



Mission
We are a vibrant spiritual community
awakening each life to the Christ within.

Vision
Centered in Divine Love, we honor and celebrate
a world awakened to peace, abundance, and respect for all creation.

Unity of Fairfax Board of Trustees

Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Board Members Present	Others Present	Board Members Absent
Russell Heiland, Senior Minister		
Julie Fisher, First Chair		
Marangely Sandvik, Keeper of the Flame		
Midd Hunt, Member at Large		
David Richardson, Treasurer		
Anthony Flournoy, Secretary		
Ed Merritt, Second Chair		

Quorum present? Yes

Meeting was called to order on January 25 at 7:14 pm EST.

An Executive Session was called to order at 7:17 pm EST and ended at 7:34 pm EST

MOTION: Approval of December 14, 2021 Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Julie moved, Midd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Minister’s Report: Attached as Appendix 1

Financial Report: <https://www.unityoffairfax.org/board-financial-statements>

The Board meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm EST.

Upcoming dates, 2022

February 22, 2022 7:00 pm EST

Minister's Report * January 25, 2022

Submitted January 22, 2022

Strategic Goals

Here is the link to the [Progress Log](#) on my goals. Please check it periodically for updates. Major updates I will include in this section of my report. I have made updates since the Board meeting in December, like this one for my personal goals: I am registered for the Miami Writing Project, a free program for Miami University alumni designed to enhance their writing skills. Program is online and runs January 24 – May 14, 2022.

Discussion Items

The working group of Dave Richardson, Peter Chapin, and I have been addressing the idea of surveying both the congregation and the contacts of congregation members about spiritual values and needs. Dave has created two draft surveys for the same, attached as appendices 1 and 2. Let's review then consider the proposed Action Items.

Action Items

Proposed action: Introduce the surveys at the February 6, 2022 Community Dialog Meeting for feedback from attendees. Additionally, depending on the response from the Board and CDM, share them again at the February 12 Sacred Service Council Meeting. The working team will then refine the surveys and propose some manner of a general launch.

Information Items

I will be taking my MLK holiday, President's Day holiday and first quarter spiritual renewal time from February 24-28. Rev. Ron will be the guest speaker on Sunday, February 27.

As part of my contract renewal process, I have a few proposed revisions that I will note in the Contract File in the Google drive.

Appendix 1

DRAFT: Unity Member Spiritual Values Survey

January 19, 2022

As part of our effort to Renew in '22 we're asking members to take a few moments to reflect on what we each seek in our own spirituality and our relationship with the church. Thank you for participating in this reflection. We'll share insights from our collective observations.

1. How would you describe yourself now in terms of where spirituality fits into your life? Is it...

the guiding force in your life

important but not the only thing

moderately important

not a major aspect of your life

2. What do you do now to feel or engage spirituality? (For example, what types of activities or what kind of experiences do you seek?)

3. How would you describe your relationship with Unity and how it contributes to your spirituality?

4. What aspects of Unity do you find most engaging? (This might be beliefs, environment, services, people, or something else).

5. Is there anything about Unity that you wish would be better or different?

6. How would you describe the kind of "Sunday" church service that would most contribute to your own spirituality?

7. Now that we are operating in more of a hybrid format, how do you personally feel about your online or in-person participation in services and other activities?

8. What other aspects of your life influence your engagement with Unity, either positively or negatively?

9. How do you feel about Unity of Fairfax's communications to you and to others? Do you learn about what you want to know and in the manner that fits your needs?

Appendix 2

DRAFT: Spiritual Values Survey

Designed by Unity of Fairfax for conversations with friends and family

January 21, 2022

Unity of Fairfax is examining both our own spirituality and how others outside our church meet their spiritual needs. These questions are meant to facilitate a conversation on that topic. Thank you for participating in this reflection.

1. People associate various thoughts and activities with spirituality. What does spirituality mean to you? (For example, is it a specific religious belief or something different?)
2. How would you describe yourself now in terms of where spirituality fits into your life? Is it...
 - the guiding force in your life
 - important but not the only thing
 - moderately important
 - not a major aspect of your life
3. What do you do now to feel or engage spirituality? (For example, what types of activities or what kind of experiences do you seek? Are you part of a church, temple or faith community?)
4. (IF YOU ARE INVOLVED WITH A FAITH COMMUNITY) What keeps you engaged with that group?
5. (IF YOU ARE NOT INVOLVED WITH A FAITH COMMUNITY) What do you think inhibits you from engaging with a faith community? (is it something like lack of time, other interests, or perhaps what a church stands for?)
6. Have you looked around recently or in the past to explore religious affiliations? YES? NO?
7. How did you, or would you, go about that? (things like internet search, someone you might talk with, and so forth). What questions would you be trying to answer? If you would go to internet, are there particular sites or platforms you use or might use?
8. What kinds of church or spiritual messages -- what a church believes and talks about -- make you more interested in exploring a new faith relationship?
9. How would you describe the kind of worship service that would most engage you spiritually?
10. What's the right balance for you between online and in-person participation in services and other activities?
11. Personal profile:

- a. age
- b. gender
- c. marital status
- d. family/children living with you
- e. past religious affiliation