

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) About Pledging to UUFRC

What is a “pledge”?

- A pledge is a promise to donate a certain amount of money to the Fellowship within the Pledge Year.

What is the “pledge year”?

- The Fellowship fiscal year is from July 1 through June 30 the following year. Pledges are made in the spring (e.g., April) for payment during the fiscal year beginning July 1.

Why pledge and how is my pledge used?

- Pledge payments are for the ongoing operation of UUFRC. This money is used to pay for staff salaries and benefits, programs, religious education for children, youth, and adults, and other work of the Fellowship, including our music, social outreach, worship activities, and building maintenance.
- When members and friends of the Fellowship pledge, we can establish a realistic budget for the coming year.
- Those who pledge receive written acknowledgement of contributions that they can use for their own budgets and tax purposes.

Do I need to be a member to pledge?

- Anyone can make an annual pledge to UUFRC, member or not.

Do I have to pledge to be a member of UUFRC?

- Everyone is welcome to attend services at UUFRC, whether formally a member or not, with no financial obligation. But we believe that financial support is one of the responsibilities of community membership, and some sort of financial contribution (a “donation of record”) is a prerequisite for membership.
- We strongly encourage those who wish to join our community to make a pledge in line with their individual financial circumstances.

When should I pledge?

- During the Annual Pledge Drive or any time during the year (pro-rating the amount for the remaining fiscal year).

When do I need to pay my pledge?

- You tell us. Several options are listed on the pledge card that you fill out, including a one-time annual payment, monthly payments, or other regular periodic payments. The only requirement is that you complete payment prior to fiscal year-end on June 30.
- Note that pledges are very important relative to the weekly offering collected at service, because the commitment you make at the beginning of the year allows us to plan. The offering plate collections are more difficult to anticipate and thus make planning harder.
- Some people pay their pledges by putting a check or cash into an appropriately marked envelope in the offering plate. If you write “pledge payment” on the memo line of your check, it will count towards fulfillment of your pledge.
- One Sunday per month the offering goes to an external organization or program selected by the Social Action Committee. Gifts to these purposes are separate from your pledge commitment.