

March 13, 2022

Dear OUUC Members and Friends,

Adaptable. Resilient. Growing. Together.

These are the things about our OUUC community that have helped us weather the past few years and will help us move into whatever the future holds. We know that the future will be different. What we can count on is each other and our shared values.

We are a growing community in so many ways! We are growing in the ways we bring out life energy into the world and put our faith into action. We are growing in the ways we support and challenge each other to grow spiritually. We are growing in our connections to our local community and the Unitarian Universalist community. We are growing into new ways of making decisions and sharing ministry. And we continue to welcome visitors, newcomers and new members.

We continue to gather in all the ways we can. We will continue to offer hospitality through online worship as we begin to gather in-person. We will continue to offer small group gatherings online and in person, whether they are social groups or opportunities for spiritual deepening. And we will continue to enjoy music in a time when the arts have been so challenged.

During the month of March and into early April, you will hear from congregation members whose lives have been touched and transformed by this community. We hope that your life has been or will be, too.

This is our first Spring stewardship Drive as we shift our fiscal year from the calendar year (January-December) to July-June. The congregation voted last Spring to make this change so the budget year will align with the congregational program year and most Unitarian Universalist congregations. This will be our first year-long budget period in the new fiscal year cycle.

This Spring we've created a budget that sets a stewardship stretch goal. It reflects our aspirations to increase congregational support staff. This would mean increasing hours for the administrator and the Media Specialist. This would free Rev. Mary and other staff to do more program and pastoral work and increase our capacity for virtual ministry.

It also reflects the desire for just compensation for all OUUC staff in a time when inflation is very high. The fall stewardship drive allowed a 2% cost of living (COLA) increase for staff, and we hope to offer another 2% COLA with this drive. This is in a time when the cost of living in Olympia has increased over 7%.

Last, this budget request continues the program increases from last Fall in Community Life, Adult Ed, and Music. It adds funding to Adult Education, Faith in Action, worship arts and music.

We know it's a stretch to ask for a 9.5% increase over the current budget. And we think it's the right thing to do. If needed, we will increase the administrator position in steps and offer the COLA that we can. For giving guidance, we've attached the UUA Giving Guide table in this letter and will share the full guide in our email communication to the congregation.

There are many ways to support and steward the mission of OUUC, including time and talent. Please consider how you can help us rise to meet the needs of our growing community.

If you are new to OUUC, please consider making a pledge in support of the growth of this congregation. If you are a member or friend, please consider increasing your pledge to support OUUC's future.

The OUUC Board and minister have all pledged their financial support to this community. By making your pledge on-line or returning the enclosed pledge form, you can join us in making a financial commitment to OUUC's mission of a loving, just and healthy world.

If you have any questions regarding the stewardship drive or for the Board of Trustees, please contact James Trujillo at [james.s.trujillo@gmail.com](mailto:james.s.trujillo@gmail.com) If you are unsure or have questions about the budget or expenditures, please contact Rev. Mary Gear at [minister@ouuc.org](mailto:minister@ouuc.org)

Thank you for your support. Together in spirit,

*James Trujillo*  
James Trujillo, OUUC Board President

*Rev. Mary M Gear*  
Rev. Mary Gear, OUUC Minister

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](http://www.stewardshipforus.com)