



Ministry Vacancy Information Packet

Unity of Kona
Kailua Kona, HI

September 2025

About the Ministry

OVERVIEW

Our ministry is located on the island of Hawaii in the middle of the South Pacific. We live in a small laid-back tourist community with great aloha and appreciation for the land. Our congregants love this island and island living (slower pace, more rural, more natural, etc.) Unity of Kona integrates traditional Unity teachings with the rich spiritual and cultural tapestry of Hawai'i. Our services, gatherings, and special events often incorporate elements of Hawaiian culture—such as storytelling, language, song, and symbolism—to honor the 'āina (land), people, and traditions of this sacred place. We currently have a Hawaiian Kahu who speaks on any months with a Fifth Sunday, and he does a culturally focused service. We seek a spiritual leader who respects and is willing to learn and help us maintain this valued integration. We are blessed to be able to stream our services online and go live on Facebook, YouTube, and Twitch. We have been doing this since the beginning of the pandemic and continue to work on improving our technical expertise. Additionally, we currently rely on a few tech-savvy congregants to support our audio/visual needs and would be grateful to grow this capacity, both among our membership and within the leadership team.

We have a very active small membership and many outside guests who visit events for extracurriculars and occasionally donate but do not attend service. We eat together after service. The food, provided by various volunteers, often contains small sandwiches or casseroles, fruit, desserts and more. We love gathering for large holiday potluck and find these events are well attended and well loved. Unity of Kona values connection, healing, and authenticity. We enjoy gathering for monthly community events, classes, and workshops that focus on spiritual growth, holistic healing, and personal development. These offerings such as Guided Meditation Group, Circulation Days, Vision Boarding, Drumming Group, Ukulele group, Sound Baths and Energy Healings, and seasonal Qigong are a key way we extend our ministry into the wider community. We welcome opportunities to host and collaborate with local practitioners and non-profit organizations, including 12-step and recovery groups. We are ready to grow, not only in numbers, but in depth of engagement and service. We are looking to expand our reach and deepen our roots by offering spiritual tools that transform lives and foster authentic community connection.

Locality: North & South Kona and Kohala on the “Big Island” of Hawaii.

Physical Description: Unity of Kona is located in Kailua-Kona on Hawai'i Island's sunny west coast, a vibrant town known as “Kona Town.” Kailua Kona is a small-town with easy access to beaches, shopping, dining, and cultural landmarks. Surrounded by the Pacific Ocean and the slopes of Hualālai volcano, it enjoys a warm, dry climate with temperatures averaging 70–85°F year-round. The town is situated adjacent to the ocean with a terrain that slants uphill so there are many breathtaking views. Kailua-Kona is known for its historic sites, coffee farms, and world-class snorkeling and diving, offering a unique blend of natural beauty and island living. The population was 19,713 at the 2020 census.

Proximity to Other Unity Ministries and/or New Thought Centers:

There is a Center for Spiritual Living located in Waimea (39 miles) and a New Thought Church in Kealahou, about 10 miles away (25 min by car).

Do you participate in any of the following activities? *(Check all that apply)*

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Small Group Ministries | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community Outreach/Compassionate Social Action | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Publications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Social Media (ex: Facebook, Twitter, livestreaming, etc.) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (please list) LUT classes and various workshops | |

PEOPLE

Size of mailing list:	Almost 200
Average Sunday attendance (in person, online):	15-30 in person, 5+ watching live online
Formal (voting or active) membership:	44

Special Groups:

We are looking to restart our mixed age children's program but currently do not have any regular children attending.

Church staff/other employees:

Diana Fischer is our current volunteer Office Manager. Our goal is to assist the current volunteer office manager in her retirement after many years of dedicated service. We may potentially hire an administrative assistant and otherwise aim to spread out the responsibilities currently being undertaken by a small handful of volunteers seeking support and relief.

MINISTRY SUPPORT SERVICES

Has the ministry worked with a UWM Consultant or Transitional Specialist? ☐ Yes ☒ No.

