

Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka
2030 Wayzata Blvd East, Wayzata, MN 55391 • www.uucmtka.org

April 3, 2018

Dear Members and Friends,

On Sunday, April 8, 2018, we will kick off our annual UUCM Stewardship Campaign, “**Growing 2030 Possibilities.**” This fundraising effort supports the values, mission, and ends of our church at our new location (2030 Wayzata Blvd) and with an eye to the future (the year 2030). The campaign comes at an exciting time for UUCM, as we welcome many new Members, find great opportunities to use the new building, and plan for our Ministerial transition.



During this Stewardship Campaign we ask our Members and Friends to pledge their financial support for the church budget during the July 2018 to June 2019 fiscal year. These pledges make up 90% of our annual income, so they are vital to our financial planning. As we shared during last year’s campaign, our budget will grow again to fully fund the operating costs, personnel, and programs that are needed to be successful. To meet this challenge, our pledge goal will be 10% larger than last year. If we all participate, that goal is well within reach!

Enclosed you will find our Giving Guide, with all the information you need to make your pledge to the Operating Fund for the 2018-19 fiscal year. This includes a pledge form, giving guidelines, and budget information. The guide also provides some information on the Building Fund, as well as the UUA’s *Wake Now Our Vision* legacy gift program and its matching funds for UUCM. If you have the means to make a gift over and above your annual pledge, please consider one of these options as well.

During April we ask that you please take time to reflect on the meaning of the church for you and your family, then choose the amount you wish to pledge. Mail or drop off the pledge form by **April 30th**. You may also pledge online and access additional information at www.uucmtka.org (click on “Serve”). We welcome gifts of all sizes, and your gifts to UUCM are tax deductible. Again, we do need to hear from you by **April 30th** so that we can finalize next year’s budget before the congregational meeting in May.

Thank you for your support of UUCM, its mission, and the communities we serve. We are planting the seeds of many wonderful future possibilities for UUCM. Please help us grow these possibilities, so we can continue to live our mission, “In a spirit of wonder and with courageous love, we connect, grow, and act.”

Sincerely,

Mike Elliott, Board President
Fred Hulting, Stewardship Chair



Thank you for considering a gift to UUCM in support of our mission to “connect, grow, and act” in a spirit of wonder and courageous love.

This giving guide is intended to answer the What, Why, How, and When questions about making donations to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka (UUCM).

Why should I give to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka (UUCM)?

UUCM is a vibrant church community serving its members, friends, and the larger world, through multi-generational programming for spiritual growth, social justice, and religious education. As a growing church with a brand-new building at 2030 Wayzata Blvd East, we are planting the seeds of many wonderful future possibilities. Please help us grow these possibilities, and join UUCM in living our mission, “In a spirit of wonder and with courageous love, we connect, grow, and act.”

Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure to UUCM are what makes our future possible. If UUCM is important to you, we ask that you make a charitable financial contribution to secure and sustain our important work.

What does it mean to “Pledge”?

While we always welcome one-time gifts, we encourage our committed members and friends to make *pledges* of financial support in support of our Stewardship Campaign. A *pledge* is a statement of an amount of money you intend to give to the church during the fiscal year (July-June). Pledges may be made at any time, and they serve two purposes. First, it is one way that you indicate your commitment to our church. Second, it enables the church to forecast its future income and to plan expenses accordingly. Your pledge is a valuable statement of your intention and support, but it is not a binding agreement. To make your pledge, simply fill out and return the form in this packet or visit the online pledge form (bit.ly/uucmpledge). You then pay your pledge in one or more payments through the year.

How much should I give to UUCM?

UUCM does not prescribe a certain dollar amount that you should give to the church. Instead, we ask everyone to determine an amount based on their commitment to the church and their financial resources. To help you in that decision, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) provides a guide to annual giving that displays guidelines based on commitment and resources (see below). We encourage you to reflect on the role of UUCM in your life, and to use the guide to help you make decisions about giving. Also, your annual pledge should be an amount you can pay for from your regular income and can maintain from year to year.

How does my gift help UUCM?

Your gift will directly support the missions and programs of the church, either through our Operating Budget, one of the other designated funds (e.g. Building Fund and Youth Fund).



