

# A Place to Be Your Best Self . . .

Every spring, we here at UUCC undertake our annual task of developing a new budget for the next fiscal cycle. This year, as we plan our future, we must keep in mind not only the challenges that lie ahead but also the unique qualities that draw us to this special place. For we are, indeed, a garden of hope and goodwill in a larger environment that is sometimes harsh and unwelcoming.

Here, we are bound together by principles that uphold truth, justice and equality and that uplift us all. Here, we welcome those who seek understanding and spiritual comfort no matter where that path takes them. Here, we rejoice in our diversity and learn from one another. Here, we are comfortable

expressing our feelings and working together for a more equitable society.

## Our Challenge for 2016

For the past several months, we have been fortunate to have a wonderful interim minister who provides leadership and inspiration to us on a daily basis. In the coming year, however, our congregation will begin the work of finding a new minister. This important project will require a substantial financial investment as well a dedicated committee who will devote much time and energy to their task. At the same time, the daily activities that draw us here and keep us together must continue.

The people who give their time, talent and resources to this church are the reason we accomplish so much

both within and outside our walls. Together, we work to better our community and ourselves. Your support gives us a place to gather for Sunday services and weekday activities.

## Something to Think About

When you consider your pledge this year, think about what this congregation has meant to you in the past and about how important it will be to you, your family and this community in the future.

Here, we thrive in the bright glow of reason, tolerance and friendship. Here is a place where we can grow spiritually and intellectually, where we can be proud of our hopes and dreams, where hearts and minds are always open.

Here is a place where we can be our best selves.

### Our Canvass Goal

Our 2016 budget goal is \$275,000. Pledges make up the great majority of our annual income and are the foundation of budget planning for the coming year. Please do your part by completing your pledge card and returning it promptly.

### Canvass Schedule

- Feb. 28 . . . . . Pledge Sunday Kickoff
- Mar. 22 . . . . . 90% of pledges in hand
- April 1 . . . . . Budget first draft written
- April 13 . . . . . Budget report to board
- May 7 . . . . . Final budget prepared
- May 22 . . . . . Budget presented to congregation

## UUCC Giving Guide Based on UUA Guidelines

	Supporter			Sustainer			Visionary			Full Tithe		
	% of Income	Monthly	Annual									
\$10,000	2%	\$16	\$200	2%	\$17	\$200	5%	\$42	\$500	10%	\$83	\$1,000
\$25,000	2%	\$42	\$500	3%	\$63	\$750	5%	\$104	\$1,250	10%	\$208	\$2,500
\$50,000	3%	\$125	\$1,500	4%	\$167	\$2,000	5%	\$208	\$2,500	10%	\$417	\$5,000
\$75,000	3%	\$188	\$2,250	4.5%	\$281	\$3,375	6%	\$375	\$4,500	10%	\$625	\$7,500
\$100,000	3.5%	\$292	\$3,500	5%	\$417	\$5,000	6.5%	\$542	\$6,500	10%	\$833	\$10,000
\$150,000	3.5%	\$438	\$5,250	5%	\$625	\$7,500	6.5%	\$813	\$9,750	10%	\$1,250	\$15,000
\$200,000	4%	\$667	\$8,000	5.5%	\$917	\$11,000	7%	\$1,167	\$14,000	10%	\$1,667	\$20,000
\$300,000	5%	\$1,250	\$15,000	6%	\$1,500	\$18,000	8%	\$2,000	\$24,000	10%	\$2,500	\$30,000
\$400,000	6%	\$2,000	\$24,000	7%	\$2,333	\$28,000	8.5%	\$2,833	\$34,000	10%	\$3,333	\$40,000
\$500,000	7%	\$2,917	\$35,000	8%	\$3,333	\$40,000	9%	\$3,750	\$45,000	10%	\$4,167	\$50,000

## Message from Finance Chair

In my understanding, the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia has two main purposes: to make the world a better place and to make ourselves better people.

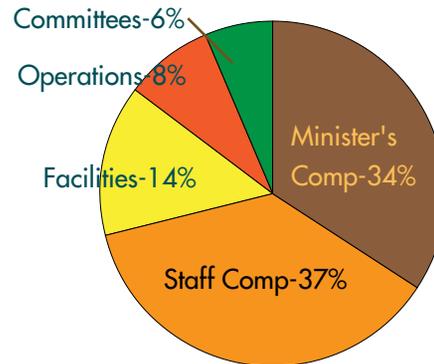
It is not about money. However, money lets us do all the things that go toward making the world a better place and making ourselves better people. It allows us pay someone to take the time to study, and reflect and bring back to us what she's discovered, not as something we're obligated to believe, but as something worth considering. It allows us to pay someone to organize basically the same thing for our young people: ideas worth considering, that many of us wish we'd heard when we were their ages. It pays for the space we use to meet, so we can configure it as we wish, and much else.

Money is the means to all these ends, and how much we have determines how much we can do. This year, we will have an unusual expense for an activity that will influence the congregation's life for years into the future, about \$10,000 toward our search for a new settled minister.

Won't you please be generous in your support of UUCC?

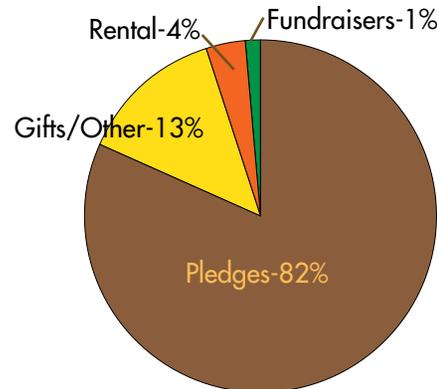
~ Joe Long, Chair, Finance Committee

## Where does your pledge go?



*A breakdown of anticipated UUCC expenses during the 2016-17 budget year.*

## Sources of funding



Unitarian  
Universalist  
Congregation of Columbia

2701 Heyward St.  
Columbia, SC  
[www.uucolumbia.org](http://www.uucolumbia.org)

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Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Columbia

Annual Canvass  
2016-17