



*Transforming ourselves, each other,  
and the world!*

**Q: Why pledge?**

- ❖ Because UUCPA is a place where we come together as individuals and as a community.
- ❖ Because UUCPA welcomes our children of all ages and helps us tend to their spiritual growth.
- ❖ Because our community offers a place to sing, weep, be still, debate, learn, come as we are, and work for a better world.
- ❖ Because our community helps sustain us when we can't find a job, feel lonely, need support, or lose a loved person in our lives.

***“My kids love it here – there’s  
always so much going on!”***

**Q: How do I pay my pledge?**

There are several ways. You can:

- Drop off or mail a check to the office;
- Put a check marked “pledge” in the offering basket on Sunday;
- Set up an automatic payment through your bank (if this is new to you, the canvass team can help); or
- As some do, include a payment when you return your pledge card.

**Q: Can I pay my pledge with a stock donation?**

Absolutely. Call the office or email [admin@uucpa.org](mailto:admin@uucpa.org) for assistance. If your stock has appreciated, you may get a double benefit of no capital gains tax and a charitable deduction of the full value.

**Q: What if I have more questions?**

During February and March, canvass volunteers visit with almost all groups, members and friends of the church. There will also be a staffed patio table on Sunday mornings where you can get answers to your questions.

If you have not received a call and would like one, call Debra at 650-494-0541 and she will make sure someone reaches out and answers your questions.

You can also email [pledge@uucpa.org](mailto:pledge@uucpa.org)



**We're in this together!**

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto

**Information on Pledging  
2017-2018**

505 E. Charleston Road  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
650-494-0541  
[pledge@uucpa.org](mailto:pledge@uucpa.org)

### Q: What is a pledge?

Your pledge is your financial commitment to UUCPA during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which begins May 1, 2017.

Our community thrives because members and friends commit their time, talents, and financial support.

### Q: How much should I pledge?

An amount that you will feel good about giving, that you can and want to give.

The “How Much Should I Pledge To UUCPA?” handout provides helpful guidelines about tithing, increasing your pledge, and stock donations.

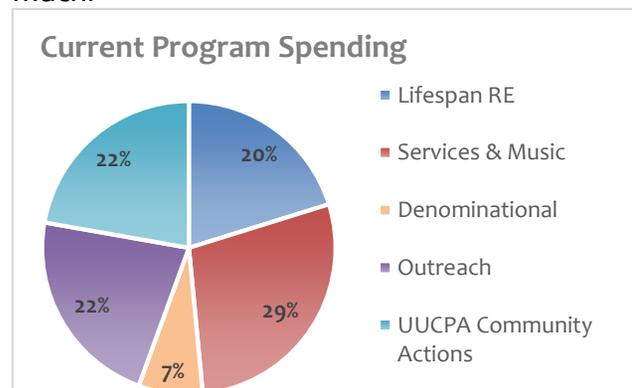
Find a quiet time and space, look at the guidelines and your household, reflect on how UUCPA has helped you grow, then let the decision on what to pledge emerge.

You will find an amount that is right for you and for UUCPA, and all of us will be grateful.



### Q: Where does the money go?

Our anticipated operating expense budget for the coming year increases to about \$730,000. About 75% of the budget is dependent on pledges. Funds are allocated to the programs we value so much:



We also receive funds from:

- Sunday offering collections and miscellaneous donations;
- Fundraising such as the Auction, the Yard and Treasures Sales, Concerts, and Book Sales;
- Rental of our campus spaces.

One challenge in 2017 is that rental income is decreasing as Stevenson House completes their renovation. We are relying on generous pledges to make up the gap.

***“My world would be a lot smaller without this place.”***

### Q: Why are church pledges typically higher than gifts to other groups?

We are a free church. We fund ourselves. We benefit from those who came before us, bought the land and built the church. Now it's our turn.

Our church community touches our lives in so many ways: from religious education, services and music, social and spiritual gatherings to outreach programs, social justice and a caring network. Yet, we have fewer donors than do many public radio stations, advocacy groups, and relief organizations. That means our gifts must be bigger. About 200 households pledge each year, an average of about \$2400 per household.

***“UUCPA encourages me to work on what I care about”***

### Q: When do I pay my pledge?

Any time before the end of the fiscal year that ends April 30, 2018. Some contribute monthly, some all at once. You can choose your schedule.

However, early and steady payments keep our operating fund healthy.