

December 10, 2020



As you are aware, Unity Worldwide Ministries has been engaged in a [Better Together Project](#) to help us consider what is ours to do and how we can most effectively serve our we can most effectively serve our member ministries and Unity credentialed leaders.

This process led to the creation of a purpose statement for UWM:

**Develop, equip, and support Unity leaders and communities to grow in innovative, sustainable, and cutting-edge ways.**

We are excited about this purpose and eager to embody it in every aspect of our work at the central office! The Better Together Project provides us with rich information and ideas about how to deliver on this purpose. We have been working with this information to build a 3-year strategic plan, which will be shared with you in January 2021.

The Better Together Project has also called us to consider the work we do and how it supports our purpose. We are committed to create changes to increase our effectiveness and reduce our workload. This will allow us to focus on areas that increase our potential for successfully embodying our purpose as we *develop, equip, and support Unity leaders and communities to grow in innovative, sustainable, and cutting-edge ways.*

This letter is to advise you of a number changes that we are making to reduce staff workload:

- We have hired a Technology Manager, who starts on December 14, 2020, to assist us in up leveling our use of technology at the central office and for the field.
- Effective January 2021, we will only accept electronic payments for products and UWSI courses. We will continue to accept checks for donations and our other services, but will be phasing this out over the course of the year. However, we strongly encourage you to make all payments and donations electronically. This simplifies our accounting process, cuts down on staff resources, and provides greater accuracy in recording payments.
- Effective January 2021, we will no longer require people interested in becoming a licensed Unity teacher to take SEE (Spiritual Education and Enrichment) electives, thus reducing the time and expense required to attain this credential. This also means that we will no longer be approving elective SEE courses offered in Unity ministries for SEE credit. We will continue to provide ways for ministers and licensed Unity teachers to register credentialing-required SEE courses they teach for credit.

- Effective January 2021, UWM will no longer track CEUs for ministers and licensed Unity teachers. The CEU requirements are still in place for professional development, inclusivity, and ethics/boundaries. Ministers and licensed teachers will be expected to track CEUs themselves and add these to their annual reports. For more detailed information, please see our [CEU webpage](#).
- Effective January 2021, UWM will no longer be involved with sabbatical support. The sabbatical support team will continue to provide assistance in this area, independent from UWM staff.
- The 2021 Annual Summit has been canceled.

We understand that there may be some discomfort with these changes and there will be further changes as we move forward. Please understand that all changes have been given thoughtful and prayerful consideration, and that we believe they enhance our capacity to develop, equip, and support the sacred work that you do.

Please reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

With love and gratitude for your presence in Unity,

UWM's Leadership Team



Rev. Shad Groverland



Rev. Cynthia Vermillion-Foster



Rev. Deborah Frownfelter



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