

# UUFWC 2022 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

Stewardship means taking care of what we value: our children, spirituality, programs, facility, worship, community and each other. While Stewardship may look different for each of us, we all share the goal of keeping our flame burning bright within our community and beyond. As always, we greatly appreciate the spark each of you brings, from your time and energy to your financial support.

## PLEDGE CAMPAIGN FAQs

We conduct an annual congregation-wide pledge campaign during which we ask each member and committed friend to make a financial commitment to keep the UUFWC and its ministries and programs thriving. Below are some frequently asked questions that provide further information.

### **Q. What is the Annual Pledge?**

A. An “Annual Pledge of Record” is a commitment of financial support, in any fiscal year. Pledges may be made as an individual, couple, or as a family. A Pledge is a promise to pay.

### **Q. When is the Annual Pledge Campaign?**

A. The Campaign is conducted in February for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1st. The pledges made during the Annual Pledge Campaign let our Board know what financial support they can count on to adjust and finalize budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. (Note: You will begin giving of money you pledge on July 1st when the fiscal year begins.)

### **Q. How are my pledge dollars used?**

A. Pledge dollars fund the programs that we value:

- Worship, Music and Ritual
- Religious Education and Spiritual Development
- Community Life
- Social Justice and Wider Community Support

This year’s program budget of \$235,000 reflects the allocated UUFWC expenses (including personnel costs.) The breakdown of pledge dollars by program for the 2022-2023 church year can be found here: [Program-Based Budget](#). In addition, we post traditional monthly financial statements that include staffing costs, worship services, building maintenance, office operations, and funding the work of our committees can be found here: [Board Minutes](#).

### **Q. Why has the pledge goal for the campaign changed since last year?**

A. This year’s stewardship pledge goal is \$440,000. Our aspirational goal represents the amount needed for us to continue the valued activities that have kept us strong this past year. Additionally, this year’s goal

also funds:

- ~~staff salary increases in the base budget in line with inflation;~~
- ~~additional funding for hours and accounting expertise to adjust to our growing membership;~~
- ~~the inclusion of Social Justice Committee funding within our annual budget and a modest increase to that funding;~~
- ~~for the first time in our recent history, a break-even operational budget, so that we no longer need to draw upon reserves to meet the needs of our fellowship.~~

**Q. How much should I/we pledge?**

A. Each individual/family determines the level of giving that is appropriate for their situation, balancing their personal financial situation with ~~the desire of their heart to fully~~ their commitment support UUFWC needs. We understand that COVID has affected everyone differently. There are those who can continue to give freely, while other may need to prioritize their spending more carefully. We encourage you to consider your contribution in direct correlation to the value you receive. The **Fair Share Giving Guide** may assist you in formulating the amount you wish to pledge. Suggested amounts are based on adjusted gross income and monthly contributions.

**Q. What percentage of UUFWC's income is composed of pledges?**

A. In recent years, pledges contributed approximately **70%** of the annual income needed to sustain the operations and programs of our congregation. ~~In 2022-2023, we estimate that pledges will contribute over 75% of the required income, due mainly to changes required by COVID.~~ The remaining **30%** of funds come from the open plate collection and special fundraising events, such as Coffee House, Madrigal and the garage sale.

**Q. How do I make a pledge?**

A. There are several ways to make an annual financial pledge. In February, a new pledge card becomes available online (**click here**) or you may request a paper copy (contact Mary Wicks at [wicksfam@ssnet.com](mailto:wicksfam@ssnet.com)). Pledges may be paid weekly, month, quarterly, or in a single payment. You may have your pledge payments automatically deducted from your bank account by setting up a recurring payment or completing an **authorization form**.

**Q. Do I have to make a new pledge every year even if I'm pledging the same amount?**

A. Yes. The Board needs to have updated pledge information each year in order to finalize the annual budget.