



## Application for Membership in the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living

### Welcome

On behalf of the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living, welcome to our Community, our Village.

Thank you for your interest in becoming a Member of our Center.

This document will outline the requirements and privileges of Membership.

Please read it in its entirety and, if you are ready to apply for Membership, complete the Personal Checklist, and the Statement of Commitment.

### What Membership Means

A member is one who is vitally involved in an organization. Our vision for our members is that they are alive with genuine spirituality that improves the quality of their daily experience. This aliveness becomes a beneficial contribution to their families, workplace, and community. Science of Mind is spread throughout the world by the example of its members.

Committing oneself to membership is a **threefold commitment**.

The **first** level is **personal**.

Membership is a commitment to living the Science of Mind philosophy. This means that you are willing to learn about and to apply Science of Mind in daily life.

**Second** commitment is to **join** with the existing membership. This means deepening your level of participation from that of "observer" to "owner" through volunteering time and skill; attendance at events, classes, workshops, and other activities, as appropriate to your life; and attending the Annual Member Gathering.

**Third** is entering into **the vision** of this community and supporting its commitment statement through your actions, attitudes, and prayers.

Members of this Center support this commitment and vision through your actions, attitudes and prayers.



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### **Defining Qualities of Membership in the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living**

- **Active** (participating regularly in service and functions at the Center)
- **Loyal** (working with and for the commitment of the Center)
- **Supporting** (contributing time, talent, and treasure)

A Member is considered to be in good standing when s/he:

- upholds the teachings and practices of Religious Science.
- attends the religious and social functions of the Oakland Center.
- contributes to the financial support of the Oakland Center.
- attends the business meetings of the Oakland Center and votes therein.
- provides service to the Oakland Center with time or talent.
- upholds the purpose, mission, and vision of the Oakland Center; and,
- promotes harmony and goodwill within the spiritual community.

The privileges of Membership are:

- able to vote in all Church elections.
- eligible for election or appointment to leadership positions; and
- able to propose and implement duly approved new programs or ministries for the community.
- access to our Member Assistance Program (when available)



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### **Annual Giving Intention Program**

#### ***Why do we have an annual campaign?***

The Oakland Center for Spiritual Living—A Science of Mind Community—is a dynamic, powerful, viable, living community. Part of being a powerful community involves excellent stewardship, active planning, and vision. To accomplish this, we provide an annual giving intention program for our members so that we can plan our annual spending with care and precision. We believe that this high level of stewardship not only benefits the Center, but that it also expands an individual's consciousness of abundance.

#### ***How does it work?***

You and each member and friend of the Center receive a **giving intention card**. You are asked to make, prayerfully and thoughtfully, a commitment to contribute a specific dollar amount. You may give as an individual or as a family. You may give your contribution weekly or monthly, but we ask that you let us know what your commitment is. You may return the completed card to the Center by mail or in the offering basket on any Sunday.

*(If you are becoming a member in the middle of a calendar year, and you have not yet completed a **giving intention form**, you will complete an intention card **for the remainder of the year**—indicating your estimated giving through December. In the fall, the entire community is asked to complete their giving intention cards for the following calendar year.)*



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### **The Oakland Center's Vision & Mission Statement**

The vision of the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living is to joyfully reveal  
the Love and Oneness of God.

We are a welcoming and inclusive spiritual community  
dedicated to individual transformation and collective growth.

Our purpose is to love, inspire and serve our community and the world  
through education, music, prayer, and play.



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### My New Minister Sacred Covenant

There is only One Life! This Life is Good! This Life is God! This Life is my life now! In knowing that I am “one” with this Life that is God.

I therefore know that I am one with all of Its blessed expressions, which includes the Presence of a New Minister for my beloved Spiritual Community.

Because I know that the highest Purpose of my New Minister is to reveal Spirit, I therefore know that my New Minister is a Revelation of God as Wisdom.

I further know that my New Minister is the fulfillment of that which has been promised by Spirit, for it is written:

*“I am filled with Divine Wisdom; I allow Divine Mind to fill my mind Now...”*

Iyanla Van Zant

As I stand in agreement with my beloved Community, I see my New Minister revealed before me as:

Unity in the Community

I now intend to experience my New Minister in full cooperation and agreement with my Community, knowing this Truth about myself, for:

1. I am inspiring unity in diversity, embracing and nourishing our community.
2. I am awakening the wisdom within.
3. I am healing and expanding our community with the power of Love.
4. I am engaging the community in building a world that works for everyone.
5. I am deepening family consciousness.

As I now accept the highest expression of a New Minister into my life, I know that they are revealed in a way that illumines Spirit and serves the highest and greatest good of all who are touched by their Presence.

I am grateful God is gracious.

And so it is.

**Name** Enter your name

**Date** Click or tap to enter a date.



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### My Personal Checklist

I have attended, or plan to attend, services regularly (missing very few weeks) for six months or more. *(Although not required for membership, it is strongly recommended that prospective members take adequate time to learn about the Science of Mind before committing to membership.)*

I have served as a volunteer at the Center for Spiritual Living. *(Although not required for membership, it is strongly recommended that prospective members familiarize themselves with Seva (selfless service) volunteer opportunities at the Center as a way of becoming acquainted with our culture.)*

I have completed, or I am planning to complete, a giving intention card and I will make my contributions in an identifiable manner. *(Financial contribution is a condition of membership. Submitting an annual intentional giving form gives you the opportunity to let the Center and trustees know what your approximate contribution for the calendar year will be. The amount of your contribution is personal to you and there is no minimum or maximum contribution required.)*

I am ready to commit to attending the Annual Member Gathering, which is the business meeting of the Center.

I intend to complete Foundations or the Beyond Limits class or will in the near future. *(Although not required for membership, it is strongly recommended that prospective members learn about the teachings of the Center through formal classes.)*



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### **My Statement of Commitment to the Oakland Center**

*This is a free-form declaration of your personal commitment.*

*Feel free to write as much or as little as is necessary to express yourself.*

***PRINT YOUR NAME: Print Name***

***SIGN YOUR NAME: Signature***

***EMAIL: Email Address***

***PHONE: Phone Number***

***MAILING ADDRESS: Mailing Address***