



Tim Alderman

Tim Alderman currently serves on the UWM Board of Trustees and has for the past 5½ years. He was the first lay leader board president of the UWM board. Tim has served in various roles at several Unity churches including: Unity of Washington, DC; Unity El Paso, Texas; Unity of Fairfax, Va.; Unity of Seattle, Wash.; First Unity Temple, El Paso, Texas (now Unity El Paso).

Tim is currently a member at Unity of Wimberley, Texas, having served on that board for six years. As treasurer Tim worked with the Wimberley board to shift the consciousness to tithing on what we wanted to receive, instead of tithing on what we had received.

Professionally Tim was human relations director in Washington, DC, and Belgium, involved in building cohesive teams. His management style has taught him the importance of listening to all sides of a situation in addition to listening to his inner voice. Currently program manager, US Army Corps of Engineers, Tim is accustomed to working with staff located throughout the US. He has rebuilt teams and trained six of the Army's top interns. For this work Tim was awarded the highest Civilian Service Award, and numerous other awards.

Key Facts

- Tim's vision for Unity: To be the foremost New Thought religion in the world through competent staff, board transparency, and a growing spiritual institute educating world-class ministers and lay persons
- Is completing five years on the UWM board so is aware of recent history and transitions. Tim served as president of UWM's board one year
- An experienced prayer chaplain, board treasurer and board president in four Unity churches
- Effective at listening to all the facts and concerns in considering the best option for all and listening to his intuition
- Was awarded the highest Civilian Service Award for his work with the US Army



Dr Elizabeth English, Ph.D.

Dr Beth English is currently serving on the UWM board of trustees (2016-2018) as a lay person representative. She is recording secretary for the UWM board as well as liaison to the Eastern Regional BOT and EarthCare Team. Most recently, she assumed the role of chair of the Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute Advisory Board.

Beth was introduced to Unity forty years ago by her parents. She has been a member of three Unity congregations: Washington DC; Charlottesville, Va.; and Fairfax, Va. She said “The principles of Unity have guided my life, my perspective, and the ways I show up in the world. As a member of Unity of Fairfax for the last 15 years, I have served on the following ministries: chaplain, worship, music, social action, and board of trustees, where I served as first chair during my last year.”

Professionally Beth has been an educator for 40+ years in various positions serving as a teacher, elementary principal, district coordinator, and Title I director in four school divisions in Virginia. She has taught graduate courses for several state universities and currently serves as an education consultant for the Center for the Collaborative Classroom, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the social and academic development of children. Beth has experience in educational planning and assessment. She chaired committees for FAESP (Fairfax Association of Elementary School Principals) and a subcommittee on Professional Learning for the 2003 FAESP Study. Beth was also an adjunct professor for Virginia Tech, GMU, U.VA., and Shenandoah University (1981-2012).

Key Facts

- 40 years in Unity, current member of UWM BOT: recording secretary, liaison to Eastern Region BOT and EarthCare Team; UWSI, chair of Advisory Board
- Forty years of experience in public education as teacher, principal, district coordinator and Title 1 director in four school divisions in Virginia
- Strengths include being a learner, a listener, a consensus builder, one who sees new possibilities, and views challenges as opportunities, is organized and highly responsible
- I intend to advocate for participation and involvement of all lay members within the Unity movement as we seek to find unity within Unity as well as within other New Thought ministries.



Rev Sharon Ketchum

Rev Sharon Ketchum currently serves on UWM board of trustees and has for the past 4 years. This year Sharon is the 1st Vice Chair of Unity Worldwide Ministries and also minister at the recently merged Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, Michigan. Previously Sharon served as senior minister at Unity Kitchener, Canada, for 16 years and on Unity Canada board of directors for 12 years including 6 years as treasurer.

Sharon has served on UWM's board of trustees since 2014. During that time, she has worked with the Education Transition Team, Earthcare Team, Music Team, Admissions Team, Budget & Finance Team, Regional Advisory Council, Annual Summit Team, Convention Team, and nearly every ministry team UWM has. Sharon speaks of the privilege of serving on the board during these most shifting times in our history as the functions of UWM drastically shifted and evolved.

- The huge opportunity/challenge of taking on the responsibility of the instructional component of Unity education and the challenges—from SEE to ministerial to personal learning platforms—and moving to an online, affordable, accessible, and adaptable education program which is evolving to create a cohesive and comprehensive education process
- The physical move of UWM on to Unity Village grounds and direction for capitalizing on our current real estate assets
- The formation of a Regional Advisory Council
- Activation of the HUG (Help Unity Grow) fund and a Rapid Response webpage in response to the many natural disasters that have affected many of our ministries.

Key Facts

- Four years of experience with UWM board of trustees plus twelve years serving Unity Canada board of directors
- Sees UWM board as a working board that connects with UWM constituents, visioning for the future of ministries, collaborating with others, strengthening resources available to ministries, supporting and enlivening the Unity movement as a whole, and holding the consciousness of the Unity movement.
- Extensive experience working with most of UWM's ministry teams
- Her future vision for UWM: To inspirationally seed ongoing grass roots creativity and positivity to keep us current with changing trends and the needs of our movement and our members.



