

Dear congregational leaders,

I am writing to recommend Tony Lorenzen for a ministry position in your congregation. I have known Tony in a number of ways as a colleague and teacher. I have worked with Tony in district workshops such as a Young Adult ministry workshop I led at the Southwest UU Summer Institute, and in other conference settings such as the Life on Fire conference in Oak Ridge, Tenn., in fall of 2013. While I have observed Rev. Lorenzen in a congregational setting on several occasions, I would like to witness here to his visionary ministry and to his skills as a spiritual leader.

Tony exhibits many excellent qualities, but it is his skill as a spiritual director that I can speak to most directly. When I began seminary, I had many doubts about my path and needed insight into my discernment process. I began spiritual direction with Rev. Lorenzen, a relationship that would last two years and be foundational to my understanding of myself as a minister. Tony has an ability to ask the right question, to sit in silence or uncertainty, and to ask the gentle questions required for personal transformation. He is a gifted listener with deep compassion and integrity of vision. Tony's talents in spiritual direction, no doubt, serve him well as the spiritual leader of a community.

Tony is also a minister deeply rooted in serving the world. He is committed to the spiritual maturation and development, not just of individuals, but of systems and communities. His service has stretched beyond the walls of the congregations he serves, and his ministry is dedicated to loving the world in all its flaws, an orientation that makes him equally committed to loving congregations through transitions into new beginnings.

Tony's vision for the future of Unitarian Universalism is vibrant and modern while also being deeply rooted in our traditions and history. He strikes a balance that offers an opportunity to reignite passions and inspire hearts to expand, and truly sees his neighbor as an extension of himself. In my experience, Tony is a person of deep integrity and insight. He embodies his ministry in personal relationships as well as in professional roles, and I am proud to consider him both a colleague and a friend.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share some of my experiences with Rev. Tony Lorenzen, and if there is any more information that you would like from me, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you,
Sarah Prickett
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