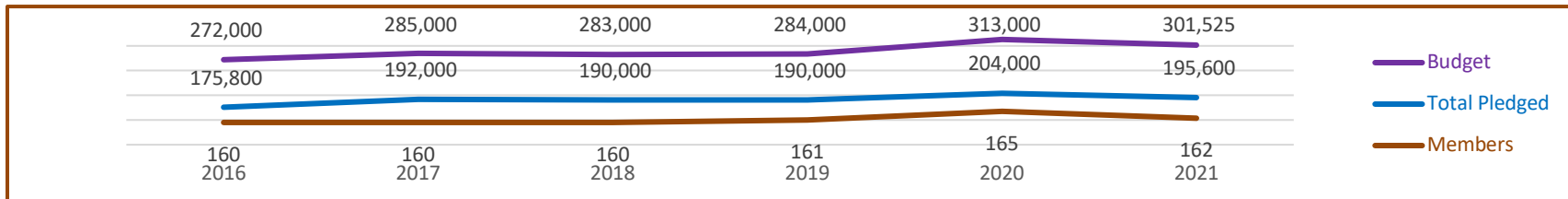







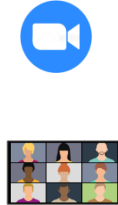



# Coming Back Strong Pledge Campaign 2021–22

*Thank you* for giving your time and talent to our community – a community you create!

*Thank you* for donating to Calgary Unitarians this year. Whatever your donation, we know it comes from the heart.



2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<p>We chose <b>Like a Mighty Stream</b> as our theme for the 2016 pledge drive. <b>We</b> continued working on sponsorship of a family from Iraq.</p> 	<p>2017 was a pledge year with no theme. <b>"4 Others"</b> continued its steady increase- a way to show our gratitude to the wider community. <b>One</b> of our dreams was hiring a Social Media coordinator. <b>Hiring</b> RE staff was a board "dream", and we hired more RE staff in the fall!</p> 	<p><b>Giving for Good</b> expressed a new-found determination to recover our pledger base. <b>A</b> church- wide survey informed us in many helpful ways. <b>Our</b> presence in Social Media was vastly improved through the hire of a coordinator. <b>We</b> refined our visual identity, including a new name and logo. <b>We</b> changed our by-laws to improve member inclusion.</p> 	<p><b>Our Hands, Our Hearts, Our Dreams</b> was our theme for 2019. <b>We</b> hired a new bookkeeper with expanded hours! <b>We</b> dreamed of hiring a piano accompanist. <b>We</b> hired a maintenance support person. <b>We</b> hosted CANUUDLE, the National Youth Conference. <b>We</b> increased our Social Media presence.</p> 	<p><b>Gratitude:</b> Our focus for the 2020 pledge drive was thinking about what we are grateful for. <b>We</b> are increasing our focus and support for Young Adults. <b>We</b> committed to sponsoring two more refugee families. <b>We</b> hosted Danielle Webber's ordination. <b>We</b> envisioned a Social Justice "Reboot". <b>We</b> hired an accompanist!</p> 	<p><b>Our Journey of Abundance</b> Our theme celebrated our history of abundant giving, including radical Inclusion. <b>We</b> committed to childcare. <b>We</b> are paying full dues to CACG. <b>We</b> learned to live, connect and grow online.</p> 	<p><b>Coming Back Strong:</b> is how we are determined to meet 2021-22 after the year of pandemic isolation. <b>We</b> intend enhanced accessibility for our physical building, with an improved lift and cleaner air! <b>We</b> intend to continue our strong online presence and support a hybrid format for gatherings.</p> 

*Your contribution* is important, because with strong support, we can lift up our faith and Calgary Unitarians can grow as a spiritual beacon in our city.

# Strong...

We come together in beloved community, guided by our Unitarian Universalist principles and sources to grow in wisdom, welcome and deepen relationships, and act for a just and sustainable world.

Here are the **six key areas of church life**, through which we strive to meet our purpose:

## Vibrant Sunday Services

22% of budget

Sunday services invite us to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually. We find time and space to integrate our values with our life experiences.

- Thoughtful presentations from ministers, congregants and special guests
- "Spirituality of..." services
- Wonderful music
- Storytelling for all ages
- Time for meditation and reflection
- Expressing and sharing joys and concerns
- Audio and visual recordings to share
- Coffee and Community after services



Guest presenter Rev. Abhi

## Spiritual Growth

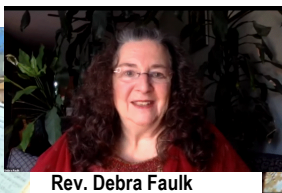
11% of budget

Here we feel we are never done learning and growing. We are a community of people who seek alignment of our beliefs, our words and our actions as a lifelong spiritual practice.

- UUphonia choir, ChorVida Chamber Choir, Coffee Choir
- Bob McPherson Library as a resource
- Theme-based ministry and Listening Circles
- Interpersonal sharing time during services
- Adult Religious Exploration courses, e.g. Exploring World Religions



Music Director Jane Perry



Rev. Debra Faulk



Director-Religious Exploration Sheila MacMaster

## Empowering Children and Youth

15% of budget

UU children and youth are encouraged to ask questions and become their authentic selves by finding their unique strengths, values and beliefs. We are committed to creating safe places for children and youth to grow into principled, compassionate adults.

