



Theodore J. Collins, J.D.  
Chief Academic Officer and Dean

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Jane Doe  
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*"It is time for us to support our movement that we love totally; it's time to rally; it's no time to wait. When I say the movement, I'm not talking about just our Association but ... every aspect of our Unity movement."*

—James Trapp (from 2009 report to conference body)

Dear Jane:

Rev. Trapp's words are no less true today than they were six months ago. Perhaps they're even more timely! Knowing how much you've dedicated yourself to our movement, I trust you agree.

It's in that spirit that I'm writing to you today, to ask for your help in supporting the future of our movement by helping pave the way for the next generation of Unity ministers.

Specifically, I ask you to consider making two commitments:

- 1) To commit, personally, to being an active part of the newly created "Unity Institute Alumni Association," which we envision as a vibrant community of leaders dedicated to supporting Unity Institute, and more important, to supporting each other through spiritual, social and educational opportunities.
- 2) To commit, on behalf of your congregation, to participating in "Unity Seminary Sunday: Funding Our Future," a campaign to raise awareness and funds for the benefit of current and future ministerial students in all of our programs so that the work you're doing today will continue to grow to serve congregants, churches and our movement worldwide.

Why do I feel these commitments are so important right now?

For nearly 80 years, Unity Institute has been dedicated, through higher education, to developing ministers and other leaders who live spiritual principles and inspire transformation. With each graduate, this body of knowledge and understanding has grown. I'm grateful that you're a part of that process.

Through the **Alumni Association**, we hope to nurture and encourage this growth even more by facilitating opportunities for leaders in the field to share their insights with students and faculty and helping them encourage and support each other in their ongoing ministries. Many of you, in your early days of ministry, were fortunate enough to find a more seasoned minister willing to share his or her experience. The Alumni Association can help expand this transfer of knowledge, a sharing that can benefit us all, individually and collectively.

The Association will also sponsor more formal learning opportunities for members, including webinars as well as regional and Unity Village retreats. There are many benefits to joining at every level—\$50 for Annual Membership or \$500 for Lifetime Membership—including discounts on Lyceum and other UI events, special lower rates at the Hotel/Conference Center, and 50 percent off all graduate courses taken for credit by ordained minister alumni. There are other benefits available, and we expect to add more. Please visit [www.unityinstitute.org/alumni](http://www.unityinstitute.org/alumni) for additional details and to begin your membership now.

While the Alumni Association will support and sustain *today's* Unity ministers, **Unity Seminary Sunday** will help cultivate *tomorrow's* leaders as well. When you consider the projected growth of our movement, it is readily apparent that we must consider that future now.

Briefly, we're asking all Unity Churches to schedule a Sunday in October or March to share the Unity Institute story and to ask for their congregation's support. We'll provide materials through our landing page, [www.unityinstitute.org/sunday](http://www.unityinstitute.org/sunday), to help you implement the discussion—a video, an insert for your bulletin and instructions for donations. We'll even arrange for a student or faculty member to speak to your congregation, if you prefer. We humbly ask you to take a second offering to benefit the Institute's mission.

Again, we've provided more information online, at [www.unityinstitute.org/sunday](http://www.unityinstitute.org/sunday). We'll also have an Information Table at the People's Convention and would welcome the chance to visit with you further. Or, to schedule your participation, please contact Rev. Mark Fuss at [admissions@unityonline.org](mailto:admissions@unityonline.org) or 816-251-3535, Ext. 2110.

It is, indeed, "time to rally." I hope you agree. And I hope you will show your agreement by joining me in making these two commitments—to the Unity Institute Alumni Association and to Unity Seminary Sunday.

Thank you and bless you for your prayers and support.

Sincerely,



Theodore J. Collins, J.D.  
Chief Academic Officer and Dean  
Unity Institute