

Suggested Fair-Share Contribution Guide

Giving is a function of commitment and resources. When thinking about your income and your financial commitment to our congregation, please consider your UU values. What makes this UUA chart fair and useful is the ability to include meaningful or unusual exceptions (in income or expenses) in your personal economic life. Wherever you find the right level for you, re-visit it periodically and re-assess whether it's still the right level or whether you are ready to move to a deeper level of support using the instructions below.

1. Calculate your own monthly income or resource level.
2. ADD any unusual or periodic income such as inheritance, business or investment income, etc.
3. SUBTRACT any extraordinary expenses such as large medical expenses, care of a parent, or large financial expense, etc.
4. From the Adjusted Monthly Income column, move to the right to find a giving level that you are ready to support.



Adjust- ed Monthly Income	Approx. Adj. Annual Income	Supporter 2 - 6% of Income		Sustainer 3 - 7% of Income		Visionary 5 - 9% of Income		Transformer 10% of Income	
		Sug- gested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Sug- gested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Sug- gested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggest- ed % of Income	Monthly Pledge
\$1,000	\$12,000	2%	\$20	3%	\$30	5%	\$50	10%	\$100
\$1,500	\$18,000	2%	\$30	3%	\$45	5%	\$75	10%	\$150
\$2,000	\$25,000	2%	\$40	3%	\$60	5%	\$100	10%	\$200
\$3,000	\$36,000	2%	\$60	3%	\$90	5%	\$150	10%	\$300
\$4,000	\$50,000	3%	\$120	4%	\$160	5%	\$200	10%	\$400
\$6,500	\$80,000	3%	\$195	4%	\$260	6%	\$390	10%	\$650
\$8,500	\$100,000	3%	\$255	5%	\$425	6%	\$510	10%	\$850
\$10,000	\$120,000	3%	\$300	5%	\$500	6%	\$600	10%	\$1,000
\$12,500	\$150,000	4%	\$500	5%	\$625	6%	\$750	10%	\$1,250
\$17,000	\$200,000	4%	\$680	6%	\$1,020	7%	\$1,190	10%	\$1,700
\$25,000	\$300,000	5%	\$1,250	6%	\$1,500	8%	\$2,000	10%	\$2,500
\$40,000	\$500,000	6%	\$2,400	7%	\$2,800	9%	\$3,600	10%	\$4,000



“The arc of the moral universe may bend toward justice, but it doesn’t bend on its own.”

Those were the words of President Barack Obama quoting the Rev. Martin Luther King, who in turn had paraphrased Unitarian minister Theodore Parker’s statement from 100 years earlier.

That historic call to action is especially relevant right now, as we watch growing attacks on the rights and values that our nation has worked so long and so hard to build. Issues like discrimination, hatred, climate change, inequality, and homelessness will not be resolved unless we are willing to act.

These challenging times make it clear why we have chosen to be Unitarian Universalists and why we join and support the UU Society of Schenectady. Here we connect in love to search for truth and knowledge, explore our values and our spirituality, and learn to live our values in the world. We come together intentionally to bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice, knowing that our collective voice carries more power than any individual voice alone.

The German poet Rilke reminds us that “the new year [is] full of things that have never been.” And the coming year at UU Schenectady truly is a new beginning, as we call a new settled minister to partner with us in facing many threats to our values.

As you will read inside, we have ambitious goals for 2017-18 at UU Schenectady, goals that will require increased pledges and the generous participation of all our members in the annual pledge drive.

Now is the time to sustain and grow our congregation’s current energy and activity level. Now is the time to come together, worship together, and mobilize our collective intentions together like never before.

Now is the time to bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice through our actions in love!



Bending toward Justice, Acting in Love

Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady
2017 Stewardship Drive



What your Generosity will mean for our 2017-18 Goals

There is a great deal at stake right now — in both our nation and our congregation.

We are asking all members to be as generous as possible in making a pledge for 2017-18. **The Pledge Drive Goal for 2017-18 is \$450,000 and we need your help to reach this.**

The UUSS operating budget is not just about money. It is also an essential way that we give power to our faith and our values and put them into action. Here are some of the goals that the Board of Trustees hopes to accomplish in 2017-18 if the pledge drive is successful.