- Religious exploration classes on Sunday
- Youth groups, including conferences with other Unitarian youth
- OWL (Our Whole Lives) lifespan sexuality education
- Learning about world faiths



## Building Beloved Community

13% of budget

We welcome, value and celebrate diversity. We provide a place for people of all ages to build relationships and care for one another. In 2020, we explored radical *inclusivity* through our online presence.

- Building our online presence to reach young adults and others
- Supporting our Sunday online experience (coffee, UU Curious, etc.)
- Online Congregational dinners for special holidays
- Dinner- Fest
- Talent and Service Auction
- Soup-er Sunday lunches
- Arts and Crafts groups
- Operation Cookie
- UUphonia choir
- Family Camp
- Caring cards
- Gardening



## Sharing Our Abundance

26% of budget

We believe that we have a connection to our Calgary community, our interfaith neighbours, and Unitarians across the country and the world. We share time, expertise and financial resources with others in meaningful ways. We maintain our building and grounds to be welcoming to everyone who uses our space.

- The Canadian Unitarian Council, supporting our faith in Canada
- The International Council of Unitarians and Universalists, supporting UUs around the world
- The National Fall Gathering we attended in November 2020 to support our congregations
- Supporting Youth attendance at national events such as CANUUDLE
- Groups who meet in our space- Wild Rose Buddhist Sangha, community choirs, charity quilters, and many others
- Lay Chaplaincy, providing meaningful rites of passage for the larger community



## Outreach and Social Justice

13% of budget

Guided by our principles, our Outreach and Social Justice activities help us to

live out our values in the world. We are also challenged by learning and acting together.

- 4 Others collections
- Green Sanctuary events
- Calgary's virtual Pride Parade and supporting the LGBTQ2+ community
- Community Garden
- Wayside pulpit
- Social and Environmental Justice film nights
- Our Minister's action and leadership in the wider community
- Hosting and supporting the Refugee Committee; bringing refugee families to settle in Calgary
- Collaborating with Calgary Alliance for the Common Good
- Horticultural Therapy Group
- Calgary Interfaith Council
- Programming - Dismantling Racism in Canada



Knit items for Mitten Tree



Patricia Trudeau- Hayden and Wilburn Hayden  
Facilitators for Dismantling Racism course

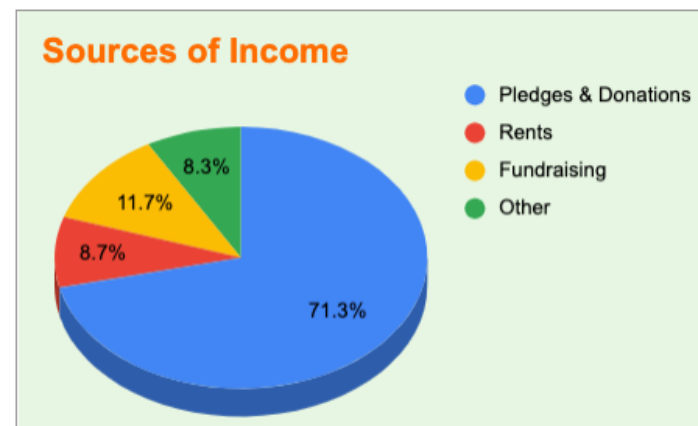


## *Calgary Unitarians — Inspiring each of us to be our best selves*

Over two thirds of our income comes from you, through pledges and donations. Some households may be able to pledge a substantial amount, and others may not. We are each asked to give according to our means.

To ensure we pay our staff fairly, continue to maintain our building, and pursue our search for a new Minister, we'll need \$205,000 in pledges for our base budget. This is an increase of \$10,000 over what was pledged last year.

During the pandemic there have been fewer opportunities to raise funds through events, and our rental income has almost disappeared. We do expect fundraising and rental income to return in 2021–22.



### *Give to Sustain in 2021-22:*

If you've made a financial commitment (pledge) to our congregation before, we're grateful for your generosity. As our costs increase each year with inflation, we ask you to consider increasing your pledge by 2% to 3% for the coming year. We invite those households who are able to be generous beyond inflation. For any household living on low income, there is no pressure to pledge and any donation is appreciated.

If you're uncertain about how much to pledge, look for guidance from the *Suggested Giving Levels* chart on the back of your Pledge Form.

### *Give to Grow in 2021-22:*

With a pledge drive surpassing our basic goals, we can work to enhance inclusion and accessibility:

- Adding software and equipment to make Sunday services available both in the sanctuary and via the Internet for those preferring to participate from home, in Calgary or farther afield
- Providing devices to allow Internet access for those who need it
- Sustaining classroom leads and choir accompanist
- Offering Religious Exploration for Children and Youth, both in person and online

Join us at our Sunday service on **March 21st**, when we'll gather our pledges online.

If you can't attend, please be sure to submit your pledge by **March 28th**.

You can pledge online at <https://tinyurl.com/CUpledges> or on our website at [www.calgaryunitarians.ca](http://www.calgaryunitarians.ca)

*Thank you for your pledge! Now we can plan for the year ahead!*