

# First Unitarian Congregation of Ottawa

## Growing our Generosity

### Pledge Campaign 2021

Dear Congregant,

We are in interesting and challenging times, physically isolated for the most part due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and separated from what we're previously been able to do. This reality has caused us each to change both our habits as well as our perspective on life's matters, reminding us of both life's fragility and its resilience.

Although the FirstU site is physically shutdown, we as congregants have been connecting by phone and electronically on perhaps a more personal and intimate manner than often occurs in the after physical Services coffee hour gathering.

There are some reports that 'Zoomitis' may be spreading in the congregation, so some 'remedial' Zoom sessions may become necessary!

More on purpose with this letter, we thank you for your ongoing support of FirstU, particularly in these times. That support allows us to carry on with keeping our community connected in innovative ways as well as supporting external communities and organizations. ***Growing our Generosity*** in all its forms is an ongoing Stewardship focus.

Specifically, you have contributed financially to FirstU for over << x >> years. Thank you for your commitment. It is truly appreciated. Your financial support is essential for us to collectively apply our principles and values towards meeting our mission through engaging our community to action (***compassion to action***).

Clearly we are in adaptation mode. We look forward to 2021 with hopeful anticipation and focused actions to capture and implement our adaptation plans as we move towards an improved direction forward together.

This mailing package includes (all available at <https://tinyurl.com/Publications-2021-P-C>):

- This Letter
- The 2021 Pledge Campaign brochure – explaining what it is about
- The 2021 Pledge Form –available in fillable form on the Web Site
- The Legacy Giving Brochure
- Spire 2020-Spring article on ***Improving FirstU's Multi-Generational Profile (MGP)***

We ask now for your 2021 Pledge to help us with moving forward to our new and improved reality. Any financial pledge for 2021 that fits your financial circumstances is gratefully received and helps our Board and staff budget and plan for the upcoming year. Please consider that our costs rise yearly at least by the Cost of Living (COL 2.6%).

As part of our Pledge Campaign adaptations, there are now three ways to complete and submit your Pledge Form:

- a) Clearly Fill out the enclosed Pledge Form by hand, take a picture of it, and email that photo to [stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca)
- b) Use the Web Site link to download the 2021 Pledge Form document, fill it in (fillable fields), save it, and email it to [stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca)
- c) Clearly Fill out the enclosed Pledge Form by hand, and postal mail it to **Stewardship c/o FirstU Finance Manager** (at 30 Cleary Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4A1)

Additionally on the Pledge Form, please provide per person Birth Year and Birth Month in support of the congregation's directive to the Board to improve FirstU's Multi-Generational Profile (MGP). See the SPIRE 2020 Spring Issue, Pages 6-7 for a complete explanation.

Please note that the **preferred and safest** method to submit your completed Pledge Form is using either a) or b) above.

**Legacy Giving** is a longer term method of showing your support and commitment to FirstU. We cannot reliably predict our own future, so advance planning is a meaningful way and critical element to explicitly express and implement your wishes. We encourage you to contact Maury Prevost ([613-298-2472](tel:613-298-2472), [mmprevost@sympatico.ca](mailto:mmprevost@sympatico.ca)) to find out more about Legacy Giving. Recently, Stewardship has recently provided two Legacy Giving related advanced planning seminars as education events. More or similar events are being planned for 2020 and 2021.

In closing, our Principles lead us to walk the talk. Thank you for joining us in ***Growing our Generosity*** together.

Kind Regards,

*Larry*

Larry F. Jones

2021 Pledge Campaign Project Manager

Stewardship Committee Chair