

2018-19 Stewardship Campaign



***Celebrating 25 + 1
Years in
Our Building***



A Message from your Minister and President

Looking Back to Look Ahead

Twenty-six years ago, a courageous group of folks moved into their new building, just up the hill from the house where their fellowship had been meeting for the preceding 25 years. They had a vision for the future of their religious community, and they committed their time, talent, and treasure to lay the groundwork for that future. Their vision was not only fulfilled but surpassed. So many people came that they had to offer two services each Sunday and still needed more space. Sixteen years later, they dedicated this expanded building—with staff offices, a larger kitchen, spaces dedicated for religious education, and a beautiful sanctuary with a view of the mountains.



Breaking ground in 1991

This year, **25 + 1** years since that move into what has become the Unitarian Universalist Congregation meeting house, we celebrate their courage to dream big. We'll celebrate by considering all the programs and opportunities their commitment made possible. In the month ahead, we invite you to think about all that you love about UUC—how being part of this compassionate community we are creating inspires your spiritual and ethical growth and encourages us all to transform the world through courageous love.

In the month ahead, we also invite you to dream of our future. How will we meet our own vision of becoming a beacon of liberal religion in the New River Valley? What will UUC look like in another 25 years? How might we join with others to work for justice? Practice generosity and radical hospitality? Create a place known for beauty, welcome, joy, and celebration? As you dream of our future, consider what kind of financial contribution you can make to help lay the foundation for that future. So that in another 25 years,

our spiritual descendants will look back to celebrate *your* courage and commitment.

In faith,
Rev. Pam Philips, Minister
Tim Pickering, President



UUC in 1992

Stewardship Timeline

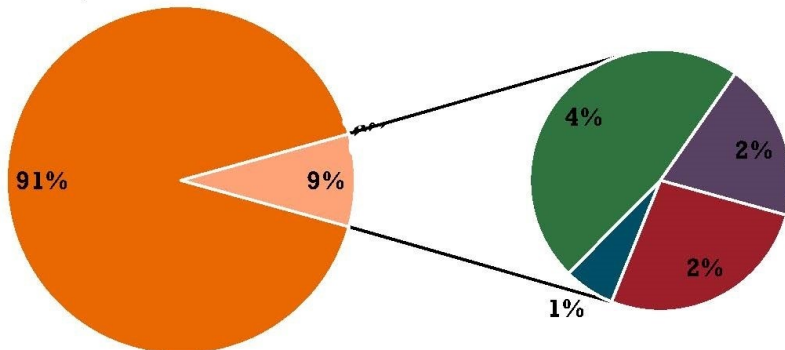
April 8: Campaign kick-off with sermon by Rev. Pam Philips
April 8-29: One-on-one or group meetings
April 29: Campaign ends with Sunday Sundae Ice Cream Social
May 20: Informational meeting
June 3 – Annual meeting to approve budget & elect officers

We are recommending a budget of **\$370,000**
for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Where Does Our Money Come From?

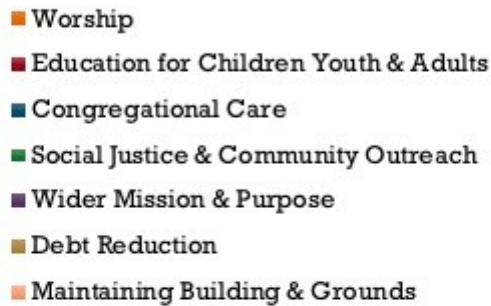
2018-2019 Income by Source

- Pledges \$338,300
- Rental \$2,000
- Kroger & Amazon \$6,200
- Basket \$8,500
- Auction \$15,000



Where Does Our Money Go?

2018-2019 Expenses by Ministry



Creating Meaningful Worship (\$70,656, 19%)

Worship services account for a large portion of the minister's time as well as salaries for the Choir Director and Pianist. Funds are also used for choir music, worship supplies, the sound system, special services, and honoraria for guest ministers and musicians. As the essential activity of the congregation, meaningful worship:

- ◆ Inspires us to spiritual and ethical growth;
- ◆ deepens our connections with each other;
- ◆ embraces newcomers; and
- ◆ challenges us to live into our mission and vision.

Educating Our Children, Youth, and Adults (\$61,375, 16%)



These funds cover salaries for the Director of Lifespan Faith Development and Assistant DLFD, paid childcare, curricula materials and supplies for Children's Religious Education, YRUU, Adult Religious Education, and Our Whole Lives. In this way, we support:

- ♦ opportunities for faith development for all ages;
- ♦ supportive social events for young people; and
- ♦ adult connection and spiritual growth through classes and other small groups.

