

On behalf of the Board, I welcome everyone to our third on-line Community meeting. We are excited to share with you today, and look forward to hearing from you at the end. We wish to thank Erin Hostetler for planning and arranging our meeting, Amy Jahn for running the Zoom program, and MJ Hawes for managing the Q&A.

There will be a lot covered today and to make it easy for you to enjoy it, we will have this Zoom available on line, as well as, this report, and the Board member's slides.

This being the Sunday before Thanksgiving Day, the Board wishes to give appreciation and gratitude to you for the trust, goodwill, and support that you have sent our way. We also want to extend our deepest appreciation to Rev Clive who will be leaving us next month. As you know, it was Rev Clive's ministry, leadership and innovation that led UoT through our darkest months and into a stable present and bright future. We have less than a month with Rev Clive and will enjoy his presence until his last day. We also wish to thank Nevin Valentine for her leadership role in our UFM and bless her in her new journey.

Before we start I would like to remind our community of our vision, mission and core values.

Our vision states- Centered in Divine love , we participate in radical global awakening of consciousness, honoring all.

Our Mission states- We are a vibrant spiritual community committed to individual and collective awakening through sacred teachings and practices. One God, One Heart, Many Paths.

Our core values are love, abundance, diversity, gratitude, integrity, and joy.

Today we have important and strategic issues to discuss with you, and appreciate you giving us your time.

Our current state is optimistic, strategic, fluid and adapting

We are focused on 3 things: stabilization, revenue, and communication.

To achieve our strategic focus the Board's priorities are:

1. To create a stable ministry with a meaningful and value based message
2. To create 2 revenue streams: one from our community to fund our ministry and one from our property and grounds to fund itself.
3. To strategically attend to our deferred maintenance and property enhancement needs.
4. To understand our monthly P & L gaps, to communicate them to you, and to plan a Pledge Drive
5. To investigate our options to finance our deferred maintenance and enhancement needs
6. To establish a new YF leadership program and with it a 2021 vision for our YFM.
7. To reliably and consistently provide a live video stream for our Sunday 11 AM service: inside or outside.
8. To develop an effective Prayer Chaplin Service
9. To maintain our Sunday music service
10. and to Communicate with you our Community

There are other important issues that need to be addressed, however, they should not take our efforts off of these 10.

Today's meeting will address or touch on most of these issues.

In the meantime, I want to spend a few minutes on what I mean by a stable ministry with a meaningful and value based message.

In speaking with Rev Clive during our contract negotiations and with a number of other Unity Ministers and Managers we are better understanding the current state of ministries in general and Unity in specific.

