

MINISTERIAL SEARCH TEAM



What's Up and What's Next?

Jennie Smith, on behalf of the Ministerial Search Team

What's up?

Thank you to everyone who joined us for cottage meetings, Rev. Kron's visit and everyone who stopped by the Ministerial Search Team (MST) table in the Parish Hall.

We held 23 cottage meetings in October, with about 250 attendees (including those who attended more than one meeting). About 55 members of the congregation joined us for Rev. Kron's session October 28 and both services were well attended on October 29.

Also, thank you to everyone who completed the annual survey. We are reviewing the survey and cottage meeting notes and both will be valuable guides during the next stages of the search! We have also been writing the congregational record that shares an overview of Unity Church, what we are looking for in a minister, and gives an overview of our past, present and our hopes for the future. This document will be shared with potential applicants on the UUA portal on December 1. It will also be available to the congregation after potential applicants have had a chance to review it.

During his visit, Rev. Kron reminded us that we are not one story, but millions of stories. Summarizing our millions of stories into one congregational record document has been both challenging and joyful. There is so much passion for Unity Church and our ministerial search. Thank you for getting involved.

What's next?

- Join us Saturday, December 2, for a workshop on Engaging Awareness, Disrupting Dominance. We'll practice moving from our individual wants, into how to make choices in service of the collective "we." See the details on this page.
- The 2024 MST looks forward to hosting the previous two search teams for lunch and conversation in December. We can break bread and learn from their experiences and advice. We look forward to celebrating the invaluable work they did and learning from them as we prepare for the next phase of the search.
- In January, the MST will begin reviewing applications.
- In February and March, we'll conduct interviews.
- In April, we'll hold a candidating week and the congregational vote.

What can you do?

- Attend the December 2 workshop.
- Look for updates on our progress in the newsletter, email and bulletin board.
- Continue to reach out at our Parish Hall table or through email to mst24@unityunitarian.org. Just because cottage meetings and the survey are complete does not mean that we are done listening.
- Continue to tell the story of what Unity Church means to you and *listen* to the stories of others so you can expand your thinking about who we are as a church community.

"All that you touch you change. All that you change, changes you. The only lasting truth is change..." — Octavia Butler

With gratitude for your time and support during the changes behind and ahead, your 2024 MST: Angela Wilcox, Jennie Smith, Kat Sherman-Hoehn, Ray Wiedmeyer, Rebecca Flood, Rich Lau and Tara Romanov Messana.

Engaging Awareness, Disrupting Dominance



Facilitated by Alfonso Wenker

alfonsowenker.com

Saturday, December 2

9:00 a.m. – Noon | Sanctuary

You've shared your hopes and dreams at cottage meetings, through the congregational survey, in emails and informally at coffee hour in Parish Hall.

This workshop represents the next step in the search process. Alfonso will guide us through deep discussions to help us in our preparations for a new minister. During the workshop we'll delve into the truths about ourselves and the congregation, in the context of the search. We'll create space for meaningful reflection on the implications of these truths, and how we can take action.

This is an opportunity to deepen into more rigorous practice of noticing how our preferences show up when we care deeply. We'll practice moving from our individual wants, into how to make choices in service of the collective "we."