Rev Sylvia Sumter

Rev Sylvia Sumter is currently the senior minister at Unity of Washington DC, where she has served since 1991. Before that she served as the chairperson of Communication Studies and Skills department for the Unity School of Religious Studies, in Unity Village, Mo.

Reverend Sumter is a graduate of the Unity School of Christianity, licensed in 1986, and ordained as a Unity minister in 1987. Her academic accomplishments include: master of education, a bachelor of arts in psychology, and an associate of arts in business administration.

Sylvia is a natural and gifted spiritual teacher whose work has had an extraordinary effect on so many in Washington DC, and everywhere she speaks and teaches. She is committed to the transformation and uplifting of humanity through helping individuals raise their consciousness and to take their rightful place as light bearers and divine expressions. Through her work as a minister and professional counselor, she continues to teach and to help others expand their spiritual consciousness and vision by living in the awareness of the Divine through prayer, meditation, and practicing spiritual principles for living life fearlessly and with authenticity.

One of her most notable characteristics is her dynamic and energetic speaking style, yet she has such an unassuming manner. Rev Sumter is also noted for her uncanny ability to take the most fundamental teachings and principles of spirituality and many of life's experiences to develop her messages. Her call is to inspire individuals to transform their lives through an awareness of their innate divine potential.

Key Facts

- Served on Unity World Headquarters' board of trustees about 5 years. For UWM has served on L&O (licensing and ordination) Team, Field Licensing, and the HUG Team.
- Am committed to conscious evolution by teaching all to take their right places as light bearers and expressions of the Divine.
- I see Unity becoming more relevant and on the forefront of reaching the unchurched through non-traditional ways and means. It is time to do ministry in a completely new way that can attract this next generation.

Minimum Qualifications

(ARTICLE II.A: Board of Trustees - UWM Policy Manual 2015)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR MINISTERS AS BOARD MEMBERS

- i. Commitment and loyalty to Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM) and its programs by past demonstration of:
- a. Involvement in ministry team work.
 - b. Regular attendance at Regional Conferences.
 - c. Regular attendance at Annual Conventions.
 - d. Regular financial support of UWM.
 - e. Support for its policies, bylaws and ethics.
- ii. Proven successful experience in a field ministry for a minimum of five (5) years
- iii. Continued expression of diplomacy and tact.
- iv. Demonstrates leadership qualities.
- v. Proven ability to evaluate a situation objectively and represent the majority consensus of their constituency rather than a personal point of view.
- vi. Ability to maintain an even temperament during stressful situations.
- vii. Proven in successful interpersonal relationship.
- viii. Demonstrated ability to support principle objectively.
- ix. Personally have the available time, freedom, willingness, and the support of their ministry to carry out the responsibilities of the position.
- x. Every member of our Unity Worldwide Ministries Board of Trustees gives a portion of their personal tithe to the General Fund of UWM. It is recommended that each board member qualify as a Contributing Friend (at least \$100+ per year).

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSED UNITY TEACHERS AS BOARD MEMBERS

- Commitment to Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM) and its programs by demonstration of:
- i. Have been serving as an active licensed Unity teacher for a minimum of five (5) years and have their post-graduate credits up to date.
 - ii. Have the written recommendation of his/her present minister and acknowledgement by the local board of trustees (Note: One letter, two signatures). If there is no minister presently active in their local church a letter of recommendation by the board of trustees will suffice.
 - iii. Be totally committed to the role and services provided by licensed Unity teachers.
 - iv. Supportive of both the minister and ministry by using time, talent, and tithing to assist in growing the Unity ministry. A candidate for the Board of Trustees shall not be currently seeking ordination as a Unity minister (e.g. not enrolled in either the Field Licensing Program, applying for entrance into or enrolled in either Unity Institute or the Urban Ministerial School), and will not serve as a Spiritual Leader of a congregation during his/her term on the Board.
 - v. Come from a ministry that tithes regularly to UWM, or, personally tithes to UWM.
 - vi. Have time and financial resources to attend the regular Board of Trustees meetings and annual UWM convention and other task force duties as assigned.
 - vii. Shall not come from a ministry that has a minister serving on the Board of UWM.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR LAYPERSONS AS BOARD MEMBERS

- Commitment to the Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM) and its programs by demonstration of:
- i. Have been serving in an active leadership role in Unity ministry for a minimum of five (5) years.
 - ii. Have the written recommendation of his/her present minister and acknowledgement by the local ministry board of trustees (Note: one letter, two signatures). If there is no minister presently active in their local church a letter of recommendation by the board of trustees will suffice.
 - iii. Be totally committed to vision, mission and goals of their Unity ministry. Supportive of both the minister and ministry by using: time, talent, and tithing, to assist in growing the Unity ministry.
 - iv. A candidate for the board of trustees shall not be currently seeking ordination as a Unity minister (e.g. not enrolled in either the Field Licensing Program, applying for entrance into or enrolled in either Unity Institute or the Urban Ministerial School] and will not serve as a Spiritual Leader of a congregation during his/her term on the board.
 - v. Come from a ministry that tithes regularly to the UWM or personally tithes to UWM.
 - vi. Have time and financial resources to attend the regular board of trustees meetings and annually to UWM's conference and convention and other task force duties as assigned.
 - vii. Shall not come from a ministry that has a minister, or licensed teacher, or another layperson serving on the board.