If you agree these are important, please show that by increasing your pledge!

1. Launch a new ministry in a revitalized congregation.
2. Mobilize the energy and commitment of our members and leverage the power of individuals through collective social action, such as by:
 - Advocating for the planet in the face of climate change.
 - Collaborating with Family Promise to address family homelessness in our community.
 - Resisting hatred and fear through our individual and group actions.
 - Healing the racial divide through our actions and understanding.
 - Providing a platform for engaging in activism to respond to the needs of our times.
3. Expand our outreach to and presence in the wider community through greater use of social media and the internet, and through collaborations with more groups and congregations.
4. Offer a safe welcome to all who seek a spiritual home, especially those who feel threatened or unwanted.
5. Enhance and expand religious education for all ages, including a wider range of adult learning opportunities.
6. Continue to sustain our beautiful and historic buildings and grounds.
7. Provide fair compensation for the minister and staff plus recognition of increased responsibilities in support of increased congregational activities.
8. Continue Fair Share support for both our national and regional UUA offices.

UU Schenectady is a vibrant, multi-faceted congregation that cannot be captured on paper, but here is some data to give you a glimpse of a few of our ministries, our outreach, and our fun together!



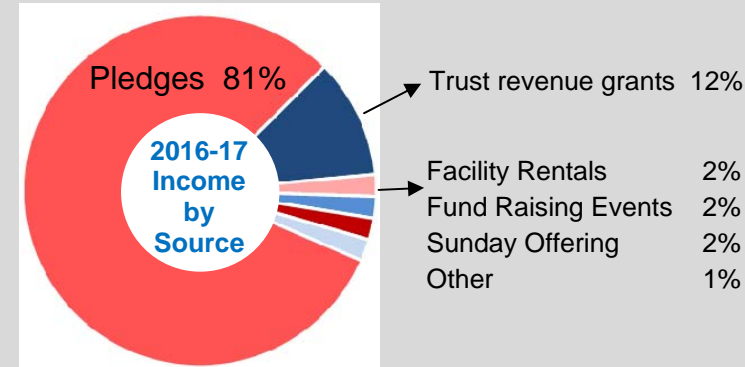
4 full-time UUSS employees
 8 part-time UUSS employees
 371 adult members
 \$1,808 average pledge in 2016-17
 \$1,100 median pledge in 2016-17
 \$521,279 2016-17 operating budget
 \$548,700 2017-18 projected budget, if the pledge drive is successful

2 performances
 24 auction item donors
 44 sponsors
 66 volunteers (plus cookie bakers)
 79 performers of all types
 \$14,117 raised for the UUSS operating budget
Yuletide Revels 2016 Results

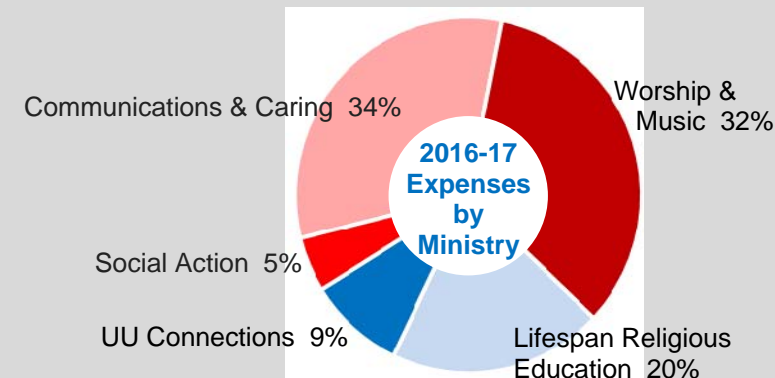
306
 Highest Sunday attendance this church year was on Nov. 13, 2016

\$450,000
 2017-18 Pledge Drive Goal
 68
 Number of members who said in 2016 that theirs was a "Fair Share Pledge" based on their personal financial situation (See chart on back)

124
 Children & youth enrolled in RE classes, including
 52
 taking part in OWL (Our Whole Lives) classes January 2017



447
 Followers of the UUSS public Facebook page
 190
 Members of the UUSS private, members-only Facebook page



150 - 350
 Typical range of visitors per day to the UUSS website
 337
 Total number of visits in the past three months to the website page where previous sermons are posted