Pledges and gifts to our annual Stewardship Campaign, “*Growing 2030 Possibilities*,” are directed to our Operating Fund. These monies are used to directly support church activities, including all our major programs, as part of our annual operating budget. The following table provides an overview of the church budget (our fiscal year runs July to June):

UUCM Fiscal Year Spending	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Forecast</i>	<i>Draft Budget</i>
Income Summary	\$ 268,116	\$ 306,772	\$ 335,900
Operating Fund (Pledges, Gifts)	\$ 243,366	\$ 281,500	\$ 309,600
Other Fundraisers, Income	\$ 24,750	\$ 25,272	\$ 26,300
Building Fund Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	
Expense Summary	\$ 255,820	\$ 305,112	\$ 335,184
Personnel	\$ 210,940	\$ 211,809	\$ 231,529
Admin and Operations	\$ 25,909	\$ 67,500	\$ 65,392
Ministries	\$ 10,576	\$ 9,325	\$ 11,785
Board and Fair Share	\$ 8,395	\$ 11,478	\$ 16,478
Loan Principal & Interest	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000

Pledges made during the Stewardship Campaign provide over 90% of the income for the church operating budget. Gifts to other funds (see below) will support certain targeted programs.

How do I make my gift to UUCM?

Whether you are paying your pledge or making a one-time gift, there are several ways to make your financial contribution.



Check or Cash: Please make checks payable to “UUCM” and provide instructions in the memo line. You may mail your check to UUCM, 2030 Wayzata Blvd East, Wayzata, MN 55391. Cash may be placed in an envelope and dropped off at the church office or placed in the Sunday Collection.



Automatic Withdrawals: You can make a recurring donation to our Operating Fund or Building Fund using automatic withdrawals from your bank account or your credit card. To set that up, please use the “Request for Automatic Withdrawal” section of the form in this packet.



Donate Online: To donate to our Operating Fund or Building Fund online with a credit card, visit our GiveMN Page at <https://www.givemn.org/> (search for “UUCM”) and follow the instructions.



Stock: If you would like to make a stock donation, you can make direct share transfers to our brokerage account. Broker: Charles Schwab; Account Name: Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka; Account Number: 8988-9294; DTC: #0164. Please be sure to contact the church when you make stock transfer, so we can process your shares in a timely manner. We sell all stock upon receipt.

Other UUCM Funds that you can support

The fundraising priority for UUCM is the Operating Fund, which directly supports the daily work of the church. We ask everyone to make a pledge or gift to the Operating Fund. If you have additional money that you would like to give to the church, from savings or other special income, then we ask that you consider one of the following options.



Building Fund: UUCM established a Building Fund in 2007 to pay for construction of our new building at 2030 Wayzata Blvd East. So far, we have raised over \$2.9 million. While the project was completed in 2017, we still need donations as we pay off our loans and do a variety of follow-up projects.



Legacy Gifts: We encourage our Members to consider identifying UUCM as a beneficiary in their wills or estate plans. Now is a great time to do this, as the UUA “Wake Now our Vision” campaign is currently providing matching funds for up to 10% of the value of your legacy gifts. To learn more, visit www.wakenowourvision.org, or use the contact information below.



Social Generosity Fund: Donations to this fund are directed to local groups that provide services to those in need, or organizations working on behalf of issues important to UUs. All cash collected in the Sunday Offertory is placed into this fund (additional information below). Other gifts are also welcome.



Youth Fund: Special fundraisers are held throughout the year to support various funds within the church. The largest such fund is the Youth Fund, which supports special programming for Children and Youth, including the annual youth leadership school, and youth trips (e.g. Appalachian Service Project, Heritage Trip to Boston, General Assembly).



Endowment Fund: UUCM recently established an Endowment Fund to accept legacy and other gifts and provide a strong financial foundation for the future of the church.

The Sunday Collection and Amazon Smile



Sunday Collection: During our Sunday services there is an offertory. All cash placed in the Sunday collection basket, as well as any checks made out to "UUCM" with "Social Generosity" in the memo line, will go towards the Social Generosity cause for the current month. You may also use the basket to make other contributions to UUCM. Simply write your check out to "UUCM" with the appropriate instruction in the memo line (stewardship pledge, building fund, etc.). To make a cash donation to UUCM, please include your cash in an envelope with instructions on the outside.



