



2026 Annual Pledge Drive

UU Unitarian Universalism matters to so many! UU Schenectady is a congregation where we build beloved community, honor diversity, work together for justice, strive towards equity, respect pluralism, are open to transformation, practice generosity, and recognize our interdependence — all with Love at the Center.

In this Stewardship Season, we have an opportunity to **Hold On** to our values, and to UUSS. To do so, we will need to **Dig Deep** into love and into what we have to give financially. For we, the people who care about the UU Society of Schenectady, are the only means by which our congregation survives and thrives.

Our Board has determined we need pledges of at least \$495,000 to sustain our spiritual home. We can achieve this if EVERYONE promises to give what they can in 2026-27. Will you make your first pledge? Will you consider increasing last year's pledge? Turn this page over to learn more about this year's campaign. If finances are too tight to pledge this year, contact the co-ministers to request a waiver. There are many ways to **Rise Up** and to be a vital part of this congregation. We will do great things **Together!**





We are so GRATEFUL to everyone who made a stretch pledge to get up to a new group in last year's campaign!

Take a moment and consider what this congregation means *not only to you but also to others*. What would feel really good to give each week or each month to support UUSS as we consider the next 125 years? We need your generosity to be as magnificent and as heartfelt as it can be. Our goal is \$495,000. **We can do this together!**

<h3>How much should I pledge?</h3> <p>This chart is one way to think about your answer.</p> <p>A "pledging unit" is an individual or household who has promised to support our congregation financially. Consider what would feel really good to give.</p> <p><i>Do a little math. Consider an amount per week (x52) or per month (x12).</i></p>		Actual 2025-26 Pledges <i>per Pledging Unit</i> 173 pledging units pledged a total of \$475,586 for the current church year.	Target 2026-27 Pledges What can you pledge to support our Mission & help our congregation thrive ? If you aren't able to move up now, can you set a multi-year goal to achieve this?
 Red	If you have a job that pays well, a good pension, or income-producing assets, you may be able to pledge Red. Perhaps your mortgage is paid off, your kids are launched, and you now have the pleasure of supporting your spiritual home in this way. Red households currently pledge \$9,000 to \$33,000 .	8 Red group units pledged \$9,000 to \$33,000 Total: \$148,127	We are grateful to those who are able to continue or increase to a Red group pledge for UUSS. We encourage at least 4 Magenta pledging units to join those who are pledging and contributing Red. It would make a huge difference!
 Magenta	Magenta is like red, only a little bluer. Magenta means you generally have enough money to meet your needs. You may have kids in college or other obligations that reduce your discretionary income. Magenta households currently pledge \$4,000 - \$8,900 .	28 Magenta group units pledged \$4,000 - \$8,900 Total: \$ 146,164	We are grateful to those who continue a Magenta group pledge! We encourage Magenta folks to raise their pledge at least 6%, if possible. If your financial picture allows it, could you stretch even more and join Red?
 Purple	Purple is a beautiful and mysterious color. Purple may be living on a fixed income or maybe you have income that is up one year and down the next. Purple households currently pledge \$2,000 to \$3,900 .	44 Purple group units pledged \$2,000 to \$3,900 Total: \$111,650	We are grateful to those who are able to continue a Purple pledge, and we hope some Purple pledgers will be able to make 10% increases or more. Raising your pledge helps us move towards our stewardship goal.
 Blue	Blue may live modestly, be paying for daycare, or helping other family members. Blue households currently pledge \$950 to \$1,900 . Some Purple or Magenta households may pledge Bluish — can you consider an increase?	38 Blue group units pledged \$950 to \$1,900 Total: \$47,225	If you are giving what you can, we are grateful. And if you can stretch 12-15% or more to a larger pledge, especially at such an important time in the life of the congregation, UUSS would move towards more sustainability.
 Green	Green does not have a lot of money to spare. Green may be living on a very limited income and/or paying off significant loans or medical debt. We honor that some of you may be giving all you can financially. Green households currently pledge \$100 to \$850 .	55 Green group units pledged \$100 to \$850 Total: \$22,420	Having almost a third of our pledging units here is not sustainable. If you could make a larger pledge, please do! It would be significant to have at least 15 Green pledging units move up to Blue. If you are giving what you can, we are grateful and hope you can continue.