We have received workshops and transitional services in the past when our previous minister passed away prior to covid.

MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES (Adopted 2021)

MISSION: To inspire spiritual growth and service through the active practice of Love, Prayer, Faith, Joy, and honoring Everyone as a Child of God.

VISION: A World Family of Oneness, Peace, and Love.

CORE VALUE STATEMENTS:

- **Aloha** (*God Within*): Spirit Led, Unconditional Love
- **Ohana** (*Family*): Fellowship, Joy, Music
- **Mana** (*Empowerment*): Stewardship, Abundance, Teaching, Education, Transformation, Spiritual Growth
- **Kuleana** (*Service*): Community Involvement, Shelter, Sanctuary
- **Malu** (*Peace*): Forgiveness (Acceptance), Patience, Inclusiveness, Gratitude, Healing & Wellness, Grace, Openness, Honesty, Integrity, Transparency.

What have been the three most important events in the history of your ministry?

1. The first regular church service was held February 8, 1987 at the Kona Surf Hotel by Rev. Carlton Buboltz, founding minister. Rev. Bublotz who served 7 years and 11 months.
2. As A licensed Unity teacher, Rev. Deborah Knowles (Rev. Deb) started as our Spiritual Leader October 1, 1999, was fully ordained on October 27, 2015 and served almost 20 years until her passing on November 5, 2018. Every Sunday, she traveled from Oahu to Kona from October 1999 through September 2001, when she relocated to Kona.
3. Unity of Kona signed a second 5-year lease to remain at our current location in May of 2023. Reverend Sophia Falke became our minister of record in 2021, and Sunday services began broadcasting live on YouTube and Facebook 01/01/21.

In the last 3 years, what activities/special events in the ministry were well attended/appreciated?

- Thanksgiving and Easter potlucks each year are always well attended and a big family gathering.
- Sound Baths the first Sunday of each month are well attended by congregants and community members alike.
- Circulation Day (occurring now 3x per year) are well attended by congregants and community members alike.

What does the congregation want to accomplish in the next 3 years?

- Having a thriving congregation that includes families and children, that fills almost all available seats every Sunday. This includes having an active Sunday School available each Sunday with many regular attendees.
- Experiencing sustainable abundance supported by our thriving congregation that more than covers our expenses each month, allowing us to expand our services to the community.
- Create an uplifting and engaging musical experience each Sunday where we have an array of musicians that perform for us as well as a cohesive and skilled choir to both perform and engage the congregation in joyful singing.

INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS

Date Ministry Established: 1987
Founding Minister Name: Rev. Carlton Bublotz

Date of Articles of Incorporation (AOI): April 8, 2018

Bylaws – Date Adopted/Revised: 6/2019

[Current UWM Bylaws Template](#)

Check here if your bylaws are structured in accordance with the Unity Worldwide Ministries bylaw template and updated within the past three years: ☐

