 2004. Rev Shawn is the founding President of The Unity Church of New York in New York City, N.Y. He began his spiritual journey in earnest in 1997 after a successful career as a lighting and sound designer in New York nightclubs. In 2015 Shawn debuted his solo stand-up comedy show "Because I Can" at the Metropolitan Room in New York City, for which he received a MAC nomination for Male Debut performance. In 2016 he premiered a second show "Second Addiction" for which he won the 2017 Broadway World Award for Best Musical Comedy Performer and the 2017 MAC Award for Outstanding Spoken Word Artist.



Rev Toni Stephens Coleman, Unity of Omaha, Neb.

Toni is an ordained Unity minister (2012). "Serving on the UWM Convention Team is a rich and wonderful experience. I learn so much from everyone on the team. Yes, the team designs the convention venue, but there is more. I love the practice of blessing the chairs before every event and consciously holding the high watch during business meetings. Being useful at convention feeds my soul. UWM has many teams, I encourage everyone to find a place to serve and share your gifts!"



Rev Britt Hall, Unity of New York, New York City, N.Y.

Britt is an ordained Interfaith minister through One Spirit Interfaith Seminary in New York City and is a licensed Unity teacher. He is the recipient of the 2010 Light of God Award. Actor, model, athlete, fitness trainer, teacher, banker ... after playing many roles on life's exciting journey, it was when Britt found Unity that he came full circle to the passionate thread of his life ... music! Unity of New York's co-founder, spiritual leader and music minister, is now sharing his time and talents on the 2018 Convention Team.



Rev Shad Groverland, Unity of Boulder, Colo.

Shad Groverland is an ordained Unity minister (2016). He started working in A/V from the age of 12 years old, went on to study it in college and has had a successful career as a sound engineer for most of his adult life. He feels that it is specifically his 13 years of working in the convention side of the MGM Resorts Hotels in Las Vegas that gave him just the right tools to assist and serve this team.



Rev Xiomara Malagon, Worldwide Support Coordinator, Unity Worldwide Ministries

Xiomara is an ordained Unity minister (1999). "I am honored to be collaborating with the convention team and look forward to serving, along with team members, to bring more ideas to continue supporting our international delegates attending convention so they may feel fully engaged in this event. Our international delegates look forward to attending the International Forum to interact with our Board members. They also love interacting with local ministers. We may assist by connecting them to do lunch or dinner (Dutch treat) for them to get together. We shall continue providing translation services to our Spanish-speaking leaders and also providing the space(s) for two delegates to present workshops/seminars."



Rev Edith Washington-Woods, Unity of Syracuse, N.Y.

Edith Washington-Woods is an ordained Unity minister (2009) and is senior minister at Unity of Syracuse in Syracuse, N.Y. She is a visionary who specializes in adult education and empowering effective, heart-centered leaders. She is passionate about connecting people together. Currently she is chair of the UWM Health and Wholeness Team. One of the primary responsibilities of this team is the Serenity Room offered annually at the Unity People's Convention.



Rev Lawrence Palmer, Retired Minister

"I have served as a Unity minister now for 26 years and previously as a Baptist pastor for 16 years. I have served on many ministry teams including AUC (now UWM) Board, Regional Board, and as Regional Representative. These positions put me in touch with the work of many, if not all of the volunteer teams. I had always been interested in the work of the Convention Team so I chose to be a part of it firsthand. Our annual People's Convention is an important event in the life of Unity, and I look forward to contributing to the experience of togetherness."



Suzy Forrester, Admin & Finance Coordinator, Unity Worldwide Ministries

Suzy takes your [merchandise orders](#) and handles the accounts payable, supports human resources, payroll and the retirement plan. She will be serving as our bookstore manager at this year's 2018 People's Convention.



Celia Holman, Office Manager, Unity Worldwide Ministries

Celia handles accounts receivable and human resources support and organizes office processes to create efficiencies and solutions. She serves as support to the convention team as our onsite registration coordinator.

Purpose:

To provide inspirational forums for our association to further our mission to create and support vibrant, diverse Unity leaders and communities that foster transformation and inspire people to make a positive difference in our world.

Responsibilities:

We create a loving atmosphere:

- To welcome all participants
- To embrace prayer, contemplation and reflection

We promote creative professional- and self-development and spiritual growth through:

- Inspirational keynote speakers
- Educational seminars and workshops
- Spaces for informal interaction among participants
- Worship services
- Spiritual music

We present programs that provide:

- Practical and cutting-edge continuing education
- Leadership development
- Church development tools and resources
- Inspirational activities that enhance and uplift the skills and consciousness of ministry
- Forums for interactive dialogue on spiritual and practical ideas, providing opportunities for ministers, licensed teachers, youth and lay people to support one another through sharing what works in ministry.