

Healing in Community
Stewardship of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Michigan
For 2022-2023

It's been a hard year for many of us. In spiritual community, we offer one another solace and support. We seek healing by sharing of our sorrows and opening our hearts to others.

But this year, it's been a special challenge to make these healing connections. We've all been living under the threat of the pandemic. We all have been hurt—in different ways and to different degrees.

Visiting the virtual services of other churches, seeing how they are managing, my impression is that our pandemic services have been quite rich by comparison. There is a wonderful sense that we truly *see* each other. We truly seek to connect.

We have been most often seeing each other as images on a screen. But with warmer weather and the pandemic seeming to recede, I am hopeful that we will soon be free to gather in the same *physical* room.

Our fellowship is extraordinary in that we have GROWN during the pandemic, adding many new members. As a result, many of us will be meeting face-to-face for the first time. Let's set our intention to be welcoming to all, and especially to those who are new.

Remember: This healing community is something that we, and *only* we, create together. Together, we are guided by love as we work to transform ourselves and our world. As Drew says, *we take what we need and give all that we can*. So . . . if UUFCM is good for you and if you value what it gives others, reflect on what support you can give the community during this coming year.

Review the proposed budget (which has not increased this year), listen to testimonials and sermons about stewardship, and consider *your* role in our fellowship. How do you share your resources of time, talent, and treasure with the UUFCM? Are you ready to challenge yourself in a new direction in the fellowship? Take on a leadership role? Serve on a team? Assist with Sunday services? Consider increasing your pledge this year? Attend membership classes? Join UUFCM and make your first official pledge?

By the beginning of April, pledge material will be available online at uufcm.org, via a link from our e-News, and in hard copy at the Fellowship. Included are:

- 2022-2023 proposed UUFCM budget (July 1-June 30)
- Pledge Card 2022-2023 Fiscal Year
- Individual Volunteer Form

By Sunday April 17, or any time before that, make your pledge online at uufcm.org/ways-to-contribute.

Or, you may mail your pledge to Treasurer Terrie Robbie at P. O. Box 41, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804; or email it to her at: trobbe1@gmail.com

Or give your pledge, in an envelope, to Treasurer Terrie Robbie or any member of our Stewardship Committee: Stacey Pattison, Norma Bailey, Guy Newland, Drew Frantz, and Matt Emerick.

No matter how you make your pledge, don't worry: the Treasurer holds this information very discreetly. There are never rumors about who is pledging what.

In joyful service,

Guy Newland, Past-President

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 - 2023

| Expense Category | 2021-22 Budget | Proposed 2022-23 Budget |
|--|--|---|
| Accounting and Bank Fees | \$900 | \$900 |
| Assessment Special Tax | \$750 | \$0 |
| Building Costs | \$14,500 | \$14,500 |
| Child Care | \$1,700 | \$1700 |
| Communications | \$5,000 | \$515 |
| Copies and Postage | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| Fair Share Payments | \$5,000 | \$5,357 |
| Insurance | \$2,500 | \$3,000 |
| Minister Base Salary | \$60,465.00 | \$62,278.95 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Lieu of FICA • Health Care Plan • Retirement • Disability/Group Term Life Insurance • Professional Expenses Allowance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4,625.57 \$9,594.72 \$6,046.50 \$1,293.96 \$6,046.50 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4,764.34 \$10,788.77 \$6,227.90 \$1,332.77 6,227.90 |
| Music | \$600 | \$300 |
| Religious Education Expenses | \$900 | \$900 |
| Religious Education Director | \$6,000 | \$6,300 |
| Secretarial | \$7,500 | \$7,500 |
| Supplies and Miscellaneous | \$3,000 | \$3,000 |
| Leadership Development | \$200 | \$200 |
| Minister's Discretionary Expense | \$500 | \$500 |
| Endowment Contribution | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Total | \$139,008 | \$138,793 |

Key to Each of the Categories

Accounting and Bank Fees: Pays for checks, bank fees, Vanco fees (on-line), and accountant services.

Assessment Special Tax: Tax that is being assessed by the city for businesses in the downtown area. No longer necessary.