About the Position

MINISTERIAL CHARACTERISTICS AND EXPECTATIONS – 1 IS TOP PRIORITY, 9 IS LEAST IMPORTANT

- 1 Building Leaders and Teams, and Empowering Others**
 - Keeps mission, vision, values, and the WHY this ministry exists current
 - Plans for continual training of leadership and volunteers, ministry growth, and outreach
 - Implements training for boards, staff, and volunteers and fosters a team-based culture
 - Plans for training and utilizing licensed Unity teachers (LUT) as an integral part of the ministry
 - Planning for building financial development strategies
 - Incorporates training for Youth & Family Ministry, youth, YOU, Next Generation
 - Develops and leads worship experiences collaboratively with others involved
- 2 Focus on Prayer, Meditation, Pastoral Care, Chaplaincy**
 - Demonstrates prayer consciousness and facilitates prayer & meditation classes & experiences
 - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to others' needs and emotions
 - Focus on the pastoral care needs of the intergenerational congregation
 - Helps people develop a spiritual life and a prayer consciousness within the ministry
 - Ministers to people in crisis, offer guidance in solving problems
 - Makes hospital visits, visits shut-ins and nursing homes, prayer with members
 - Facilitates training for chaplains and utilizes chaplains within the ministry
- 3 Outreach into the Local Community**
 - Demonstrates a desire to engage and support the local community members
 - Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to others' needs and emotions
 - Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
 - Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
 - Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
 - Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
 - Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view
- 4 Working with a Specific Group (Kids, teens, seniors, men, women, LGBTQ, etc.)**
 - Maintains confidentiality, understanding the laws around mandated reporting
 - Helps people of all ages develop a spiritual life and a prayer consciousness within the ministry
 - Models and teaches open attitudes with a diverse population
 - Ministers to individuals and families in crisis, offer guidance in solving problems
 - Act as a resource to additional community and support services
- 5 Spiritual Social Activism**
 - Invites others to become involved and is a team player
 - Models and teaches open attitudes, active listening, and tolerance with a diverse population
 - Consciously educates themselves and others on the topic
 - Maintains a respectful presence regarding spiritual social activism
 - Helps to develop an inclusive consciousness within the ministry
- 6 Audio/Visual(A/V) Technology Acumen**
 - Adept with a variety of A/V technologies to enhance the overall worship experience
 - Skilled in the use of virtual meeting applications (Zoom, WebEx, Meet, Teams, etc.)
 - Demonstrated success in delivering virtual and hybrid presentations and training
 - Embraces the use of social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) in support of the ministry's mission, vision, and values.

7

Environmentalism

- Knowledgeable of and proficient in environmental awareness for this geographic location
- Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to the environment and connection to the planet
- Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
- Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
- Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
- Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
- Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view

8

Health & Wellbeing

- Knowledgeable of and proficient in health, healing, exercise & nutrition
- Compassionate and caring person, sensitive to the mind-body connection
- Community Organizer skills to coordinate with multiple volunteers and outside organizations
- Problem solver who recognizes the third option, shows persistence, and follow through
- Negotiates and/or compromises, seeking the highest outcome for all involved
- Demonstrates appreciation for volunteers, staff, board, and congregants of all ages
- Compassionate listener and deals effectively with different points of view

9

Administration

- Knowledgeable of and proficient in applying ministry bylaws, policies, and procedures
- Proficient in executing fiduciary responsibilities, developing prosperity awareness, and maintaining a balanced budget
- Follows office management best practices and use of office systems (software)
- Empowers staff and volunteers, delegates well
- Implements training for boards, staff, and volunteers and fosters a learning culture

Other specific qualities, experiences, leadership skills, vision, etc., you are seeking not already addressed: None at this time.

SPIRITUAL EXPERTISE AND EDUCATIONAL ACUMEN

1. Ministry Location. Place an “X” next to the primary location of the ministry’s current demographic. (Select one)

In-person

[click to rate](#)

Online

x

Hybrid

2. Ministry Type. Place an “X” next to the description that best describes this ministry. (Select one)

[click to rate](#)

Congregation-Based

x

Community-Based

[click to rate](#)

Service-Based

3. Age Groups. Please rank the following age-group categories from 1 (most populous) to 6 (least), to reflect your current active membership/attendance.

2	70's and up	4	20's & 30's
1	50's & 60's	5	Teens & Young Adults
3	30's & 40's	6	Kids & Families

4. Interests/Area of Expertise: Please rank the following topics from 1 (highest) to 8 (lowest), to reflect your ministry's areas of interest/needed expertise from the incoming minister.

1	Sunday Services
2	Prayer & Meditation / Pastoral Care
6	Small Groups
3	Development and Facilitation of Classes
4	Outreach in the Community
8	Earth Care
7	Interfaith & World Religions
5	Current Trending Spirituality

5. Spiritual Expertise and Educational Acumen: Please rank the following topics from 1 (highest) to 7 (lowest), to reflect your ministry's needs of spiritual expertise/acumen from the incoming minister.

