

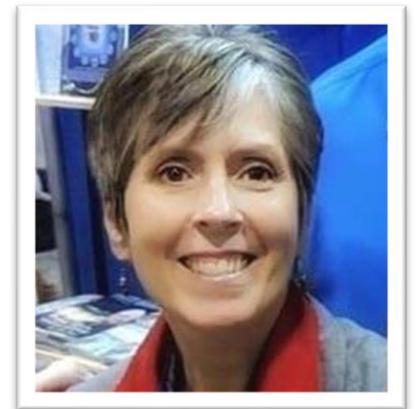
## GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATES

The Nominating Committee for the Great Lakes Region Unity Conference presents the following candidates for your consideration. All five candidates have met the requirements as set forth by the bylaws and have been vetted by the Nominating Committee. This year there are five candidates for four open positions.



### REV. KATHY HARWOOD LONG

Ordained as a Unity Minister in 1989, I pioneered a Unity ministry, pioneered an outreach ministry in an Alzheimer's Residential Center, created a Peace Camp for youth in SE Michigan, and began the dedicated Earth Care efforts in the NW and Great Lakes Unity regions--which was followed by co-creating the UWM EarthCare team. I'm a pioneer--a person that bridges ideas to new forms of expression through co-creative work with others. I describe myself to congregations as an emissary for the next evolution of Unity and absolutely love working with teams and leaders for a greater good for all. I live in Michigan and can think of no better place to be about the work of the Infinite than the Great Lakes Region.



It has been my joy to serve on teams in the NW and the Great Lakes Unity regions contributing knowledge, skill and experience related to effective communication, Youth and Family Ministry, and Earth Care. My years of working with teams, non-profit boards, and ministries have taught me to listen intuitively for ideas and energy-- and to actualize the spiritual creative process we teach. At a time in which we must evolve our spiritual understanding and our work, I appreciate this opportunity to be considered as a candidate for the GLUR Board of Trustees in service to God, our spiritual leaders, and our ministries.

## GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

### REV. KATHY HARWOOD LONG

1. In each of the following categories, what gifts will you bring to the GLURC Board?

- **Skills:** *Listening, mentoring, teaching, collaboration...my Superpower skills: intuitive discernment, communication, connector*

- **Experience:** *I have over 30 years active service as a Unity minister learning and working with boards. I have participated in board training with national organizations gleaning simple effective approaches for spiritual discernment, visioning, and organization of efforts with boards. My experience in Unity includes creating Youth and Family Ministry programs, working as Administrative Assistant to the minister, pioneering a ministry, pioneering Unity earth care initiatives in two regions and co-creating the UWM EarthCare team. I offer experience and insights from the ground up! For the last four years I have joined people from around the world, including Unity leaders and members, in a Conscious Teachers program exploring, discovering and learning for the new paradigms ready to express now.*

- **Time and Talent:** *I am able to commit time, talent, and resources to serve and thrive with the Great Lakes region. I would say I have a talent for intuitive discernment--listening and noticing what rises in the group field of consciousness, following this discernment, and connecting with others to manifest the guidance. I'm an idea person. I have a passion for evolving our Youth and Family Ministries programs.*

- **Spiritual Qualities:** *Intuitive; creative; inner strength to face into challenge and let Love and Wisdom lead...I'm often told I bring a calming and steadying influence into whatever I do.*

**2. What do you see as the most significant opportunity/challenge facing GLURC at this time, and how will the gifts you bring be of value in the resolution of this issue?**

*We are always in the experience of great opportunity, AND I see this unique experience during the pandemic as our divine appointment to re-imagine the way we create support services as a region--reaching, educating, and empowering more ministries and their leadership with the help of technology; linking all to the wisdom of the many teachers in our movement. Our 2020 conference is an example of the gifts I offer.*

*We in the GLUR have such an opportunity to pioneer new ways of supporting families and their children during the greatest challenge I've ever seen them face and beyond. I have experience working with an alternative education model for 14 years; I bring years of experience seeing deeply into the challenges of families and children. I've been mentored by national and international leaders working on behalf of the future of children.*

*Last, but not least, the Great Lakes bio-region is our region's home, and its water and land are greatly challenged. We have an opportunity to learn, educate and lead a spiritual approach to practical action and I have years of experience connecting*

