

LIVING OUR GENEROSITY

Our theme for the Stewardship campaign, “**Living our Generosity**”, explicitly reminds us that our congregation at First Ottawa actively demonstrates generosity in all its forms. We fully recognize that **we are all stewards.**

We each enrich our own lives through exercising our generosity in supporting the liberal religious values and thought within our community, and living our commitment to the principle of inclusiveness.

Our **primary goal** for the campaign is not just to meet our basic financial needs but to exceed them by **10%**. These needs are expressed in terms of the Programs and Services that provide value and meaning to you.

VISION: Our recent ‘Building our Community’ exercise emphasized the desire of our congregants for increased multi-generational growth of our community through support of our Programs, Social Responsibility activities and by building upon our Communications and Outreach.

Exceeding our base budget projection by 10% will allow us to deliver on this vision.

Our **second goal** for this campaign is **100% participation**. We urge everyone to make a pledge regardless of the amount. Each pledge gives value to what we do as a congregation.

We ask that each of our congregants consider the importance of their involvement in our faith community and help us meet our ambitious goals by **pledging a little more and promptly**. We encourage you to **make your pledge at the November 27th service** to help build momentum towards reaching our Campaign goals and achieving our Vision.

What Should I Give?

Many people wonder just what a fair share to give to the church is. The answer is very much a personal decision based on one’s circumstances, but it might be helpful to consider what others are doing.

Some Metrics: The average 2016 Pledge amount was **\$1,580** provided by **257 Pledges** from **328 individuals**. That average pledge amounts to just \$4.34 /day. The **current Member count is 393**, while the **ACTIVE (contributing) Non-Member count is 82. That’s a participation rate of 69%**

Just imagine - we could easily achieve both our campaign goals if all 3 conditions below are met:

- Those that pledged & contributed last year at or above the average 2016 Pledge amount above give just \$10/month (**33 cents/day**) more
- Those that did pledge and contributed last year less than the average 2016 Pledge amount above, would move closer to that average Pledge amount by increasing their Pledge by \$20/month (**66 cents/day**)
- Those that didn’t pledge and give last year initiate giving with a Pledge of just **\$1 per day** (that’s \$365 per year) **or more**.

How Do I Make My Pledge?

You can make your pledge in several ways:

- **E-mail.** Put your name, pledge amount and payment method info in an e-mail message to: **stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca**
- **Annual Pledge Form.** Complete the form. Fold and seal it and put the form in the “**Living our Generosity**” box in Worship Hall on Sundays or in the office during the week.
- **Credit Card (through Canada Helps).**
 - Go to **firstUnitarianOttawa.ca**
 - Click on the blue “**Donate Now through CanadaHelps.org**” button
 - Complete the form.
- **Phone.** Yes, you can even make your pledge by phoning the office; 613-725-1066. *If you’ll be away, please pledge early.*

If you miss the campaign, remember it’s never too late to make your pledge.

Preferred Pledge Payment Method (See Pledge Form)

The preferred Pledge payment method is via **Pre-Authorized Cheques (PAC)** [monthly/b-monthly] since it is deemed more manageable for the Pledger’s personal finances, and it provides a more predictable revenue source for the Board to manage its delivery of our valued Programs and Services.

2017
ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

2017 Stewardship Pledge Campaign

Living our Generosity

First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa



Why Do We Give?

As a congregation We;

- Are free to search for truth on many paths
- Celebrate our seven principles
- Change lives for the better
- Find inspiration and stimulation
- Make and listen to joyful, soulful music
- Encourage young people to grow spiritually and intellectually
- Take actions to improve our society

How does Giving Help?

Just Some Examples

Music Program

- Chalice Choir Accompanist \$2500 per year

Social Responsibility Allocation

- \$500 allows us minimal support for one UN refugee for one month
- \$100 allows us to assist one youth attending the spring UU United Nations Office (UNO) conference
- \$350 allows us to provide an annual per-member subscription to Just News

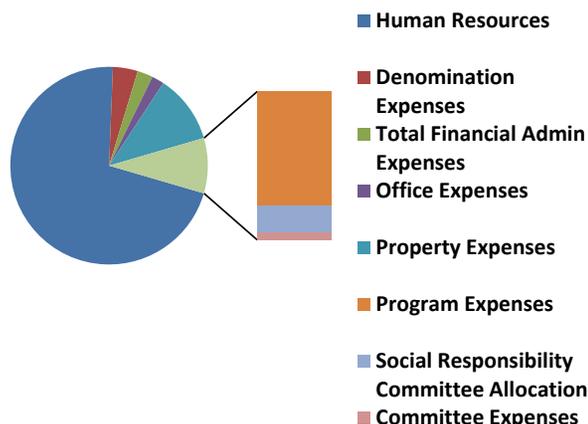
Lifespan Learning

- \$300 allows us a license to hold (certain) movie screening
- \$200 to set up an MP3 library for multimedia resources (such as podcasts, and audiobooks)

How is the Money to be spent?

Note: Our valued Programs & Services can only exist and thrive if the other infrastructure & resources expenses are covered by our pledges & respective contributions.

FUCO 2017 Budget - Expenses



How Your Annual Pledge Costs You Less than You Think!

For example, if you can afford and plan to give \$1,200 over the year, please make your pledge for \$1,938 (Ontario) or \$2,477 (Quebec). You will get the difference back when you file your income tax.

Here are some other examples:

| If you plan to give this amount, ↓ | please pledge this amount ↓ since you will get back the difference on your income taxes!* | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------|
| | Ontario | Quebec |
| 600 | 936 | 1200 |
| 1,200 | 1938 | 2477 |
| 2,400 | 3945 | 5030 |
| 3,600 | 5950 | 7583 |

Special case effective 2013 to 2017

IF you have NOT claimed a charitable deduction in the previous 5 years, you may now claim an additional 25% on the first \$1000. So, for a \$2000 pledge, the real cost after taxes would be only \$987 (ON) or \$726 (QC).

*See the official calculators at:

<http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/chrts-gvng/dnrs/svngs/clmng1b2-eng.html>

Legacy Giving

Although not part of our annual pledge campaign, Legacy Giving is extremely important to our congregation.

Legacy Giving, whereby you designate the church as a beneficiary of your will, is one way of ensuring that the programs and good works being done by the Congregation will continue beyond your lifetime. Please contact **Maury Prevost**, if you would like to further your understanding of this way of giving, including some tax implications.