

Integration

2 of 4 communications



This is the second installment of four (4) communications regarding areas important to our movement: Transformation Experience, Integration, Ethics Review System (ERS) and Finances.

Integration Proposal and Communication Plan

(Go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lKiYiX2j9WQ> to view a video from James Trapp on the topic of integration.)

SUMMARY: Responding to often repeated requests from our field and the openness and responsiveness of Unity World Headquarters at Unity Village's (formerly Unity School of Christianity) board and leadership, a resolution is being brought to Unity People's Convention 2011. This resolution is to approve Unity Worldwide Ministries *exploring* integration with Unity World Headquarters at Unity Village. If approved, the many facets and possibilities for a united organization, responsive to the entire Unity movement, would be explored. Whatever is designed would require the approval of Unity Worldwide Ministries' conference body to be implemented.

The exploration and development of a proposal for integration is a response to the questions, "What is Spirit calling Unity to be today in order to bring Truth principles to a world hungry for our message? What will help our ministries thrive?"

The impetus for exploring the question of integration is based on the direction that came from feedback from: the 1999 Future Search, the 2005 Healing Congress, the feedback from 350 Unity ministers who responded to the 2009/2010 Unity Identity Project (branding) survey, the input from the participants at the January 2011 Forum and the survey/focus group feedback received at each of the 2010/2011 Unity regional conferences. Each of these forums, without exception, supports some form of integration of the Unity organizations.

The proposed integration resolution is for the purpose of authorizing Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM) to *explore and develop a proposal* for integration with Unity World Headquarters at Unity Village. No final decision can be made without approval by the UWM's membership. We intend that the initial exploration into integration will be funded privately.

The intention is to provide a structure for members of UWM to give input, and help co-create, the development of the proposal and assure control over the affairs that are of particular importance to Unity ministers and ministries. The intent is also to have a governance structure that assures Unity ministers will have a major voice in the overall decision-making and direction of a newly-created, integrated Unity structure.

A progress report will be presented to the UWM membership at the 2012 convention. Updates will occur throughout the process. Because of the complexity of the decisions that need to be made and the topics that must be researched, no firm timeline has been set for a final proposal. The UWM membership at any time in the process may vote to cease moving forward with the exploration and development of the plan to create a unified Unity movement.

The benefits that will come about from an integrated Unity include:

- **A more powerful energy moving forward to impact the world.** When we are fragmented, our energy is fragmented. If we put out a simple, strong, effective, unified spiritual message, people will notice, respond and ask for more.
- **Greater resources to draw from.** A unified organization can afford more resources people-wise, technology-wise, media-wise, consultant-wise (for expertise we may not have in-house). We want to capture the best thinking on the planet, the best people on the planet, the most effective resources available, and the best ideas Spirit can create through us ... and share those resources.
- **A new structure that is designed to be organic and responsive.** Our intention is to create a unified structure that will be more relevant to the world as it is now; more nimble, flexible and dynamic in response to what the world is becoming; a structure designed to move us into our future, while respecting our past. We want a structure that is simple, decisive and responsive to the movement of Spirit and the needs and wants of our people.
- **A unified organization that has an abundant flow of resources and uses them wisely and strategically.** This means a streamlined organization that will eliminate our duplication of effort, releasing energy and substance for our real work of opening minds and hearts to a greater expression of the goodness of God. It will also remove the confusion among people regarding who does what, whom to call, and where to write the check!
- **One magnificent strategic plan for the Unity movement that combines the best of all of us.** Assuming there is an agreement to move forward with the exploration of the integration of Unity Worldwide Ministries and Unity World Headquarters at Unity Village, we will begin a process to gather feedback from as many of our supporters as possible to create a new vision, mission and values statement and one unified strategic plan for our movement.

This intention is supported by 100% of both boards and the leadership of both organizations. Ongoing communication vehicles will include but not necessarily be limited to: ministers' and licensed teachers' updates, email, website, Facebook, Unity Worldwide Ministries board of trustees blog, videos from the CEO and board members.

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We are being called and guided to deliver Unity to the 21st century in a way that honors our founders and our history, yet calls us into a deeper, more challenging level of expression.

Our Unity message to the world is too sacred, too vital in these turbulent times, for us to be divided. We invite you into loving, compassionate conversation, honoring each other as we do so. We all want peace, harmony, respect and cooperation. Nothing is perfect. No system is perfect. No human being is perfect. Yet, we must all take our experience, whatever it is, and learn from it, moving forward in spiritual growth and manifestation.

There is an apt statement: **“Do not be afraid of tomorrow. I am already there.”** Where God guides, God provides.

In Unity,

James Trapp, president and CEO, and Unity Worldwide Ministries board of trustees