



Unitarian Universalist
Church of Minnetonka

Giving Guide for the UU Church of Minnetonka

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).

It includes a pledge form as well.

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 visible 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.

How does my gift help UUCM?

Your gift will support the mission and programs of the church, including worship, social justice, and religious education. For example, pledges and gifts to our annual Stewardship Campaign,



“Warmth of Community, Fire of Commitment,” provides over 90% of the income for the church operating budget and directly funds church activities, major programs, and personnel. The table below provides an overview of the current church budget (for July to June fiscal year).

Gifts may also be directed to other funds (e.g., Building Fund and Youth Fund), that have been set up to support certain targeted programs. More information on these funds is given below.

UUCM Fiscal Year Spending	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Draft</i>
Income Summary	\$ 404,753	\$ 424,183	\$ 426,829	\$ 445,000
Operating Fund (Pledges, Gifts)	\$ 347,105	\$ 361,545	\$ 369,000	\$ 385,000
Other Fundraisers, Income	\$ 57,648	\$ 62,638	\$ 57,829	\$ 60,000
Expense Summary	\$ 384,782	\$ 426,815	\$ 426,829	\$ 445,000
Personnel	\$ 255,541	\$ 268,031	\$ 269,303	\$ 280,000
Admin and Operations	\$ 57,879	\$ 78,220	\$ 69,250	\$ 75,144
Mortgage Payments	\$ 49,377	\$ 49,377	\$ 49,400	\$ 49,400
Program Ministries	\$ 4,162	\$ 13,754	\$ 17,700	\$ 17,600
Leadership (incl. UUA Fair Share)	\$ 17,823	\$ 17,433	\$ 21,176	\$ 22,856

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 annual 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. If you are considering a first-time pledge, we would be glad to connect and answer any questions you may have.

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 or income percentage 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 with that decision, the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) provides giving 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, we recommend that your annual pledge be an amount you can pay for from your regular income and can maintain from year to year.

How do I make my gift to UUCM?

Whether you are paying your pledge or making a one-time gift, we accept several forms of payment.



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 in the secure box by the church office or 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 Pledge Form in this packet, or use the instructions at <http://bit.ly/uucmrecurring> to set up your own withdrawals.



Donate Online: To donate to our Operating Fund or Building Fund online with a credit card, visit our online donation page at <http://bit.ly/giveuucm>. PayPal is also an option. Please contact the church for more details.



Stock: If you would like to make a stock donation, you can make direct share transfers to our brokerage account. Please contact the church for more information about how to make the transfer. We sell all stock upon receipt.



Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD): If you are over 70 ½, then you can take a (QCD) from your retirement account and have the same tax benefits as a deduction, and it will also be credited to your Required Minimum Distributions (RMD). Consult your financial advisor for details.

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 all Members and Friends to make a pledge or gift to the Operating Fund through our Stewardship Campaign. 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.



Capital Fund: UUCM established a Building Fund in 2007 to pay for construction of our new building at 2030 Wayzata Blvd East. The fund is currently used to manage our reserve for capital projects and additional mortgage principal payments.



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. We raise money for this fund during the service each week (additional information below), but gifts can be made at other times as well.



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 has an Endowment Fund to accept legacy and other gifts and provide a strong financial foundation for the future of the church. Consider naming UUCM as a beneficiary in your will or estate plan.

During the year there will also be special fundraising campaigns for specific causes, special initiatives, or staff recognition. These opportunities are described in our regular church communications.

The Sunday Collection



Sunday Collection: During our in-person 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. To make other contributions to UUCM. Simply write your check out to "UUCM" with the appropriate instruction in the memo line. To make a cash donation to UUCM, please include your cash in an envelope with instructions on the outside. If you are attending online, you may give at <http://bitly/uucmgive>.

Forms, Resources, and Contacts

On the following pages you will find the forms and information material referenced above, including UUA Giving Guidelines, pledge form, and request an Automatic Withdrawal.

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

This guide was updated January 21, 2023.

UUA Giving Guidelines

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

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.



Unitarian Universalist Church of Minnetonka
2023-24 Pledge Form
To support the July 2023 to June 2024 Operating Budget

Name(s): _____

I/we pledge a total (annual) amount of \$_____,
payable by June 30, 2024. I/we will pay the pledge as follows (check one):

- I will make my own payments via check or cash.
- I will make payments with a credit card. Please send information on electronic payments.
- I would like to set up an Auto Payment from my bank account or credit card. To set this up, please fill out the "Request for Automatic Withdrawal" section below.
- I will make a Stock Donation. Please send information about stock transfers.

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 am already enrolled in auto-payment; please use my current method of payment.
- I authorize new monthly auto-payments using my **credit card**. My card information is:
Name on CC: _____ CC Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____
Address for CC: _____
- I authorize new monthly auto-payments using electronic debits from my **bank checking account**. I have attached a voided check.

Signature(s): _____ **Date:** _____

If we do not have your contact information, or you would like to update it, please enter below.

Phone(s): _____ *Email:* _____

Mailing Address: _____

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

You may also pledge online at <http://bit.ly/uucmpledge>.

For more information, consult the UUCM Giving Guide at <https://uucmtka.org/serve>