



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

CONGREGATION OF FREDERICK
Spirituality · Community · Justice

March 1, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of UUCF,

The past year of pandemic and physical distancing has been difficult for everyone. We invite you to **remember** times when UUCF's online programming has made you feel supported, energized, or grateful. Perhaps a thought-provoking sermon comes to mind or a moving song from our many talented musicians. Or is it a Religious Education class, small group, or "UU the Vote" event that has helped you continue to grow spiritually, connect with beloved community, or act for peace and justice?

March is Stewardship Month at UUCF, an annual opportunity to **reflect** on the experiences that our congregation offers to you and others, and discern the level of support you feel led to offer. Our theme this year is "Sustaining the Light" because—in ways we could not previously have imagined—we have *sustained the light* for one another during one of the most difficult and chaotic periods in living memory. As we reaffirm each Sunday morning during our Chalice Lighting and Extinguishing: "*The chalice is lit here,*" and "*I carry the flame.*"

As we enthusiastically anticipate gathering again in our beautiful building, we hope you feel moved and able to **raise** your level of giving to UUCF. With your support we hope to:

- **Install new equipment to livestream our Sunday Service** after the pandemic, as well as offer various digital and hybrid Religious Education opportunities.
- **Continue building a diverse multicultural beloved community** by implementing recommendations from the Unitarian Universalist Association's recent report "[Widening the Circle of Concern](#)."
- **Increase UUCF staff salaries to the mid-level of UUA's Fair Compensation Guidelines.** All UUCF staff are currently paid above the minimum, "entry-level" of Fair Compensation, but there remains a gap of ~\$20,000 annually to

4880 Elmer Derr Road, Frederick, Maryland 21703
301-473-7680 · office@frederickuu.org · frederickuu.org

compensate all UUCF Staff at the mid-level, which would be more commensurate with their levels of skill and experience.

Our ability to achieve these goals and some additional ones, like putting aside funds for replacing our roof and repairing our sprinkler system, depends on your support.

A pledge of support now allows us to plan a responsible budget:

- If you have a current pledge and wish to maintain your current pledge level, you do not need to submit a form: ***“Your pledge is your pledge until you tell us otherwise.”***
- If you would like to increase your pledge, decrease your pledge, or make a first-time pledge, you can make a pledge online anytime at frederickuu.org/pledge.

We invite you to give generously, at whatever level feels right to you, in this season of your life. Each pledge makes a difference in what we can accomplish together.

The [“UUA Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide”](#) and [“UUCF Transparent Generosity Chart”](#) provide frameworks that may be helpful in your discernment of how much to give.

If it would be the right fit for you, we also encourage you to **consider signing up for regular electronic giving through frederickuu.org/give**. You can join more than 100 households who already make a recurring electronic donation to UUCF, which helps provide a steady base of support for our mission.

Please also **save the date** for our annual “Celebrate UUCF” event on Saturday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. (The link will be available on the UUCF homepage, frederickuu.org, a week in advance.)

Thank you for your generous and consistent contributions through these challenging times. If you have any questions about your current pledge or to request help setting up a recurring electronic giving you can email UUCF’s Treasurer, Jeff Wilson, at treasurer@frederickuu.org or call 301-473-7680.

In service,

Your UUCF Stewardship Team

Bill Cranmer (chair), Steve Ramberg, Intern Minister Jen, and Rev. Carl