Building Costs: Pays for utilities, repairs, maintenance, improvements, cleaning, snow removal, lawn mowing, etc.

Child Care: Pays for weekly services and special events

Communications: Cost of new Website, Zoom Services, Vimeo, MailChimp, and Web Domain

Copies and Postage: Pays for stamps, post office box rental, copying orders of service, directories, annual reports, music, and other documents.

Fair Share Payments: Payments to the UUA and MidAmerica Region

Insurance: Pays for building, liability and workman's compensation

Minister: Pays for salary, benefits, and ministerial expenses

Music: Pays for substitute pianists, hymnals, music purchases, and piano tuning

Religious Education Expenses: Pays for fees and expenses for OWL Training, education materials, snacks for special occasions, decorations, and craft items

Religious Education Director: Pays for a ¼ time RE Director

Secretarial: Pays for contracted administrative assistant

Supplies & Maintenance: Pays for food & drink items; kitchen, building, and bathroom supplies; worship supplies; office supplies; etc.

Leadership Development: Pays for expenses at UUA and MidAmerica Regional Conferences

Minister's Discretionary Expense: Provides seed money for the minister to provide monetary aid for those who ask for help

Endowment Contribution: Our yearly contribution to our Endowment Fund

Giving Guidance

If you are new to pledging, it might be useful to have a sense of what others contribute to make this community work. Individual pledges are confidential information. For last year's pledges, the general picture is:

- 3 households pledged \$10,000 or more, for a total of 39% of our budget
- 17 households pledged at least \$2000 but less than \$10,000, for a total just over 42% of our budget
- 17 households pledged at least \$1000 but less than \$2000, for a total just over 11% of our budget
- 18 households pledged less than \$1000, for a total of 7.5% of our budget
- People fulfill their pledges in a variety of ways—by donating monthly, weekly, or all at once—between July 1 and June 30.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Michigan

Volunteer Opportunities

One of the missions of our congregation is serve our members and the community at large. We realize that life can get extremely busy and it is often challenging for individuals to find time and energy to volunteer. But we know it is in giving that we are receiving new energy and joy.

Name(s):

Phone(s):

Email(s): _____

Please specify which ones you might enjoy doing (a or b or c, etc.). If partners sign up together, initial which one is interested in what service opportunity.

- _____ **Hospitality:** a. greeter, b. pre-service set-up, c. cleanup after the coffee hour.
- _____ **Worship Associate:** a. setting up sanctuary, b. participating in Sunday service,
c. technical support for Zoom (spotlighting, screen sharing, recording, etc.).
- _____ **Caring for others:** a. make phone calls (texts), b. send cards,
c. provide transportation, d. make meals, e. visit the ill/shut-ins.
- _____ **Membership:** a. communicate with members and friends, b. write welcome letters.
- _____ **Religious Education:** a. teaching, b. assisting with children, c. RE for adults
- _____ **Music:** a. singing in choir, b. playing an instrument.
- _____ **Building/Grounds/Safety:** a. spring/fall cleaning, b. plant flowers,
c. maintenance (i.e., check fire alarms, replace furnace filters, etc.),
d. construction
- _____ **Communication:** a. website. b. social media, c. design brochures/flyers,
d. design graphics. e. public relations.
- _____ **Social Justice:** a. environment, b. women's rights, c. voting rights,
d. LGBTQ rights, e. Racial justice.
- _____ **Social fun:** a. help organize social events, b. help with fundraising.

Please turn in no later than April 17

To our Treasurer, Terrie Robbie, UUFCM, P.O. Box 41, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0041
Or Pledge online via <https://www.uufcm.org/ways-to-contribute.html>

Thank you for sharing your gifts of time and talent!

Pledge Form

2022–2023 Fiscal Year (July 1–June 30)

In support of the mission of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Central Michigan and in recognition of giving as a spiritual practice, I/we make this pledge of financial support for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

My annual pledge for 2022–2023 is: _____

Name(s): _____

Signature(s): _____

Date: _____

A statement of your donations is provided annually for tax purposes.

Thank for your generosity and dedication to our fellowship.

May we continue to grow and thrive!