

How does the budget process work?

Every year, the Finance Team, with input from Ministry Team leaders and approval by the Board, creates a “Dream” Budget, which sets our goal for the Budget Drive.

After the pledge drive, the Finance Team and the Board create a final budget reflecting the pledges that were submitted. The congregation votes on the final budget at the annual congregational meeting in May.

What about money I give as an offering?

When Members & Friends make a contribution and don't have a pledge on file, it is called an offering. All offerings help and are deeply appreciated, if you can possibly make a financial commitment now – even for a smaller amount than you'd like to give – it will make for a more predictable budget. Of course, feel free to use the offering plate to submit your pledge, just make sure you're identified on it.

The only money we can put to effective use is the money we can plan on being there.

What about fundraisers?

If you've ever helped on a fundraiser, you know it's hard work and so rewarding at the same time. And you need not be a member of the Finance Team to be a key organizer of a fundraising event!

What about the Trust?

We are so fortunate that a few wise members began the UUCP Charitable Trust to ensure the long-term health of our church. The church may request limited funds from an identified source within the Trust portfolio to support the operating budget if needed.

YOUR PLEDGING QUESTIONS... ANSWERED

What is the money for?

Our budget reflects our mission and vision. Pledges fund our daily operations. **For 2025-26 we hope to increase support in several areas to include: Sunday Services, Building Maintenance and Wind Insurance.**

How much should I pledge?

Plan to contribute a percentage of your annual income. The Fair Share Giving Guidelines suggest what you might give.

We place a high value on diversity in our congregation —diverse views, backgrounds, and experiences. Included in this diversity is a diversity of economic circumstances. All of us support our church at appropriate individual financial levels.

Is pledging a requirement of membership?

Part of the covenant of membership in our community is sharing in its financial upkeep. Per our Bylaws, membership does require a record of financial contribution during the church year, and a pledge is the way to do just that.

What if my financial circumstances change during the year?

Lives are not static. Contact the Treasurer if you need to adjust your pledge.

Will I go to HELL if I don't pledge a certain amount?

No.