*eager volunteers for the purpose of visioning, creating initiatives, and leading action.*

**3. How would you define the roles and responsibilities of the GLURC Board of Trustees?**

*Primarily to listen and hear, to communicate!, to foster connectivity, to co-create with our region's leaders and ministries, and to live from abundance consciousness. The board overviews and administers regionally agreed upon initiatives and overviews our staff and conference. They have an important and essential fiduciary responsibility.*

**4. In what other capacities have you or are you serving the Unity movement?**

*I am the senior minister for Friends of Unity spiritual community in Plymouth Michigan. When I lived in the NW region I served on the region's Youth & Family Ministry team and on their Interim team assigned to ministries in crisis. Currently I serve on the UWM EarthCare team, L&O team for UUMS, and I serve as a UWM Mentor for spiritual leaders. I am the earth care 'inspirer'(aka former of a team) for GLURC.*

**5. What prior board experience do you have? Please give name of institution(s), position(s) you held.**

*National Education Association -- Alaska branch: Secretary  
Board of Trustees Christ Light Unity Gresham, OR;  
Friends of Unity, Plymouth, MI: Minister  
Upland Hills School: Trustee Liaison to staff*

**6. List any success you have had in each of the following areas: Non-profit fundraising; financial turnarounds/organization restructuring; radical innovation.**

*\*UWM EarthCare team was originally called Unity Earth Care International: I created this team with members from throughout the U.S. and Canada. It became the longest self-sustaining grass roots team with UWM (I am told).*

*\*As a Minister Mentor for Unity Blue Water, I worked with the board to re-energize the ministry, create financial order, address staff issues, and create a Minister Vision Fund. When I finished they were financed with \$40K, solvent, united, and ready to hire a minister.*

*\*Leading my ministry through the first year and a half of the pandemic. Launching our online ministry and 'on-the-ground' efforts to sustain and grow our community. I*

*am so grateful to report we finished 2020 with a financial surplus even though we did not qualify for the government forgivable loans.*

**7. Please explain why you feel called to fulfill the position of GLURC Board member at this time.**

*An extended prayer process for discernment revealed to me that due to our current circumstances of radical change globally and within Unity I am drawn to share my experience and strengths. I am passionate to work with other leaders co-creating and evolving sharing vision and initiatives on behalf the Great Lakes Unity Region. I vision evolving our spiritual support for ministers and ministries in simple and practical ways.*



**CARL S. NAWROT**

Carl Nawrot has served on the Great Lakes Region board for nearly four years Born in Chicago Illinois, Carl and his wife Lynn have been members of Unity of Oak Park, Illinois since February 2000. In that time, he has served on the local board for several years, mostly as treasurer. He currently serves as accountant as well a head prayer chaplain.



**GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**CARL S. NAWROT**

**1. In each of the following categories, what gifts will you bring to the GLURC Board?**

- **Skills:** *I have demonstrated my eagerness to explore new ideas in serving our member ministries and appreciate the sharing of these ideas as a member of this board. Our Board is aware that it is our goal to serve the ministries in as many ways as we can, both traditional and new, within the parameters of good stewardship of resources.*
- **Experience:** *Forty-plus years in accounting and finance, over ten years' experience serving on various Boards.*

- **Time and Talent:** *I'm not shy about sharing my ideas but am always ready to listen to all ideas. As I've said many times, I don't need to be right, I'd rather do what's right.*

- **Spiritual Qualities:** *While I'm not a minister, I do serve my local church family as head of the Prayer Chaplains. I also serve as Chaplain to my late father's WW2 group.*

2. **What do you see as the most significant opportunity/challenge facing GLURC at this time, and how will the gifts you bring be of value in the resolution of this issue?**

*We are coming out of one of the most challenging times in history, both personally as well as ministries. The result of this is that we have all needed to face new challenges in our physical and spiritual lives. New technologies have surfaced which up to now have replaced our meeting together, and as we move closer to in-person meetings we cannot afford to push this new technological advance away. We must embrace it as a complement to our serving our communities. Also, this will allow GLURC to expand our service to our ministries and individuals with online adult education. I so want to see this flourish and am committed to seeing this grow.*

3. **How would you define the roles and responsibilities of the GLURC Board of Trustees?**

