



# *Show Your True Colours*

**Pledge Campaign 2023-2024**



*It takes* a lot of things to build and maintain a community. Last year at our Fall Retreat, we pondered what message we would give our whole community to keep it connected and vibrant. We decided that three elements were necessary to maintain the kind of energized community we want to enjoy and to show to others.

Our key message? Together, we are committed to nourish, connect and act!

We have struggled and survived, and now it's time to move on to action.

We want to develop vibrant Adult Religious Exploration,  
we want to be better known in our city, and  
we want to be more present in our building, deepening our relationships with our  
program staff and each other.

So, show us your *true colours*, your willingness to step up and be counted, in all the ways that count; with your time, your talent and your treasure!

We are creating community together, from the heart.

-with gratitude, your Stewardship Team

# Nourish, Connect, Act...

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, 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
- Acknowledging joys and concerns
- Audio and video recordings to share
- Coffee time and Community after services



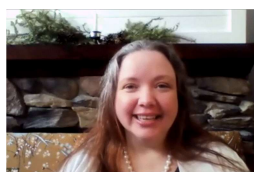
Interim Minister Rev. Shelly Thompson



Music Director Jane Perry



Interim Music Director Krishan Power



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.

- Learning about other world faiths
- Special events for families
- Activities for children and youth
- Weekly Sunday Religious Education program for ages 0-18.
- Our Whole Lives (OWL) Human Sexuality Program for all ages
- Western and National Youth Conferences and virtual meet-ups with other Unitarian youth



Family Camp

## 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, TriUU
- Bob McPherson Library as a resource
- Theme-based ministry and Listening Circles
- Adult Religious Exploration courses: e.g. Mindfulness class



Carol and puppy



Samhain activities



Decking the Green Man with ribbons  
Winter Solstice 2022



Léa and Galaxy

## 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 2022, we engaged in both online and in-person worship.

- Supporting our social media presence to reach young adults and others
- Meeting in-person for Sunday services
- Expanding our Sunday online experience (coffee, general meetings, participation in nationally presented services, etc.)
- Talent and Service Auction
- Operation Cookie
- UUphonia choir
- Family Camp
- Caring Team
- Gardening



Walking Group



Operation Cookie

## 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 (CUC), with our annual member fees supporting our faith in Canada
- 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
- Climate and Environmental Justice events, including film nights
- Support for the LGBTIQ2+ community in Calgary
- Community Garden
- Wayside pulpit
- 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
- Ongoing implementation of our 8<sup>th</sup> Principle calling us to education and action



National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR) Logo



We are part of Calgary Alliance for the Common Good

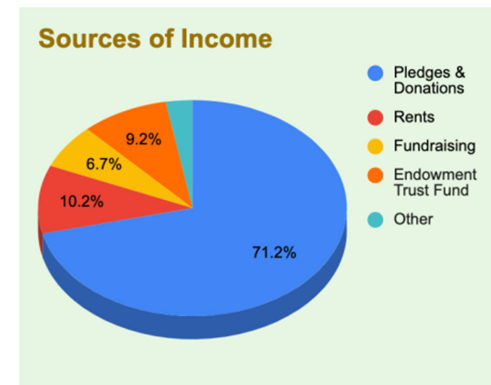


# ***Calgary Unitarians- We Change Lives!***

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, we'll need an increase of more than 5% over what was pledged last year.

With the pandemic behind us our rental income is improving. We hope fundraising income will return to normal in 2023–24.



## **Give to Sustain our Community in 2023-24:**

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 (over 6% in Alberta in 2022), we ask you to consider increasing your pledge by 5% to 7%. If you are able, we invite you to be generous beyond inflation. For households living on low income, any donation is appreciated.

If you're uncertain about how much to pledge, be comfortably generous. Give at a level that feels good. You'll find giving suggestions on the back of the pledge form.

## **Give to Strengthen our Community in 2023-24:**

Key areas of focus for the coming year:

- We want vibrant Adult Religious Exploration opportunities
- We want to find ways to become more known in the city
- We want to return to a full slate of activities throughout the week
- We want a successful first year with our new Minister

Join us at our Sunday service on March 19th, when we'll gather our pledges, and then stay for a delicious chili lunch.

If you can't attend on March 19th, please be sure to submit your pledge by March 25th for a chance to win a gift basket filled with good things to eat and drink.

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

***Thank you for showing your true colours! Now we can plan for the year ahead!***

**Calgary Unitarians, 1703- 1<sup>st</sup> St. NW T2M 4P4**