

Pledge Drive FAQ

What is the Pledge Drive?

UUCR receives no outside funding (with the notable exception of Federal COVID Relief funds this year) so it is up to all of us to provide the funds needed to pay the church's expenses and keep it strong. The Annual Pledge Drive is when all UUCR members and friends make a financial commitment, a "Pledge", to support the church financially for the coming year.

Why is it important?

The annual Pledge Drive is by far UUCR's largest source of income and provides the funds for our church's programming (both virtual and in-person) including the salaries of our dedicated staff and the upkeep of all the buildings on our campus.

But the pledge drive is about a whole lot more than just keeping the lights on. It's about making sure that this welcoming community of love and hope is here to nourish and support all of us, the communities we live in, and the world at large.

Who Should Pledge?

We ask that all members and friends of the church make an annual pledge - and almost everyone who regularly comes to UUCR does. If you have found inspiration, support, enrichment, and community at UUCR, please consider making a pledge.

Why should I pledge if I already contribute to the Weekly offering?

Contributions to the weekly offering (online or otherwise) are always welcome! But the money received in the collection plate isn't enough to cover our expenses. Plus, we now "Share the Plate" and give away half of the money received each Sunday to a worthy cause as one way of living out our mission statement.

How much should I pledge?

Great question! Pledging is a personal decision that we hope you make after reflecting on the importance of UUCR in your life.

Below is the UUA's "Suggested Fair Share Contribution Guide". By giving your Fair Share percentage, you'll know you are making a meaningful contribution regardless of the actual dollar amount.

Suggested Fair Share Contribution Guide

Adjusted Annual Income	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	Annual Pledge
\$30,000	2%	\$50	\$600
\$60,000	2% - 3%	\$100 - \$150	\$1,200 - \$1,800
\$90,000	3% - 4%	\$225 - \$300	\$2,700 - \$3,600
\$120,000	3% - 4%	\$300 - \$400	\$3,600 - \$4,800
\$180,000	4% - 5%	\$600 - \$750	\$7,200 - \$9,000
\$250,000	5% - 6%	\$1,000 - \$1,250	\$12,000 - \$15,000

We know that everyone's financial circumstances are different. We recognize and deeply respect the financial diversity of our congregation. So we invite you to participate at whatever level feels right for you. Every pledge – large or small – will be gratefully received.

If you are considering your first pledge to the church and need some help deciding where to start, one of our team members would be happy to talk with you. Please call the office at (781) 944-0494 to schedule a time.

How do I make a pledge?

Click [SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE](#) anytime to submit your pledge.

When do I pay my pledge?

Pledges made in March 2021 should be paid between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

What are my payment options?

Pledges are usually paid periodically throughout the year. (***Automatic weekly, monthly or quarterly payments are strongly preferred!***) Here are your payment options:

Online through your bank's "Bill Pay" feature

- Set up "Bill Pay" to automatically send payment to: UUCR, 239 Woburn St, Reading MA 01867
- Please write "PLEDGE" in the Account Number or Memo field

Online through UUCR's website

- Click [DONATE NOW](#) to donate via your bank account or credit card.

By check

- Please write "PLEDGE" in the memo field
- Mail check to: UUCR, 239 Woburn St, Reading MA 01867
- Once we begin having in-person services again, checks can also be put in the collection plate

With appreciated stock.

- Please email our [Gift Coordinator](#) for instructions on how to donate stock.

What if I can't meet my pledge?

This year has taught us that anything can happen during the course of the year: job loss, illness, unexpected major expenses, etc. If you find you can't meet your pledge or part of your pledge, please inform the Office to adjust your pledge amount in confidence.

Please also contact Rev. Hank or the Pastoral Care team if you are in need of care and support.

Don't let financial hardship keep you away from UUCR. You are an important part of our church community. We are all here for each other through good times and bad.