



Commissioned Lay Ministry Program

Candidate Required Reading List

Revised September 2016

Requirements/Reading List for CLM Candidates

1. Introductory Works

Required:

_____ John Buehrens and Forrest Church [*A Chosen Faith: An Introduction to Unitarian Universalism*](#)

Optional:

_____ *Lay Ministry Training Curriculum Candidate's Handbook* from the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta

(out-of-print but available to CLL Candidates on www.cerguua.org/moodle)

_____ Unitarian Universalist Association [*UUA Pamphlet Sampler*](#) (Note: There is no need to buy the set. Each pamphlet has a link to a pdf file with the full text.)

2. Unitarian and Universalist History

Required:

_____ David Bumbaugh [*Unitarian Universalism: A Narrative History*](#)

Choose 1

_____ Cynthia Grant Tucker [*Prophetic Sisterhood: Liberal Women Ministers of the Frontier, 1880-1930*](#)

_____ Mark Harris [*Elite: Uncovering Classism in Unitarian Universalist History*](#)

_____ Mark Morrison-Reed [*Black Pioneers in a White Denomination*](#)

Optional

_____ Warren R. Ross [*The Premise and the Promise: The Story of the Unitarian Universalist Association*](#)

3. Church Leadership

Required:

Choose One (or relevant coursework or alternative approved learning activity)

_____ Anne Oden Heller [*Churchworks: A Well-body Book for Congregations*](#)

_____ Erik Walker Wikstrom [*Serving with Grace: Lay Leadership as a Spiritual Practice*](#)
(There are also some short webinars on the UUA Bookstore page)

Optional:

_____ Peter Steinke [*Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What*](#)

4. Unitarian Universalist Theologies

Required: (or relevant coursework or alternative approved learning activity)



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_____ Rebecca Parker and John Buehrens [*House for Hope: The Promise of Progressive Religion for the Twenty-First Century*](#)

Optional:

_____ Conrad Wright, ed. [*Three Prophets of Religious Liberalism: Channing, Emerson, Parker*](#)

_____ Rob Bell, [*Love Wins*](#)

5. Unitarian Universalist Polity

Required:

_____ Your Congregation's Constitution or Bylaws

_____ Alice Blair Wesley [*The Lay and Liberal Doctrine of the Church: The Spirit and the Promise of Our Covenant*](#) (pdf) or UU History class with Rev. Susan Ritchie

Optional:

_____ UUA Commission on Appraisal [*Interdependence: Rethinking Congregational Polity*](#) (online)

_____ [*UUA ByLaws*](#) (online)

6. Worship

Required:

_____ Kathleen Rolenz and Wayne Arnason [*Worship That Works: Theory and Practice for Unitarian Universalists*](#)

Become familiar with the content and organization of:

Unitarian Universalist Association [*Singing the Living Tradition Hymnal*](#) and
Unitarian Universalist Association Singing the Journey, the hymn supplement
Church of the Larger Fellowship [*Handbook of Religious Services*](#)

Optional:

_____ Jane Rzepka and Ken Sawyer [*Thematic Preaching*](#)

_____ Erika Hewitt [*Story, Song and Spirit: Fun and Creative Worship Services for All Ages*](#)

7. Rites of Passage

Become familiar with content and organization of:

_____ Carl Seaburg [*Great Occasions: Readings for the Celebration of Birth, Coming-of-Age, Marriage, and Death*](#)

Optional:

_____ Edward Searl [*In Memoriam: A Guide to Modern Funeral and Memorial Services*](#)

_____ Jane Ross-McDonald: [*Alternative Weddings: An Essential Guide for Creating Your Own Ceremony*](#)

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8. Pastoral Care

Required: Select appropriate resources or activity with Mentor. The CLM Committee will also plan to cover this area at the annual retreat and/or in a webinar

Optional:

_____ Robert Bolton [*People Skills: How to Assert Yourself, Listen to Others, and Resolve Conflicts*](#)

_____ Forrest Church [*Love and Death: My Journey through the Valley of the Shadow*](#)

_____ R. Paul Stevens and Phil Collins [*The Equipping Pastor: A Systems Approach to Congregational Leadership*](#)

_____ Steve Levine [*Meetings at the Edge: Dialogues with the Grieving and the Dying, the Healing and the Healed*](#)

9. Lifespan Faith Development

Required:

Choose One: (or relevant coursework or alternative approved learning activity)

_____ [*Essex Conversations: Visions for Lifespan Religious Education*](#)

_____ [*Tapestry of Faith \(Choose one\)*](#)

_____ Robert L. Hill [*The Complete Guide to Small Group Ministry: Saving the World Ten at a Time*](#)

Optional:

_____ Sophia Fahs, [*Today's Children and Yesterday's Heritage \(pdf\)*](#)

_____ Tracy Hurd [*Nurturing Children and Youth: A Developmental Guidebook*](#)

_____ Barbara Hamilton-Holway [*Evensong, Volume 1: An Eight-Week Series of Gatherings Our Whole Lives Grades 7-9 or Young Adult*](#)

10. Issues in Social Justice

Required:

Choose One: (or relevant coursework or alternative approved learning activity)

_____ Rebecca Parker [*Blessing the World: What Can Save Us Now*](#)

_____ Mark Hicks [*Building the World We Dream About \(free online curriculum\)*](#)

Familiarize Yourself with:

_____ UUA [*Welcoming Congregation Program \(web\)*](#)

_____ UUA [*Journey Toward Wholeness \(pdf\)*](#)

_____ UUA [*Green Sanctuary Manual \(pdf\)*](#)

_____ UUA [*Social Justice Statements \(website\)*](#)

Optional:

_____ Richard Gilbert [*The Prophetic Imperative: Social Gospel in Theory and Practice*](#)

_____ Jacqui James and Mark Morrison-Reed [*Been in the Storm So Long*](#)



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_____ John Gibb Milspaugh [*A People So Bold: Theology and Ministry for Unitarian Universalists*](#)

_____ Marjorie Bowens-Wheatley & Nancy Palmer Jones, eds. [*Soul Work: Anti-racist Theologies in Dialogue*](#)

_____ Sharon Welch [*A Feminist Ethic of RISK*](#)

11. Spiritual Life

Required:

Familiarize yourself with at least 4 of the meditation manuals from Skinner House Books

Choose one (or relevant coursework or alternative approved learning activity)

_____ Sharon Salzberg [*Faith: Trusting Your Own Deepest Experience*](#)

_____ UUA [*Spirit of Life*](#) (curriculum - pdf)

_____ Scott Alexander [*Everyday Spiritual Practice: Simple Pathways for Enriching Your Life*](#)

_____ Karen Armstrong [*The Case for God*](#)

Certification

I certify I have read the texts that I have checked off.

CLM Candidate Name (Print) _____

CLM Candidate Signature _____

CLM Mentor Signature: _____

Date _____