*As stated so well in our mission statement, vision and core values we have a responsibility to effectively serve the member ministries within the financial framework of good stewardship. As Great Lakes Region ministries grow so does the opportunity for our Board to consider new avenues of service to the Region.*

4. **In what other capacities have you or are you serving the Unity movement?**

*I am currently the accountant for Unity of Oak Park IL and currently also serve as head prayer chaplain.*

5. **What prior board experience do you have?**

*I served several years on the board of Unity of Oak Park as well as nearly four years on the GLR board.*

6. **List any success you have had in each of the following areas:**

*Non-profit fundraising; financial turnarounds/organization restructuring; radical innovation. Fundraising at UOP is handled by committee, and I have served on many of those. I would say that the restructuring of salaries last year at GLURC*

*was a significant step in putting our region in a reasonable position financially. Last year as treasurer I implemented a new method of budgeting for and review of all events held by a GLR ministry (conference, YMT, YEVT). The basis of this was to make all events at a minimum break even. We are going into year 2 with the 2022 budget and are extending this to our new online adult education ministry.*

**7. Please explain why you feel called to fulfill the position of GLURC Board member at this time.**

*With the resignation of our bookkeeper and a potential transition to new accounting software I feel that I can contribute to the stability during these processes as well as a successful result.*



**REV. DIANE STARK**

I am a lifelong, born in Unity, Truth student. My mother was studying at Unity Farm when Mr. Fillmore was still living. She spent 10 years there, playing piano accompaniment for events, taking every class Mr. Fillmore presented, and writing for Silent Unity.

The Unity message is the most beautiful, the most transformative, the most mystical teaching I have ever encountered. I believe it is a medicine that will restore the heart and mind to wholeness. (The body will necessarily follow.)

Our teaching is most importantly concerned with consciousness. When we relate all our ideas to the unfoldment, or evolution, of consciousness, both individually and collectively, we discover the true meaning of Jesus' message. I serve this message in my work at Unity of Muskegon. Our congregation calls themselves, "a spiritual family on a journey of love." Our motto is, "Into the future, hand in hand." Namaste



**GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

**REV. DIANE STARK**

**1. In each of the following categories, what gifts will you bring to the GLURC Board?**

- **Skills:** *I have communication skills in the field of writing. I wrote the GLUR Christmas letter asking for love offerings in 2019 (we didn't do one in 2020), which*

*had excellent results. I have served as secretary of the Board and used my skills for diplomacy and economy of language in that regard.*

- **Experience:** *I have been an active Unity enthusiast throughout my childhood, youth, and adulthood, putting on events that provided experiences of deep emotional resonance. I have served in volunteer positions in Unity churches wherever I have lived, and I was the paid Director of Youth Education at Unity Temple for several years. I had the Unity Singles group at Unity Village Chapel, and taught Youth Education for Tom Thorpe's church in Leavenworth KS for three years. I have been the spiritual leader at Unity of Muskegon since 2013. In my second year of Ministerial School, I was the coordinator of the Wednesday Evening Service at Unity Temple. I have been giving guest speaker talks all during the time when I was in the LUT program, which I completed in 1999, and thereafter.*

- **Time and Talent:** *I have used talents required for creating compelling shows of entertainment, directing benefit productions in my community in Maryland for seven years in succession. I can choreograph, sing (although my voice has lowered in my advanced years), and stage performances, incorporating lighting and sound. My time is under the direction of Spirit, whose guidance I am listening to ongoingly.*

- **Spiritual Qualities:** *I am gifted with the spiritual quality of sensitivity. That is to say, empathy. I have developed the spiritual qualities of integrity, heart and brain coherence, and attunement. It's a constant process, though.*

**2. What do you see as the most significant opportunity/challenge facing GLURC at this time, and how will the gifts you bring be of value in the resolution of this issue?**

*The most important issue facing GLURC, and indeed the entire Unity movement, is how to get our message out in a way that sounds contemporary, relevant, and sacred. Promotion and advertising have changed so much that our ways of promoting our "product" need to be re-examined and reconfigured. I bring the gift of being able to express our freeing Truth of Being in a way that connects with the latest articulations, such as the work of Joe Dispenza, Dr. Bruce Lipton, and Gregg Braden. Just coming up with a title or the name of an event can make all the difference.*

