

Gordon Street III
Commissioned Minister
Reimagining and Connecting with the God of One's Own Understanding
Report to 2024 Southwest Conference Annual Meeting
(January 2023 – December 2023)

As I enter my fifth year in ministry, I find myself once again reflecting on its essence. My approach remains simple: I focus on connecting spiritual principles found in recovery and Jesus' teachings. Through practices like prayer, meditation, active listening, serving others, and embodying love, I aim to guide individuals in establishing a genuine relationship with God. My ministry is not just a duty; it's a heartfelt offering in response to what I believe is a call to serve. I eagerly anticipate the year ahead, ready to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit wherever it may lead.

This year has brought renewed energy and growth to my ministry. As a pioneer in the focused area of recovery spirituality, I am dedicated to helping individuals connect with God and establish authentic relationships. Through ongoing discernment, personal growth, and practice, I have continued to find meaningful ways to serve.

Emerging from the pandemic, my Facebook Messenger Ministry has flourished. Each day, I reach out with grounded, inspirational, and hopeful messages. As a result, I've formed supportive spiritual connections with many people, extending beyond Facebook. I regularly meet in person, on the phone, and on video with individuals.

Ministry, at its core, is about love and presence—building relationships. I remain actively involved in my church's daily life, serving on the Worship team and participating in conference events. It's crucial to foster relationships with other churches and their pastors.

This year, I had the privilege of contributing to Desert Palm UCC in Tempe, delivering both a main message and an intergenerational workshop on spirituality. Additionally, I worked with First Congregational UCC in Albuquerque, presenting the main message and facilitating a workshop comparing spirituality and religion.

Looking ahead, I intend to continue my work at Desert Palm, establishing a solid foundation of practiced programs. Drawing from this experience, I aspire to extend my programs to other churches. My plan involves visiting congregations during Sunday services, engaging in post-service discussions, and exploring ways I can be of service.

I have established a robust support network—a ministry support team—that both holds me accountable and assists in building a stronger ministry. My calling continues to guide my growth. In the upcoming year, I aim to increase my visibility and activity at the conference level by fostering deeper relationships with churches and further developing our programs.

One of my exciting plans is to create a new Zoom meeting—a safe space—for individuals in recovery and those seeking to cultivate a more profound spiritual relationship with God, as they understand God.

Additionally, I am eager to revive and expand my coffee shop ministry. This informal setting provides an unassuming and neutral ground for striking up conversations with people. Often, these interactions begin with a compliment or a curious question, leading to quick and meaningful moments. Sometimes, they even evolve into deeper, more significant discussions.

For any further inquiries, please feel free to reach out to me.