

## What is the Pledge Campaign?

The Pledge Campaign predicts the **main source of operating revenue** for our “FirstU” congregation and helps us in our budgeting. This year’s campaign, held through October and November, will identify your intended financial commitment throughout 2023 to support FirstU’s operations, resources, and programs.



*Our new Settled Minister Eric Meter with his partner Ann de Leon*

## Why do we give?

The FirstU community shows its generosity in many ways: with its time, with its compassion, with its ideas, and with its spirit. But we also need to follow through with financial generosity to allow FirstU to achieve its aspirations: liberal religious exploration, social justice and building community.

The title of this year’s campaign, **Being Generously Grateful**, is meant to recognize how fortunate we are to have this faith community during good times and the not so good times. We have come through a stressful year dealing with the Covid-19 virus and yet we have shown our resilience and determination by maintaining a healthy faith community albeit a socially distanced one. We continued our Sunday services and we even held successful Zoom coffee hours. As we continued our three-year social justice focus on environmental action, we initiated a feasibility study on affordable housing development on our campus, and we have been working with Indigenous partners to fulfill the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

**And, we are most grateful to welcome Rev. Eric Meter, our new settled Minister, and a much-desired stability to our ministry.**

With this campaign, we ask you to pledge your financial support for the year 2023, so that we may continue to live our Principles by:

- ✚ Welcoming newcomers regardless of age, faith, ethnicity, orientation, or identity
- ✚ Demonstrating our commitment to Embracing Diversity in all its wonderful forms
- ✚ Developing a thriving, growing community that meets the spiritual needs of existing members and newcomers
- ✚ Supporting our music and ministries that inspire us week after week and feed our soul

## When and how do I give?

### How to donate...

For your own budgeting, you may prefer regular monthly donations. We encourage this as it helps with maintaining FirstU’s budget too!

Regular monthly donations can be made via Pre-Authorized Chequing (PAC), by Credit Card or monthly post-dated cheques.

Alternatively, we also accept donations through e-transfers, identified envelopes at Sunday services, and publicly traded shares.

### When to donate...

However, you choose to financially support FirstU, it is required that donations for the 2023 Pledge Campaign be post-dated for 2023. We encourage donations at any time, and all donations are receipted in the year in which they are received.

Contact Michelle Jackson by email at [fm@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:fm@firstunitarianottawa.ca) or call 343-987-8560 to set up a payment plan that suits your needs.



*Generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion and loving-kindness.*  
~The Dalai Lama XIV

### Who should give?

To all of us who benefit from the FirstU community, we are all stewards. Pledgers commit to the financial sustainability of FirstU.

If you are part of the FirstU community, but not yet a member, you can contact the Welcome & Membership Team to find out more about the benefits of a stronger connection that membership brings.

### Contact Us

Michelle Jackson, Finance & HR Manager  
343-987-8560  
[fm@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:fm@firstunitarianottawa.ca)  
**Pledge Campaign Leader(s) Email:**  
[stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca)

### See 2023 PC Publications at

<https://tinyurl.com/2023-PC-Publications>

**Web Site:** [www.firstunitarianottawa.ca](http://www.firstunitarianottawa.ca)

 [/First-Unitarian-Congregation-of-Ottawa](https://www.facebook.com/First-Unitarian-Congregation-of-Ottawa)

 [@UUOttawa](https://twitter.com/UUOttawa)



### How much should I give?

#### Being Generously Grateful

How much to give depends on your personal situation. If you would like some guidance, please contact [stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca](mailto:stewardship@firstunitarianottawa.ca)

#### Remember what you get back

Charitable donations result in a tax credit when filing your income taxes. Sample credits for a taxable \$40K income in Ontario are shown below.  
*CRA Charitable donations Calculator*

Monthly	Annually	Tax credit
\$50	\$600	+\$200.74
\$100	\$1200	+\$441.74
\$200	\$2400	+\$923.62
\$300	\$3600	+\$1405.54

#### Consider increasing your PAC

If you are already donating by PAC, we thank you for your steadfast commitment. This campaign is an ideal time to consider increasing your monthly donation for the start of 2023.

A Pledge Form is included with your mailed package and is also available at the 2023 PC Publications link that fully explains the Pledging & Contribution Method options.



**FIRST UNITARIAN  
CONGREGATION OF OTTAWA**

**THE ANNUAL  
PLEDGE  
CAMPAIGN  
2023**



*Being Generously Grateful*