

UNITY RENAISSANCE MINISTER SEARCH

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the process for selecting a new minister for Unity Renaissance?

A: The process we are following has been established by Unity Worldwide Ministries and is documented in their 47-page manual “Hiring a New Unity Minister” as revised in July 2012.

A reading copy is available in the binder the narthex. The document can be downloaded at <http://www.unityworldwideministries.org/openings>.

Q: What is the role of the Board of Trustees?

A: The Board of Trustees submits a comprehensive information package (Church Packet) to Unity Worldwide Ministries to initiate the ministerial search process and appoints an advisory Minister Search Committee. (Both of these were completed in late October). Acting on the subsequent recommendations of the Search Committee, the Board invites candidates to visit Unity Renaissance, speak at a service, and conduct a workshop. With input from the congregation, the Board makes the selection.

Q: What are the criteria for a new minister?

A: From the Board’s “Church Packet” submitted to Unity Worldwide Ministries, here are some criteria:

spirit focused leader

great people and pastoral skills

committed to constant communion with God

dynamic, inspiring, compassionate, empathetic leader

who can enthusiastically assist us to grow and expand our spiritual connections

with particular emphasis on communication, human relations, leadership, spiritual counseling skills

A reading copy of the complete Unity Renaissance “Church Packet” is available in the binder at the admin desk. It may be downloaded at:

<http://www.unityworldwideministries.org/openings>.

Q: What is the role of the Search Committee?

A: The Search Committee reviews the criteria set forth by the Board, vets candidates, and recommends candidates to the Board of Trustees for consideration to be invited to visit Unity Renaissance and present a Sunday Service and a workshop.

Q: What does the Search Committee do to vet candidates?

A: Depending on the number and quality of resumes received, the Search Committee will engage in a multi-step process including the following: review resumes, listen to one or more Sunday talks (CD, DVD, podcast), review written responses to initial screening questions, conduct one or more telephone interviews, interview references, and arrange for an employment background check.

Q: Who is on the Search Committee?

A: Eddie Oliver (Chair), Allen Page (Vice-Chair), Cordy Mack (Recording Secretary), Laure I Duplessis, Sharon Hart, Shelly Myers, Humphrey Oronzo, Faye Webb along with Board liaisons Ann DeMichael and Ed Rosequist.

Q: I have some ideas on what I would like in a new minister. Who do I contact?

A: Contact any member of the search committee. Be sure to include how your ideas would serve the Unity Renaissance community. For clarity, submit your suggestions in writing.

Q: How do I go about recommending someone for the minister position?

A: Ask them to submit their resume to Unity Worldwide Ministries who will forward it to our Search Committee. Our search is coordinated exclusively through Unity Worldwide Ministries.

Q: I'm not a member of the Board or the Search Committee but I want to have some say in our future. What can I do?

A: Attend Unity Renaissance Community Forums and engage in the dialogue. The next Forum is November 11. Attend the Sunday talks and workshops given by the finalists invited by the Board and provide detailed written feedback on each one.

Q: How can I keep informed as to our progress in securing a new minister?

A: Attend Community Forums (next one is Sunday, November 11 after the service). Check the white binders in the narthex for the Search Committee's most recent minutes and updates on Frequently Asked Questions. Visit the website <http://www.unityrenaissance.org>. Click on the link for "Minister Search Committee" on the Home Page for periodic updates.

Q: When will a new minister be in place?

A: The Board's goal is Spring 2013, provided the best candidate for this community is identified by that date.

Q: I have a question that is not addressed here. Who do I contact?

A: Contact the Search Committee Chair, Eddie Oliver (757-363-3013 or eddieoliver@hotmail.com).

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