**3. How would you define the roles and responsibilities of the GLURC Board of Trustees?**

*The roles of the Board of Trustees are to stay true to the vision of our work and implement that vision with integrity and passion. It is the role of the Board to embrace ideas and energy from our member ministries and magnify them. The responsibilities of the Board are to maintain the administration of our regional events and the monies thereto involved, to support and promote the Youth and Family Ministries, organized by Tyler Pritchard and Liesa Chase, as well as maintain the staff necessary to carry out the infrastructure of the Region – the website, the monthly eblast, the Conference planning and execution, and various services to the Unity groups and leaders, provided by our Regional Representative, Greg Coles.*

**4. In what other capacities have you or are you serving the Unity movement?**

*For the past four years I have served on the L&O team for UUMS, full time, both winter and spring. I had to step down this year because I found it necessary to reduce my activities while recovering from a serious case of Covid-19. I am leading the Unity group in Muskegon, which has successfully navigated the pandemic issues, going to a livestream video and an uploaded video recorded in the sanctuary. I have been the full time minister here since May of 2013.*

**5. What prior board experience do you have? Please give name of institution(s), position(s) you held.**

*I have served on the Board in my community of the Muskegon County Cooperating Churches and was President for two years.*

**6. List any success you have had in each of the following areas: Non-profit fundraising; financial turnarounds/organization restructuring; radical innovation.**

*\*Non-profit Fund Raising – I coordinated and directed an annual musical variety show that raised \$4,000 each year for the benefit of children’s charities.*

*\*Financial turnarounds – in my own church, as we keep our vision on the unlimited source of supply, large checks keep appearing from unexpected sources. Example, we received \$2,000 from a woman I have never met, but who used to attend, in response to a prosperity letter that went out by email. I composed the letter.*

*\*Organizational restructuring – I have not done any organizational restructuring.*

*\*Radical innovation – No, I haven’t facilitated radical innovation, but I am ready to experience it!*

**7. Please explain why you feel called to fulfill the position of GLURC Board member at this time.**

*I am honored to express my love for Unity and specifically the Great Lakes Region in this way. The individuals who come to serve on the Board are a privilege to work with and working on the team is a gift.*



## **REV. EVIN WILKINS**

Evin began attending his first Unity church in 2011 while living in his hometown of Austin, TX and has remained a student of Unity Principles since that time. He also knew at that time that he eventually wanted to become a Unity minister and enrolled in the Unity Urban Ministerial School in 2015 and was ordained in June 2019. He fondly states, "Becoming a Unity minister was one of my most rewarding and greatest achievements. I have grown tremendously through both the study and implementation of our principles and my desire is to help others do the same and to recognize their own, amazing potential." In his spare time, Evin loves to spend time with his wife and four children, study Shamanism, practice Reiki, read, hike, and conduct house blessings and paranormal investigations.

## **GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE**

### **REV. EVIN WILKINS**

#### **1. In each of the following categories, what gifts will you bring to the GLURC Board?**

• **Skills:** *I feel that I can bring a wide range of skills to the group. I worked in the technology field within Corporate America for many years. I can build websites and bring other technological skills to the plate. I'm also a published writer and can also contribute to blogs, social media, articles and other types of publications.*

• **Experience:** *I have previously served as a board trustee on the board at the Unity of Greenville in Dallas and have also served on the board of two churches as a minister (one as a part-time minister at the UNITY Center of West Linn, OR, and now at my current full-time church, Unity of Madison in Madison, WI).*

• **Time and Talent:** *I kind of feel that falls into line with my skill set mentioned above. I am more than willing to*



*bring any of these talents (and to learn new ones!) to contribute. I am excited to contribute where I can and where I am most needed.*

• **Spiritual Qualities:** *I feel that one of my main spiritual qualities is trust and trusting in the process. I used to be a person who feared (and really disliked!) change. I have since learned to have faith and to trust and most importantly, to release. I know that's likely more than one quality, but I also feel they all tie in together quite nicely.*

**2. What do you see as the most significant opportunity/challenge facing GLURC at this time, and how will the gifts you bring be of value in the resolution of this issue?**

*I'm not sure I really see any challenges facing GLURC per se. I think it's more with "church" as a whole. Some questions I ponder...where is church going? How is it evolving? And perhaps most importantly, how can we evolve with it? Regarding the opportunity...I see an amazing chance to be a part of that change. This would be true for me serving on this board and just serving within this great movement in general!*

