

Annual Pledge Drive Q&A

Why do we pledge? This church belongs to each of us. We pledge to fund the daily operations and to ensure that the church and its resources are here for us and for others now and in the future.

What is the money used for? Pledge and other revenue sources (rental, investment, fundraising, donations) support our worship and music programs, our religious education program, programs for members and friends, community outreach, and connections to Unitarian Universalism. Our budget reflects our mission and vision.

Why do we pledge before setting a budget? In order to know what we can do each year, we need to receive pledge commitments, which assist the church in the development of the budget for the next year. Your annual pledge allows us to plan our commitments to our staff and programs each year.

Is pledging a requirement of membership? We expect that those who benefit from the church and participate in activities will share in its financial upkeep. Some members are able to pledge more, others less, but we can all share in supporting our church.

Should everyone pledge the same amount? We place a high value on diversity in our congregation—diverse views, backgrounds, and experiences. Included in this diversity is a diversity of economic circumstances. All of us support our church at individual financial levels.

How much should I pledge? Plan to contribute a percentage of your annual income. The Fair Share Giving Guidelines suggest what you might give. Copies are available here and online.

What about the money I put in the collection plate? Some people use the Sunday offering to make their pledge payments. As long as the offering can be associated with you, e.g., your personal check, whatever you put in the offering will be counted toward your pledge.

What if my financial circumstances change during the year, if I lose my job or have a financial emergency? Lives are not static. Contact the Congregational Administrator, Harrison Gray, admin@c3uu.org, if you need to adjust your pledge.