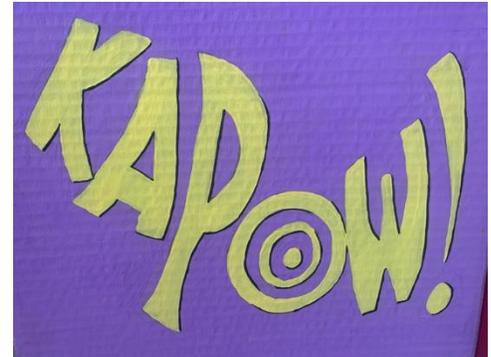


Be a Superhero

FY21-22 Stewardship Campaign

Unitarian Universalist Church of Worcester
90 Holden Street, Worcester, MA 01606
www.uucworchester.org/donate



This year's Stewardship Pledge Campaign is **Let's Be Superheros!**

Why to become a Super Hero:

- So we can return to our building and appreciate the city's new intersection out front, a smooth new parking lot, and expansive yard and gardens!
- To celebrate the connections maintained through virtual **Sunday Morning Worship** and **Religious Exploration** services that supported our community through this tumultuous year AND to experience re-emergence together.
- For Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Team to continue to support those in our community who suffer food insecurity.
- **To advocate homeless families and individuals** through our partnership with the Central MA Interfaith Hospitality Network, Worcester's Emergency Winter Homeless Shelter—Hotel Grace and our partnership with Worcester's Outdoor Church-Worcester Fellowship.
- For the chance to welcome and serve new arrivals in our community through our Refugee Ministry Team.
- So we may **maintain this amazing congregation** of committed, compassionate and courageous people working together to be and become ever more a Beloved Community!
- To resume **work** with Community Groups that share our vision of Love, Peace and Justice in our world including Worcester Interfaith, LGBT Asylum Task Force, Greendale Ecumenical Group, 12 Step Support Groups, ONE Worcester, Greater Worcester Humanists and Jane Fund of Central MA!
- For more **opportunities to socialize, support and encourage each other** through Small Group Ministry, Book Groups, Lunch with the Minister, Rainbow Lunch Group, Meditation Group, Men's Group, Woman's Social Circle, Women's Runaway Weekend, Ferry Beach Weekend and other community groups that may soon again use our building!
- For the chance to give our staff **fair Compensation and** a living wage with benefits commensurate with their positions.
- To **progress toward becoming a Fair Share Congregation**, by paying the Unitarian Universalist Association funds assessed as a congregation of almost 200 members!

Stewardship Drive Q & A's

What is a pledge? A pledge is a promise to make a contribution to the church. The total amount pledged by everyone is used by the Church leaders to plan the programs and set a budget for the next fiscal year.

Who should pledge? Our goal is to obtain a pledge from 100% of the members and active non-members of the congregation. This goal is based on fundamental fairness. We are a community of people with a vision. We understand we cannot achieve our vision alone. We rely on each other.

How much should I pledge? We understand everyone's financial means are different. In order to successfully pursue our vision, we would like first-time pledgers to consider pledging 2% of their adjusted gross income.

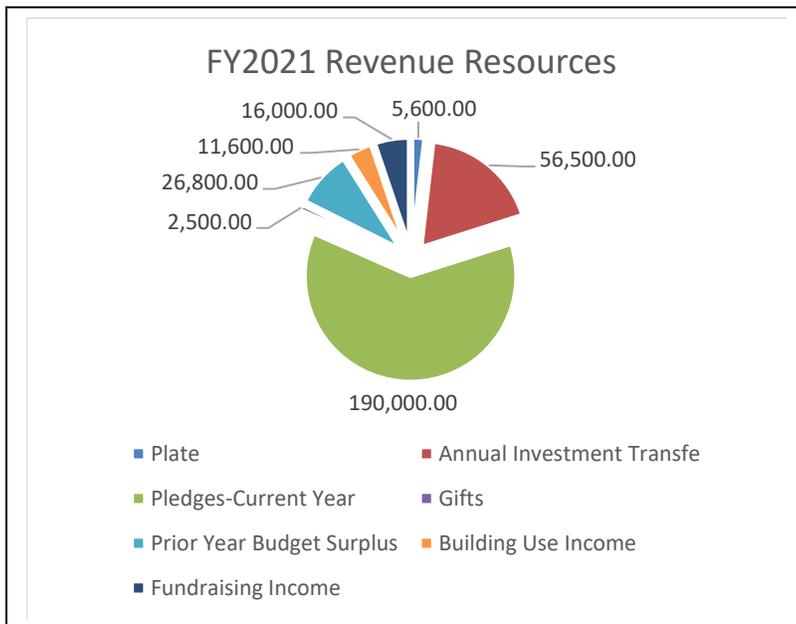
Why do we need the money? Our staff salary levels continue to be below Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) Guidelines. We did not make our fair contribution to the UUA and the District last year and it continues to be challenging to fund our basic programs. By making people aware that we need pledges from everyone we hope to make progress on all of this.

Is there a deadline? We would like to receive your pledge no later than March 21, 2021.

How do I make a pledge? Pledge forms and instructions are included in the Stewardship Drive mailing. Pledge forms are also available on the church website: (<http://www.uucworcester.org/donate>)



Our Revenue Sources



As the graph to the left shows, the most sizable portion of our annual budget is dependent on the generosity and consideration of our active members and friends. The total budgeted pledge amount represents 97% of the total amount pledged last Spring. Budgeting this way allows us to account for pledge short-falls and changing circumstances in the lives of those in our community.

We hope the continuing generosity of our members and friends will bring us close to our goal for FY2021.

Thanks to the incredible stewardship of our Investment Committee, we are able to rely on \$56,500.00 of income from our portfolio toward operating expenses this year.

Our building and grounds continue to be a center of activity for the neighborhood and community at large. Because of this we were able to rely on \$11,600.00 of income from rentals and parking lot use in FY2021. There are already plans in the works for increasing regular rentals for next year. Our Sunday morning offerings are on target for the expected to exceed \$5600.00 this year.

We are a congregation of love, hope and justice, inspiring people to take on the challenges of a changing world!