1	Unity Foundational Teachings
3	Bible and Metaphysics
2	Fillmore (only)
5	Classic Unity Authors
6	New Thought Authors
7	World Religions
4	Current Trending Spirituality

The Who and Why of your Ministry

WHO does this ministry serve?

Our community is diverse and includes seasoned islanders, people who have lived here a handful of years, and many newcomers. Several of our regular congregants are transient and live in the community part of the year (so our weekly attendance rises during the winter months) while others drive long distances on island to attend. While our congregants range in age and stage of life, with many members being older and retired, we unite on our desire to see spirit in everything. Our congregation is very open and friendly, and congregants come from a vast array of spiritual backgrounds.

WHY do you exist as a ministry?

We are a close-knit congregation of individuals who are deeply committed to the Unity Principles and to walking a spiritual path of love, healing, and growth. Our ministry serves as a beacon of light, offering practical spiritual tools to awaken the divine potential in all and to foster a deeper connection with God, each other, and our island home.

What demographic resonates to the answer of your WHY question?

We find a wide variety of people are attracted to our "Why." While most of our congregants are women and many are retired but we do attract many younger attendees to our community engagements such as sound baths, circulation days (free community rummage sales), and crystal healings. Many of our congregants are looking for a community feeling, open acceptance, and spiritual empowerment.

Describe your vision of the perfect ministry.

Our vision is to be a source of spiritual nourishment, healing, and empowerment for all who walk through our doors. We are looking for a warm, engaging, and passionate spiritual leader who is open to being an active relationship builder and maintainer. Our community is ready to be served more directly, and we are eager to enter a new phase of vibrant in-person leadership, co-creating a thriving spiritual hub in Kailua-Kona.

In the next few years, we want to grow our congregation (our ohana), achieve sustainable abundance, enhance our choir and musical offerings for Sunday services and re-establish a Sunday school program. Long term we would like to own our own building. We have a big dream of opening a Unity Community Center that is a holistic healing center caring for the mind, body, and spirit. Our grand vision includes a sanctuary, classrooms, a garden where we grow fruits and vegetables, a music room, a commercial kitchen, a dorm building, offering spiritual retreats and tours, a library, an art room, an afterschool program, rooms to rent or offer for community practitioners and healers, and much more.

=====

Vacancy Fill by Date: Open

Proposed Salary Range (Part Time Position): \$30,000 - \$42,000 per year

Moving Expenses: None

Additional arrangements, benefits, insurance, etc.: None

Housing market, school districts, etc., in your locale:

Kailua-Kona offers a variety of housing options, including condos, townhomes, and single-family homes, though the market can be competitive at times. Home prices and rental costs are above the national average, reflecting the area's appeal as a beautiful island community. Families will find several public, charter, and private school options, including well-regarded programs like Innovations Public Charter School and West Hawai'i Explorations Academy. While the cost of living is higher than many mainland areas, it comes with the unique lifestyle and natural beauty of Hawai'i.

Additional Comments:

There are three particularly significant sites in town. The first is the Ahu'ena Heiau. This is a shrine fronting Kamakahono Beach. This was King Kamehameha I royal residence from 1810 until his death in 1819. During that time, it was the seat of government for the Hawaiian Kingdom. The second site is Mokuaikaia Church. Founded in by missionaries it is the first Christian church established in Hawaii First built as a grass shack, a permanent structure was made of lava rock and paid for by John Adams Kuakini (governor). Finally, there is Hulihee Palace. Built in 1837 as a private residence by John Adams. This property eventually passed into the hands of the Hawaiian royal family and was used as a summer home by the royals until the fall of the Kingdom. It is one of only 3 palaces in the United States.

=====



Release of Information Authorization

I, the Board President of Dondi K. Nueva on behalf of the Board of Trustees, authorize ministerial applicants to obtain any pertinent information regarding ministry history from the permanent ministry file in Unity Worldwide Ministries' home office.

Dondi K. Nueva
Board President Signature

DONDI K. NUEVA
Board President Printed Name

August 13, 2015
Date