



2026 Pledge Drive “Guided by Love – Growing in Hope”

Dear Members and Friends,

What an amazing year we've had! While things haven't always gone according to plan, we've met each challenge with creativity and determination. **We have much to celebrate.**

Our Sunday services have been excellent, led by a dedicated team of guest ministers who have delivered thought-provoking and inspiring sermons. As always, our Choir, Worship Associates, and Tech Team have done a phenomenal job.

We are especially excited to have welcomed **13 new members** this past year, as well as many new friends who now join us regularly. Their energy has enriched our congregation.

We are actively interviewing for a **Developmental Minister** who can help us achieve our thoughtfully developed congregational goals.

We welcomed a new **Executive Director, Ayanna Hines**, and a new **Office Administrator, Kerri Sullivan**. We are now making full use of Sawyer, and Loring is generating significant rental income. Plus, our fundraisers reached record-breaking levels.

Melissa Martin has expanded her role to lead the Pastoral Care Team, and Reverend Wendy Page has joined us as our Interim Pastoral Care Minister. The Pastoral Care Team ensures that no one has to walk alone during times of personal challenge.

Our **brand-new heating system** will reduce our carbon footprint and lower costs. The new system also has air conditioning which provides opportunities to expand our summer rentals.

The congregation is actively living out our mission. Our revitalized Social Justice team, Love is a Verb, is very active and engaged. We joined other UU congregations to work on immigration, climate change, and housing. And the Bread and Roses support team, Share the Plate, and Undecorate the Tree support our broader community.

During these challenging political times, many members have participated in pro-democracy and anti-authoritarian efforts, including voter registration postcard campaigns, attending protest marches, rallies, and weekly standouts throughout the region.

Chalice Circles, Buddhist Meditation, Liberal Ladies, the Men's Group, Folk Dancing, Rise Up Singing, Social Crafty Drop-In, and Quilters, continue to nurture us.

In short, UUCR is an active, engaged, vibrant congregation. Our future is bright!

Our 2026 Pledge Drive

We've chosen "Guided by Love – Growing in Hope" as our theme this year. **Pledges are by far our largest source of income. Your support is needed to help sustain our mission.**

Our goal this year is to raise \$365,000. That's what we need to balance the FY27 budget. It's a 6% increase over last year and will allow us to maintain a strong financial footing as we prepare for increased expenses related to hiring a new minister, rising maintenance and upkeep costs, and inflation.

To reach our goal, we ask *everyone* - members and friends alike - to make a pledge.

- If you already make a pledge, please consider increasing it by **6-10%, or more if you are able**, to help us reach our goal.
- If that's not possible, please consider a **3–5% increase** to help keep pace with inflation. For a \$2,700 annual pledge, that's just \$75–\$150 more per year - or about \$6–\$12 per month.
- **If you haven't started pledging yet, now would be a great time to begin!** Knowing how much you plan to contribute during the coming year helps us plan responsibly for the future.

Please submit your pledge by **Commitment Sunday, March 22**. You can [**SUBMIT YOUR PLEDGE**](#) online any time. Every pledge, large and small, truly makes an impact and is deeply appreciated. For more information about pledging please see our Pledge Drive FAQ.

UUCR brings together people of all ages, backgrounds, and beliefs. Caring for one another - and for the wider community - is at the heart of everything we do. Your pledge helps to strengthen our community and enables us to work for more love and more justice in the world.

Thank you. We are grateful for your generosity!

A.J. Heidkamp (Chair), Ryan Sillers, and Sherry Cook
2026 Pledge Drive Team