Amazon Smile: UUCM is registered as a qualifying charitable organization with the Amazon Smile program (smile.amazon.com). UUCM members and friends can shop with Amazon through this site, and a percentage (0.5%) of the amount spent on their purchases will be given to the church. To start, visit [bit.ly/uucmsmile](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0901806), or <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0901806>.

Forms, Resources, and Contacts

On the following pages you will find the forms and information material referenced above, including:

- UUA Giving Guidelines
- Pledge Form for Fiscal 2018-2019
- Request for Automatic Withdrawal

You can access this guide at the UUCM website, www.uucmtka.org, under "Serve". Please contact Fred Hulting at fhulting@comcast.net, or the church office at office@uucmtka.org, with questions or information requests about anything related to giving.

This guide was updated April 2, 2018.

UUA Giving Guidelines

The Suggested Fair-Share Contribution Guide

Using the Guide is a simple, 3-step process; giving is a function of commitment and resources.

1. Most of us budget our financial commitments on a monthly basis and the guide is organized accordingly, but you may calculate on any time frame that works for you. For convenience, the guide shows monthly and corresponding annual income levels. Determine your monthly income or resource level. \$ _____
2. ADD to your income level any unusual or periodic income, such as inheritances, business income, anticipated investment income, etc. SUBTRACT any unusual expenses, such as large medical expenses, care of a parent, or a large financial expense, etc.
Result: \$ _____ **This is your Adjusted Monthly Income.**

Each of us will have our own unique circumstances to consider in making this calculation. The flexibility to include meaningful and unusual exceptions in your financial life (income and expenses) is what makes the Guide fair and useful. This is a tool for you to use in the spirit of the Congregationalist tradition; we are individually and collectively responsible for resourcing our movement and our congregations. This is an honor system; only you know your circumstances.

3. From the Adjusted Monthly Income column, move to the right to find a suggested giving level that you are ready to support, between 2% and 10%, depending on adjusted income and level of commitment. Interpolate between guide levels if needed.

In making your decision, consider the four commitment levels below and how they relate to your membership. Consider your UU values in thinking about your income and your financial commitment to the congregation, as expressed in the four levels below. Note that within each commitment level, **the guide is progressive**, with giving levels rising with capacity.

- **Supporter:** The congregation is a significant part of my spiritual and intellectual life that I want to support. My fair share financial commitment starts at 2% of my income and rises to 6% as my income and capacity rise.
- **Sustainer:** The congregation is my central community; I am committed to sustaining the programs and ministries of my congregation. My fair share financial commitment starts at 3% of my income and rises to 7% as my income and capacity rise.
- **Visionary:** My commitment is a clear demonstration of the unique importance of this congregation and of my spiritual principles. My fair share financial commitment starts at 5% of my income and rises to 9% as my income and capacity rise.
- **Transformer:** I am deeply committed to the congregation; my contribution provides fuel for transformation and is part of my spiritual practices in living out my UU Principles. My fair share financial commitment represents 10% of my income.

Stewardship For Us | www.stewardshipforus.com

The Suggested Fair Share Contribution Guide

Adjusted Monthly Income	Approx. Adjusted Annual Income	Supporter 2-6% of Income		Sustainer 3-7% of Income		Visionary 5-9% of Income		Transformer 10% of Income	
		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Suggested % 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

Wherever you find the right level, revisit it periodically and reassess whether it's still the right level for you or if you are ready to move to a deeper level of support.

Stewardship For Us | www.stewardshipforus.com



Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka
2018-19 Pledge Form
To support the July 2018 to June 2019 Operating Budget

Name(s): _____

I/we pledge a total (annual) amount of \$_____ ,
payable by June 30, 2019. I/we will pay the pledge as follows (check one):

- Check or cash payments.
- Autopayment from my bank account or credit card. To set this up, please fill out the "Request for Automatic Withdrawal" section below.
- Stock Donation. See information about stock transfers in the Giving Guide.

Request for Automatic Withdrawal: I authorize the use of the payment method below for
monthly withdrawals in the amount of \$_____

Please choose your payment method below (*choose one*):

- I authorize monthly auto-payments on about the 10th of each month using my **credit card**. My card information is:

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

- I authorize monthly auto-payments on about the 10th of each month using electronic debits from my **bank checking account**. I have attached a voided check.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Phone(s): _____ *Email:* _____

Please return this form to: UUCM, Attn: Finance Chair, 2030 Wayzata Blvd East, Wayzata, MN 55391