Offering Congregational Care (\$47,403, 13%)

These funds support pastoral work by the Minister and trained Lay Pastoral Care Ministry associates, the Administrator's salary, membership-related communications, and the work of the Connections Committee. This funding:

- ♦ provides care and support for persons who are facing a crisis or going through a life transition;
- ♦ maintains timely and vital connections through print and electronic communications; and
- ♦ affords opportunities to engage with each other and welcome newcomers.

Promoting Social Justice and Community Outreach (\$26,893, 7%)

Our Community Service Team provides hands-on support for organizations working to address basic needs in our local community. UUC has formally chosen to work for justice in the areas of mental health and climate change/environment, while smaller groups within the congregation have taken on the cause of racial justice. Funding in this area:



- ♦ strengthens our presence in the local community through action and service; and
- ♦ raises our voice for peace and justice in the broader world.

Supporting our Wider Mission and Purpose (\$32,226, 9%)



We pay dues to the national Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) and the Southern Region, and we cover registration costs for delegates to represent us at their meetings. This support:

- ◆ connects us to the larger denomination;
- ◆ helps advance national visibility of our shared tradition;
- ◆ gives us a voice at the national UU General Assembly and regional events closer to home; and
- ◆ provides us with UU resources such as RE curricula and resources for congregational development.

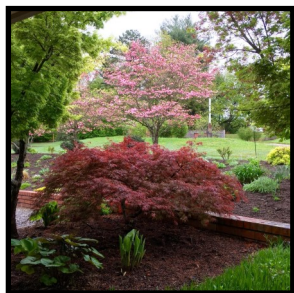
Reducing Our Debt (\$61,659, 17%)

One decade ago, the congregation voted to buy adjacent property and expand our building. We made a \$1.2M commitment in the form of a mortgage and personal loans from members. By the end of this fiscal year, our debt will be down to \$799,900. We use these funds for:



- ◆ timely payment on our financial obligations; and
- ◆ responsible management of internal loans.

Maintaining and Enhancing our Building and Grounds (\$69,788, 19%)



The physical infrastructure accounts for a sizeable part of the budget. These funds cover utilities, insurance, related costs for maintaining the facilities, and for grounds upkeep and enhancement. This part of the budget ensures that we have:

- ◆ a beautiful and welcoming space for worship and fellowship;
- ◆ functional space for programs that support our various ministries and provide space for community activities; and
- ◆ visual enrichment, beauty and joy from the outdoor environment.

Committing to Our Vision

Just like those who came before, we have a vision for the Unitarian Universalist Congregation.

The UUC will be a beacon of liberal religion in the New River Valley.

- We will join with other organizations and faiths to work for just causes.*
- We will practice generosity and radical hospitality.*
- We will be known as a place of beauty, welcome, joy, and celebration.*

We have the opportunity to show the courage and commitment exhibited in

- 1956, when seven families formed the Blacksburg Unitarian Fellowship,*
- 1967, when we built our first building,*
- 1992, 25 +1 years ago—when we built and moved into our building,*
- 2008, when we expanded to create a lower level and our beautiful sanctuary.*

What legacy will we leave to those who follow us? What will UUC look like in 10, 20, or 30 years? How will we have become a beacon of liberal religion in the New River Valley?

- Accessible spaces for all to enjoy worship and fellowship*
- Innovative use of technology to reach the new generations*
- Presence on the campus of Virginia Tech*
- Programming that brings new families, young adults and older generations together*
- Social action and social justice outreach that effects real change in the world*
- Community and interfaith partners that know that the people of UUC show up*

As you consider your pledge, think about how we want to be remembered in the years ahead, how we might fulfill or surpass our vision.

Guide to Suggested Annual Pledge:

We know that pledging is a personal decision. To help you determine how much you might pledge, the chart below shows a range of suggested pledge amounts based on the adjusted gross income of your household and your commitment to the values and ideals we share. We hope you will reflect thoughtfully on what you can contribute to the future of our congregation.

Your pledge may be paid in weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual installments by check, automatic credit card or bank debit.

Adjusted Annual Income*	Supporter 3% of income	Sustainer 5% of income	Visionary 8% of income
\$10,000	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$800.00
\$15,000	\$450.00	\$750.00	\$1,200.00
\$20,000	\$600.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,600.00
\$30,000	\$900.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,400.00
\$40,000	\$1,200.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,200.00
\$50,000	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$4,000.00
\$75,000	\$2,250.00	\$3,750.00	\$6,000.00
\$100,000	\$3,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$8,000.00
\$125,000	\$3,750.00	\$6,250.00	\$10,000.00
\$150,000	\$4,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$12,000.00
\$175,000	\$5,250.00	\$8,750.00	\$14,000.00
\$200,000	\$6,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$16,000.00
\$250,000	\$7,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$20,000.00

*Adjusted Annual Income: To calculate, take your annual income from all sources, and subtract any unusual expense (such as large medical bills, care of a parent or other large expense).