

Membership at Unity of Lehigh Valley

Our bylaws outline that becoming a member at Unity of Lehigh Valley, with all the rights and responsibilities that includes, is a process that begins with filing an Application for Membership with the Office; continues through the Orientation Program; and requires an annual renewal by participation in the ministry and submitting a renewal card.

Unity of Lehigh Valley is a thriving spiritual community and YOU are an important part of that community. Is Spirit calling you to step up to a higher level of commitment in membership? Say Yes!

First Time Members

In an effort to offer classes at a more basic level and invite members into continuing education as they grow in leadership, the board has approved a 6 week program of classes for membership. Each of the 6 classes is a 2 hour session offered on Sundays and/or a weeknight.

Class 1: Unity Basics

An overview of the history of Unity and our basic teachings.

Class2: Welcome to ULV

An overview of organizational structure in churches in general and ULV specifics for membership and governance. A look at healthy churches and the integral model for thriving churches. A look at our mission, vision, values and strategic plan.

Class 3: Prayer in Unity

An overview of affirmative prayer and basic meditation. What is the difference between prayer and meditation? How does prayer work?

Class 4: Prosperity Teachings

An overview of the concepts of substance and maintaining a flow in our lives, including tithing practices. Applicants must commit to 3 months of committed giving before membership acceptance.

Class 5: Compassionate Communication

A brief overview of how we listen and how we can seek to connect in our communication. We will touch on open communication as a part of moving through conflict.

Class 6: Metaphysical Interpretation of Scripture

A brief overview of the various levels of interpretation and basic interpretation of old and new testament Bible verse and story. Introduction to fundamental Unity symbols and meaning.

You must attend all sessions for membership. Classes can be offered twice a year to allow make-up of any missed session. *If you are considering membership, please complete an Application for Membership Card available from the office and begin your journey.*

Transferring Membership

If you are a member in good standing at another Association of Unity Churches International member church, you may request a transfer of your membership.

- Please complete the New Member application card and indicate your former home church.
- We request that you take the Welcome to ULV orientation class to become familiar with our organization and expectations.
- We will contact your former church home to verify your membership.
- Upon approval of membership, you will be subject to the same membership requirements for renewal and board service.

Membership Renewal

To retain your membership in good standing, members must maintain active participation in the ministry as evidenced by your presence at services, your volunteer service and your giving. To support and encourage ongoing spiritual development we require that active members attend one class or workshop per year to maintain active status. Classes may be taken online or at Unity Village in addition to classes and workshops offered at ULV. This requirement will be effective with membership renewal for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.. Each fiscal year you must indicate your desire to retain membership by completing and returning to the church a yearly membership renewal card. Failure to submit a card or failure to maintain active participation to support the renewal will result in loss of membership.

In the event membership is lost and the congregant seeks re-instatement, the following shall apply:

- If membership loss was less than 2 years, the congregant should complete the Welcome to ULV orientation, complete 6 months of committed giving and complete the Discover the Power Within You class for membership renewal.
- If membership loss was 2 years ago or more at the time of the request, the congregant should complete all membership requirements for new members.

Members Serving on the Board

The board has also approved the following development to be eligible to become a board member: Discover the Power Within You, one of the Prayer classes or Chaplain Training offered, one of the Prosperity classes being offered and one year of Committed Giving. These will not apply to eligibility for the slate of board nominees until November 2012.