










Connecting With Community

Pledge Campaign
2022-2023

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

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

283,000	284,000	313,000	301,525	319,389	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Budget Total pledged \$\$ Membership #s </div>
190,000	190,000	204,000	195,600	174,035	
160	161	165	162	151	

2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023
<p>Giving for Good expressed a new- found determination to recover our pledger base. A church- wide survey informed us in many helpful ways. Our presence in Social Media was vastly improved through the hire of a coordinator. We refined our visual identity, including a new name and logo. We changed our by-laws to improve member inclusion.</p> 	<p>Our Hands, Our Hearts, Our Dreams was our theme for 2019. We hired a new bookkeeper with expanded hours! We dreamed of hiring a piano accompanist. We hired a maintenance support person. We hosted CANUUDLE, the National Youth Conference. We increased our Social Media presence.</p> 	<p>Gratitude Our focus for the 2020 pledge drive was thinking about what we are grateful for. We are increasing our focus and support for Young Adults. We committed to sponsoring two more refugee families. We hosted Danielle Webber's ordination. We envisioned a Social Justice "Reboot". We hired an accompanist!</p> 	<p>Our Journey of Abundance Our theme celebrated our history of abundant giving, including radical Inclusion We committed to child care We are paying full dues to CACG We learned to live, connect and grow online</p>  	<p>Coming Back Strong is how we were determined to meet 2021-22 after the year of pandemic isolation. We enhanced accessibility for our physical building, with the installation of improved lifts and air cleaners! We continued our strong online presence with an upgrade of hardware helped by a grant from CUC, and supported a hybrid format for gatherings.</p> 	<p>Connecting With Community We want a strengthened connection to our church community after the second year of the pandemic. The Board of Trustees has decided this year to focus on these goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustain and introduce expansions to our strong music program • Develop actions to address the 8th principle 

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.

Connection...

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. We met mostly online this past year, and held hybrid services whenever possible.

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
- Wonderful music
- Storytelling for all ages
- Time for meditation and reflection
- Expressing and sharing joys and concerns
- Audio and visual recordings to share
- Coffee time and Community after services



Interim Minister Rev. Shelly Thompson



Music Director Jane Perry



Director of Religious Education 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.

- RE classes online with weekly projects
- Special events for children and youth
- Youth groups, including conferences with other Unitarian youth
- Learning about world faiths
- Our Whole Lives (OWL) Human Sexuality Program for all ages



Mabon/ Fall Scavenger Hunt

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, Toque Choir
- Bob McPherson Library as a resource
- Theme-based ministry and Listening Circles
- Adult Religious Exploration courses
- Adult Religious Exploration courses: e.g.: Exploring World Religions



Toque Choir



ChorVida Chamber Choir



TriUU and Jane Perry

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 2021, we explored a *hybrid model* (both online and in-person) of worship.

- Supporting our social media presence to reach young adults and others
- Expanding our Sunday online experience (coffee, plenary meetings, participation in nationally presented services, 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



Walking Group



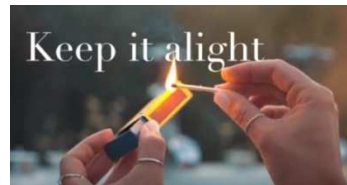
Hybrid Service

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, with our annual member fees. Supporting our faith in Canada
- The International Council of Unitarians and Universalists, supporting UUs around the world
- National services presented by the CUC, training for leaders, lay chaplains, youth leadership conferences
- 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 support for the LGBTQ2+ community
- Community Garden
- Wayside pulpit
- Social and Environmental Justice film nights
- Involvement with Calgary Alliance for the Common Good initiatives
- Hosting and supporting the Refugee Committee; bringing refugee families to settle in Calgary
- Horticultural Therapy Group
- Discussion and adoption of our 8th Principle calling us to action on dismantling racism



Shoe Memorial at City Hall- to honour Residential School children



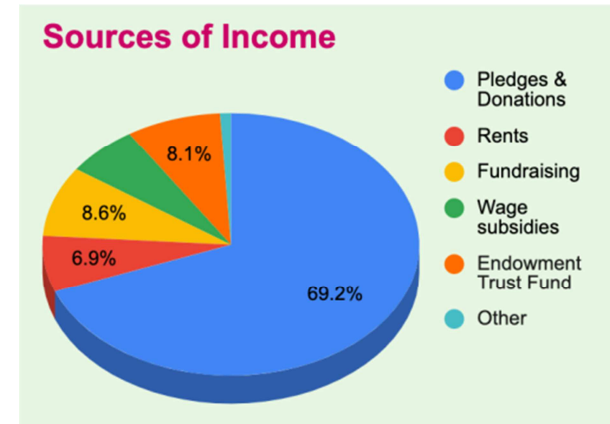
Adoption of our 8th Principle

Calgary Unitarians - We Change Lives!

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 15% over what was pledged last year.

During the pandemic there have been fewer opportunities to raise funds through events, and our rental income remains low. We received wage subsidy income from the federal government which will not continue into 2022-23. We hope fundraising and rental income will return to normal in 2022-23.



Give to Sustain our Community in 2022-23:

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 3% to 4%. If you are able, we invite you 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 Strengthen our Community in 2022-23:

Key areas of focus for the coming year:

- *Sustain our strong music program, which is a vital connection for our congregation, with guest conductors if needed*
- *Introduce expansions to the music program through activities like a summer music camp or a justice choir*
- *Develop and apply meaningful actions to address the 8th principle on dismantling racism*

Join us at our Sunday service on **March 20th**, when we'll gather our pledges online.

If you can't attend, please be sure to submit your pledge by **March 26** for a chance to win a scrumptious gift basket.

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

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