**3. How would you define the roles and responsibilities of the GLURC Board of Trustees?**

*I would define my roles and responsibilities of being one of support. Support to this amazing team of people who offer assistance and resources to the ministries and ministers within our region, along with the fiscal responsibilities that come with such a role.*

**4. In what other capacities have you or are you serving the Unity movement?**

*I am currently the senior (well, and only) minister at the Unity of Madison. I've also served as a part-time minister at the UNITY Center in West Linn, OR. Other capacities have been Youth and Family Director, prayer chaplain, sacred healing facilitator, Sunday technician, usher, guest speaker, writer/contributor to Unity publications, panelist for Liberating Your Divine Identity, Unity of Portland men's retreat keynote speaker, and future roles such as Nehemiah project leader (October of 2022) and workshop facilitator for Liberating Your Divine Identity Retreat (Unity Village in June 2022). I also currently teach Metaphysics 1, 2, 3, and 4 for the Unity Urban school. Lots of fun, exciting stuff!*

**5. What prior board experience do you have? Please give name of institution(s), position(s) you held.**

*I served as a trustee at the Unity on Greenville in Dallas, TX. I served on this board for only about 5 months where I resigned to take the Youth and Family Director position. I was also a ministerial student at the time and felt it was a wonderful, growth opportunity! My other board experience was in my PT ministerial position at the UNITY Center and now.*

**6. List any success you have had in each of the following areas: Non-profit fundraising; financial turnarounds/organization restructuring; radical innovation.**

*Unfortunately, most of my time spent as a full-time minister has been during COVID. As a result, many of my innovative ideas have been placed on hold. I haven't yet been able to really delve into fundraising and turnarounds but, I do hold many ideas that I believe could benefit such endeavors. That being said, I do have experience with restructuring teams at my current church. Our Spiritual Care Team for instance had dwindled down to two people when I started. I have since revamped the team and we are now at 10 members (and growing!).*

**7. Please explain why you feel called to fulfill the position of GLURC Board member at this time.**

*I feel that I bring a wide variety of experience to the table. Both my corporate and ministerial backgrounds have really found a great place of working together and I think coming from both of those places give me a well-rounded background. I am also technically savvy and forward thinking. I think those things combined with my curiosity could be of great benefit. I am also a transgender man and feel that I can bring a new kind of viewpoint!*



**REV. CYNTHIA (CINDY) YAMAMOTO**

Cindy (Perri) Yamamoto has a background in education and life coaching, and a strong desire to share the message of Truth. She began developing spiritual enrichment classes and workshops in 2006 and has taught at many Unity churches and for non-profit agencies ever since. In 2009 she began leading group meditations and serving as a Sunday speaker which she has now done at 11 Unity churches in 5 states. Cindy entered the formal Ministerial and Religious Studies program through Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institution in 2017 and on June 15,



2020, graduated with her Master of Divinity and officially became a Licensed and Ordained Unity Minister. She has served as the senior minister at Unity of Livonia in Michigan since May 2020.

A lover of life, of God, of Truth and of all people, Cindy enjoys being of service and sharing the messages Spirit inspires in her.

Cindy is most grateful for the 7 children and 6 grandchildren, that she shares with her loving and supportive husband, Ken. Her family serves as a constant source of joy and inspiration.

## GLURC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

### REV. CINDY YAMAMOTO

#### 1. In each of the following categories, what gifts will you bring to the GLURC Board?

- **Skills:** *Communication and relationship building are two of my strong suits. I am an effective communicator both verbally and in writing, and am able to bring a peaceful, joyful, and loving energy into all that I do. As a good communicator, I am also a good listener and easily engage others in open dialog. As a collaborator, I work well with teams and have no problem finding the support necessary to get things done.*
- **Experience:** *I am an ordained Unity minister with an MDiv, and I have a Bachelor of Science in Education. I have been teaching and speaking in Unity churches for more than 15 years. I have served as an alternate on the Great Lakes Regional Board for two consecutive terms. Additionally, I have 15+ years of experience as a Life Coach. I am also licensed as a financial planner in the state of Michigan.*
- **Time and Talent:** *I dedicate a lot of time to my family; my husband, Ken, our 7 adult children, and our 6 grandchildren. They are the greatest joys and sources of pride in my life. I have served as a Unity Prayer Chaplain, Reiki practitioner, greeter, and usher. I am currently active with Livonia Cares, an interfaith and community service organization that works together to meet the needs of people in our city and county. I enjoy planning events and am well-organized and creative.*
- **Spiritual Qualities:** *Helping others to embrace their humanity while acknowledging their divinity is something I'm very passionate about. It is a lesson that I've personally worked on for many years. It has strengthened my faith and*

