

Adam Lawrence Dyer Biography

Adam Lawrence Dyer was born in New York City and raised in Framingham, MA. He attended Framingham South High School and went on to Princeton University graduating with a B.A. in English Literature and Creative Writing. He will receive his M.Div. and the Certificate of Sexuality and Religion from the Pacific School of Religion in May and will be ordained in the fall of 2017.

Adam's ministerial leadership experience includes serving as the Intern Minister at First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego (2014 – 2015) where he focused on pastoral care, social justice, racial and interfaith outreach and community engagement. He preached regularly and supported the congregation at both the Hillcrest and South Bay (Chula Vista) campuses. Following this internship, he spearheaded a one year project (Equity Ministry) leading workshop discussions on race, class and culture throughout California and Hawaii and in the spring of 2016, Skinner House Books published his first collection of poetry, *Love Beyond God: Meditations* which focuses on black identity in liberal faith community. He is a member of Mount Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church in Walnut Creek, CA where he worked as Lead Youth Advisor from 2012 until 2014 coordinating the high school group, teaching RE to the middle school group and instructing grades 7 – 9 OWL. He has been a guest speaker at numerous congregations throughout California preaching on a variety of subjects most notably embodiment and faith. Prior to seminary he sang in the choir at All Souls Unitarian, Washington, D.C. and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, FL. Deeply committed to interfaith engagement, he currently serves on the board of the Wild Goose Festival, an annual interfaith music and worship festival in North Carolina.



While completing his M.Div. Adam has also worked for PolicyLink, where he has been directly involved with racial equity data research and documentation and California legislative policy focused on boys and men of color. He has represented PolicyLink at several national conferences including the National Black Justice Coalition's Out on the Hill (Washington, D.C.) and The National LGBTQ Task Force's Creating Change (Chicago, IL). He organized a "Faith and Equity" panel and convened the LGBTQ caucus at the PolicyLink 2015 Equity Summit.

Before his call to ministry, Adam had 20 years' experience in the entertainment and leisure industries. He is an accomplished performing artist and appeared in the Broadway musicals *Ragtime*, and *Martin Guerre* as well as the dance feature *Hit and Run*. His work as a performing artist also helped him to achieve some notoriety in the fitness world as a personal trainer, group exercise instructor and fitness model in Los Angeles culminating with his being featured in the internationally successful P90x workout series. In addition, Adam was a successful cruise director for Royal Caribbean International, Holland America Line and Disney Cruise Line where his management capabilities, marketing and communication skills allowed him to lead or

contribute to several ships receiving “ship of the year” status and highest revenue ratings on itineraries worldwide. He remains passionate about the arts and travel and looks forward to bringing his knowledge and experience of both to his ministry.