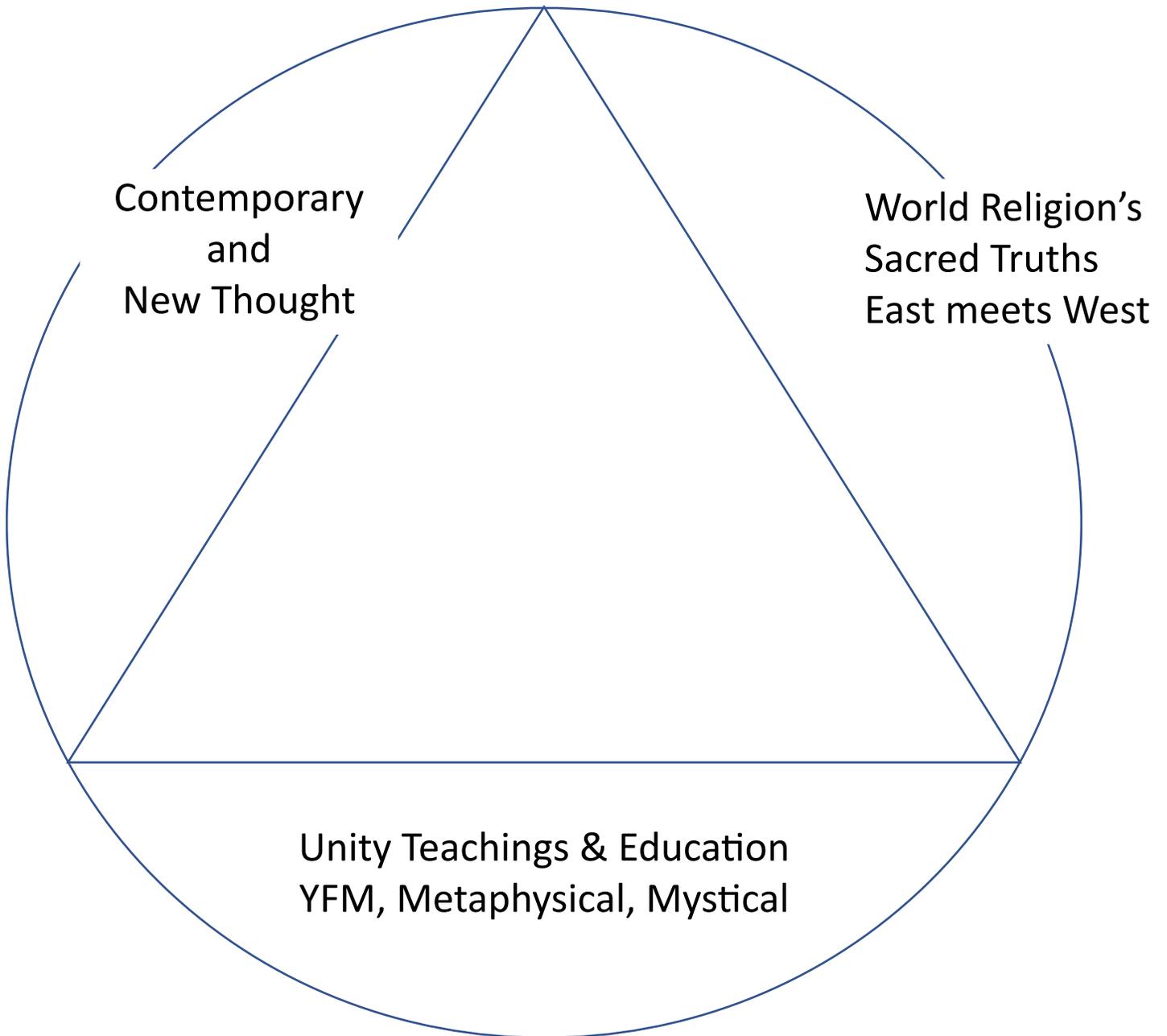
Churches and Spiritual groups are moving away from Minister centric leadership and toward Mission and Community centric leadership. They are also seeing Ministers sharing platforms and responsibilities. The days of the charismatic solo Sr Minister are not over, but they are no longer the rule.

We have also learned that it is important to recognize that there are diverse groups in spiritual communities and that they may at times be drawn to different messages and/or ministers and teachers.

For any minister to provide a meaningful and value base message they need to understand the framework and expectations of their Community.

As such it is incumbent on this Board to be able describe our community's spiritual dimensions and scope to any prospective Minister or teacher. From my discussions with the Board, Unity Ministers, and some of you, I have created what I hope is a diagram that is reflective of UoT's spiritual breath. it is also, I believe aligned with Charles and Myrtle Fillmore's philosophy and teachings.

Share and discuss diagram.



Besides the concept of what occurs on our platform, we need to consider what occurs on our campus and on-line.

We are envisioning a Community of Spiritual Evolution throughout a lifetime-on campus and on-line. We can imagine being a Unity training Center providing SEE classes, training for LUT, and ministers in training, a site for healing through Reiki and Healing touch, active semantic movement such as yoga & tai chi, a Music ministry that provides seasonal concerts on the lawn and a rich and expansive music experience for all ages, a YFM that is an exciting entry point for young families and a resource for our neighborhood, and an outreach program that leads and supports the needs of our least advantaged.

Last Sunday embodied in part our vision for our Campus and community. We had an 1100 service that was live streamed to over 30 people and we had 60 people on campus. After the service, we had a Life Celebration with a tree planting presided by Rev Marj and shortly afterwards we had a violin recital on the main lawn. We had such beautiful transitions in play with Rev Marj, Rev Clive and Shara on the one hand, and on the other hand a Celebration of Life Service followed by young children playing violins. It was joyous and probably one of my happiest days on our campus.

Our present is stable and providing us the opportunity for an exciting, unfolding, and transformative future. One that will be meaningful to you, and that will bring new members to our community.

Now let's get to our agenda and hear some of the details of our strategic plans.

Jim DeFontes, MD  
Board President, Unity of Tustin

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