



Use of Titles Implying Minister Status (Approved 11-28-23)

Replaces Use of the Title Reverend Policy FINAL 4-25-23

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to clarify titles that may be used by spiritual leaders, guest speakers, and those in supporting roles in Unity ministries while honoring ministers ordained by another denomination.

Policy:

Individuals who are licensed or ordained by a faith organization other than Unity and are serving as the Spiritual Leader for a Unity group must be enrolled in the Special Dispensation program and may use the title Reverend in Unity materials and publications, with the source of their ordination listed, after receiving written approval from Unity Worldwide Ministries and confirmation that they are in good standing with their ordaining body.

Individuals who are licensed or ordained by a faith organization other than Unity and are serving in any Unity organization in a staff or leadership capacity, may not use the title Reverend in relation to their Unity role without the source of their ordination listed and written approval from the Senior Minister, Spiritual Leader, or Board of Trustees/Directors in lieu of a Senior Minister/Spiritual Leader.

For non-ordained individuals, the use of the terms Minister, Associate Minister, Assistant Minister, Youth Minister, Prayer Minister, etc., or any such title that implies Unity ordination, may not be used by any leader until Unity licensure or ordination is achieved.

Definitions:

Special Dispensation refers to authorization for a ministry to employ an individual who is not an ordained Unity minister to lead the ministry. This authorization is contingent upon the ministry and the individual entering into an agreement with UWM for the individual to commit to a path to Unity ordination and to follow through on that commitment.

Spiritual Leader is an individual who is not a Unity minister and has a special dispensation to lead a member ministry on a temporary and conditional basis.

Ministry Coordinator is an individual without Unity credentials who has a special dispensation to coordinate the activities of a member ministry on a temporary and conditional basis.