*allowed me to stand in my truth. I was once asked what unique characteristic I brought to ministry. Without a second thought I responded with, "I'm silly." Although it might not be a word most people would use to describe Spiritual Quality, it is for me. It is me expressing as my authentic, vulnerable, joy-filled self. The levity I bring to situations often helps others to feel at ease. Authenticity, Empathy, Active Listening, Loving Connection, Creativity, and Genuine Care are my core values and attributes.*

**2. What do you see as the most significant opportunity/challenge facing GLURC at this time, and how will the gifts you bring be of value in the resolution of this issue?**

*I think our greatest opportunity is finding new ways to connect with others. I feel that one thing that we have learned during the Covid crisis was how to be innovative and collaborative to create and maintain connections. We learned to support one another and to provide sacred services, spiritual enrichment and social interaction through technology. I believe the challenge is to keep that going and learn how to create hybrid connections. I was on the conference planning team last year that took our conference from live to virtual and am serving as the co-chair of the team for the 2021 conference which will be hybrid. I am far from technologically advanced and yet I have learned so much and continue to grow in this area.*

**3. How would you define the roles and responsibilities of the GLURC Board of Trustees?**

*The board is responsible for setting policy, hiring, supervising, and acting as liaison to the Great Lakes Region staff, putting on an annual regional conference, extending outreach to Unity centers in the region, and being a voice in the greater Unity movement.*

**4. In what other capacities have you or are you serving the Unity movement?**

**Currently:**

- *Senior Minister at Unity of Livonia since May 2020*
- *Co-chair of the Great Lakes Region Conference Planning Team*

**Previously:**

- *Member of the 2020 Conference Planning Team*
- *Guest speaker at 11 Unity churches in 5 states*
- *Prayer Chaplain for the students of UWSI*
- *Prayer Chaplain at 3 Unity churches*
- *Usher/greeter*
- *Meditation leader*
- *Workshop facilitator*

**5. What prior board experience do you have? Please give name of institution(s), position(s) you held.**

- *Currently serving my 2nd term as an alternate board member for the Great Lakes Region*
- *Currently working with the Board of Trustees at Unity of Livonia*
- *President of Another Way of Living (AWOL) retreat center Board of Directors*
- *Although not an official member worked closely with the Board of Trustees during my 90-day internship at Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing*
- *Served as president and vice-president on the Education Board and as an Ambassador on the Parish Council at St. Germaine Catholic church in St. Clair Shores for several years*

**6. List any success you have had in each of the following areas: Non-profit fundraising; financial turnarounds/organization restructuring; radical innovation.**

- *In the past year I have initiated 3 fund-raisers at Unity of Livonia which generated nearly \$10,000 to help us cover the cost of setting up live streaming and laying new cable throughout the building, replace broken windows, and provide décor for the sanctuary and personal protection equipment for when we returned to in-person services.*
- *Raised funds for our retreat center through grant appeals*
- *Assisted in the restructuring of a family empowerment program sponsored by the YMCA of Greater Detroit and funded by The United Way to keep it operating for 6 years even during program cuts and funding source changes*
- *Worked to promote marketing and sponsorship to raise funds for St. Germaine parish through our annual festival for many years as the team lead for 50/50 and sponsorship ads*
- *Successful in fund-raising through Girl Scout cookie sales as the manager of sales for many years.*

**7. Please explain why you feel called to fulfill the position of GLURC Board member at this time.**

*The work that is done on teams and boards is vital to the success of the organization. I have seen that the ideas, communication skills, and general support that I bring can have a positive impact on the energy of the group and the outcomes for the organization. I am clear that my role as a Unity Minister goes far beyond the community that I serve, and I want to be a part of the bigger picture supporting both the region and the entire Unity Movement. It's also a great opportunity to meet new people and be more collaborative. Plus, I've enjoyed the last two terms I've served as an alternate.*