

**Brief Summary of Our Minister  
Search Survey  
Posted May 4, 2026**

# Ministerial Search Survey Snapshot

## Who responded - Great job, Unity of Wimberley!

- 77 members (50% increase in responses over the 2023 survey)
  - 88% of respondents attend church in person
  - 61% of respondents are age 65+
  - 33% have been attending Unity of Wimberley for 10+ years
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## Most Important Priorities (Top 5 of 9)

- Stronger pastoral care (Tied for topmost important)
- Deeper member engagement (Tied for topmost important)
- Better youth and teen programs
- Financial sustainability
- Renewed vision and direction

## Top minister qualities: in order of importance (Top 4 out of 8)

1. Inspiring speaker and teacher (61% ranked #1)
  2. Emotionally intelligent and collaborative (55% ranked #1)
  3. Manages conflict with grace (43% ranked #1)
  4. Visionary leader who can guide direction (64% ranked #1)
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## Growth vs Depth

- 51% said that growing steadily *is as important* as being deeply connected to each other
- Young families (35-44) want to see our church larger with more resources -- they need more peers for their children and programming for our youth

## Unity/ New-Thought Grounding

*How important is it that our minister be grounded specifically in Unity and New Thought?*

- 59% said it's very important
  - 18% ranked Unity/New-Thought grounding low
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## Minister commits to long-term tenure (5+ years)

*How important is it that our next minister commits to long-term tenure (5+ years)?*

- Moderate, no consensus.

## Open Responses

- *Right fit matters more than years.*
- *I would like a leader who is in touch with our people and is a right fit rather than long tenure!!!*
- *Quality over quantity*

## In Your Own Words

*Across 300+ open-ended responses, these themes emerged.*

**Get to know us  
before  
changing anything  
was the most  
dominant theme**

**35% +  
Mentioned this in  
some format**

- **Learn who we are**
- **Observe before acting**
- **Servant's heart not ego agenda**
- **Focusing on our people and how things operate here before they start making changes**

**Youth, families,  
and the  
church's future**

**25% + Mentioned  
this as very  
important to the  
future of our  
church**

- **Youth program needs work**
- **Vital for the next 20 years**
- **YFM needs direction**
- **Multiple comments tied this directly to long-term financial sustainability**

## In Your Own Words

*Across 300+ open-ended responses, these themes emerged. (cont)*

**Consistency  
and  
Continuity of  
Message**

**~20+ %**

- **I appreciate and love our guest speakers but want one voice building depth.**
- **Would like to see Multi-week series,**
- **settling down with a kindred spirit leader**
- **Bringing the continuity back**

**Authentic,  
Inspiring,  
Real**

**~20+ %**

- **Energy, passion, delight, vulnerability, humor**
- **Someone real who brings joy**
- **Nothing feels worse than feeling not seen by the ministerial team**