

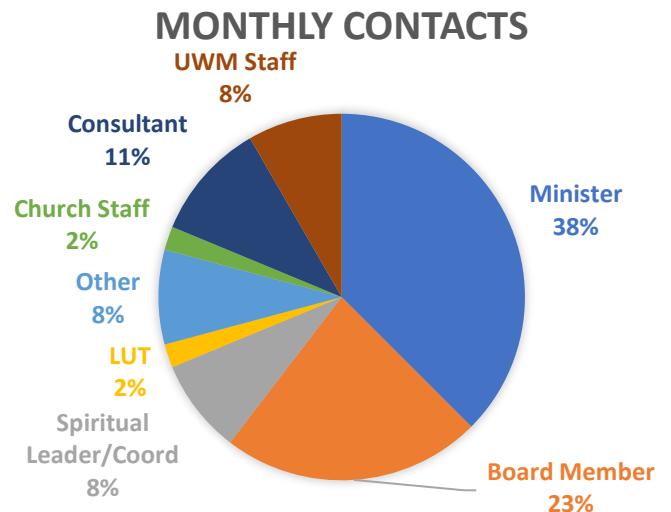
2021 Great Lakes Unity Regional Rep Report

By Rev. Greg Coles

Monthly Contacts

Average Monthly Contacts = 78
(Up 40% from 2020)

Who I work with - see pie chart



Call Types

Conflict resolution/mediation

Bylaws and best practices

Board & Minister roles/relationship

Facilitating change and transition (i.e. minister leaving, selling a church building, etc)

Training and Leadership Development

Resources for Classes, Book Studies, Programs, Ceremonies

Confidential space to vent or process thoughts & feelings

Coaching & consulting

Prayer & spiritual counsel

Ministry Resources

During this second year of the COVID-19 pandemic I continue to share a variety of internal and external resources for ministries on our Facebook page. Many of these resources can also be found on the newly developed Resource page on our Great Lakes Unity website. These include:

- Extension of COVID Loaves and Fishes Grant (from UWM)
- Scholarships available from UWM Great Lakes Region
- *Unpacking Racism*; A library of recommended books, videos and programs
- FREE Sub-regional Board Training; are you interested in hosting one of these three annual workshops I facilitate around our region annually?
- *Faith and Leadership* articles about navigating ministry during times of pandemic and uncertainty, such as:
 - Staffing When you Cannot Afford Staff
 - Dealing with Conflict During a Pandemic
 - 7 Reasons Online Church Attendance is Declining



Resource Connections is a monthly 1 hour gathering I host on the zoom platform. Its purpose is to allow ministers, spiritual leaders and ministry coordinators to connect and share resources with one another. During this pandemic we have been called upon to stretch and grow in new ways physically, spiritually and emotionally. As leaders we serve as hospice chaplains to that which is dying, and midwives to something new and unseen which wants to be born. In this exciting time it is helpful to build strong partnerships with God and one another.

Contact me directly if you wish to be added to the invitation list, at glregionalrep@gmail.com

Sub-Regional Board Training

- Available to 3 Sub-Regions per year as a FREE resource from the Great Lakes Region
- Cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19, with two scheduled for this year:
 - **Grand Rapids Subregion**, Oct 9, hosted by Unity for Spiritual Growth, Ada MI
 - **Minneapolis Subregion**, Oct 30, hosted by Unity of the Valley, Savage MN
- Planning for next year includes
 - **Chicago Subregion** (Unity of Naperville IL)
 - **Detroit Subregion** (Unity of Royal Oak, MI)
 - ... Your Ministry? Let me know if you are interested to be a HOST.

Standards Committee

- Served on the following Standards sub-committees this year:
 - Ministry Employment Assessment Policy – approved
 - Code of Ethics updates – approved
 - Ethics Review System Policy & Procedures – in progress
- At the request of UWM, Standards created a new role description, approved last month. The new description differentiates our responsibilities into 2 key areas:
 1. Region/Regional Board
 2. Standards Committee/UWM Board
- Currently working on a newly assigned project to define how we would like to see the relationships between UWM, Regions, Ministers and Ministries, based on what we can commit to implementing in the very near future. Stay tuned!

UWM Ministry Consultants

- Revised and updated **Module 1: Essential Elements for Thriving Ministries** in Jan 2021
- Facilitated **Training-the-Trainer** for UWM Ministry Consultants:

- Module 1 - Essential Elements for Thriving Ministries
- Sacred Listening Circles
- Triangulation: Moving from Drama to Empowerment
- With 2 other consultants initiated a **UWM Consultant Networking Group**. It's purpose is to enhance the training and services already provided to consultants by UWM.

2nd Level Consulting & Workshops:

Essentials for Thriving Ministries: Module 1 (Board & Leadership Workshop)



- Unity of Medina OH
- Unity of Toledo OH
- Unity of Appleton WI
- Unity of Eau Claire WI
- Unity of Madison WI
- Unity of Traverse City MI
- Unity of Livonia MI
- Unity of Michiana IN
- Unity of Wilmington NC
- Unity of Columbia MO
- Unity of Venice FL



Sacred Listening Circle

- Unity of Medina OH
- Unity Spiritual Center of Westlake OH



Growing Through Change

- Unity Kitchener ON CA
- Unity of Mississauga ON CA

It is my privilege to serve the ministers, ministries, and leaders of our Great Lakes Unity Region. Please let me know how I can be of support to you.

Rev. Greg Coles, M.Div.

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Inspiring, Educating, Consulting and Serving our Great Lakes Unity members and ministries