



UU Values and Vision - Pages 2-4

Church Budget - Pages 5-6

Your Pledge - Pages 7-8



FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH OF SAN JOSÉ



*“A spiritual life that does not concern itself with money can have little effect on our daily lives, especially in a culture as saturated by financial forces as ours.”*

- Rev. Dan Hotchkiss

*“Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction.”*

- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

## An Expression of True Love

Reflect for a moment on a time in your life when you missed an opportunity to be generous. How did it make you feel? Reflect also on times in your life when you were generous. How did that make you feel? Learning to give freely and to receive graciously is one of the great challenges of life. We can't help but compare ourselves to others, feel indebted to others, feel that others are indebted to us, worry about ourselves and our future, and worry about our loved ones and their future. Yet our greatest joys – the times we feel most alive – come when we are giving ... giving our time, our counsel, our resources, and, most of all, our love.

Our love for Unitarian Universalism generally, and for our First Unitarian Church of San Jose community in particular, gives us many opportunities for generosity and for connection with great enterprises, great values and the ability to greatly transform the world and ourselves. Our annual pledge campaign, The Canvass, is our greatest opportunity to experience the joy to giving, the joy of making a sacrifice for the good of that which we love, and which loves us in return.

*“Who, being loved, is poor?”*

– Oscar Wilde

## We Love the Values

Unitarian Universalism points us in the direction of our best selves. We come to the UU faith from many directions, along many paths, while sharing an intentional commitment to all or most of these seven principles:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

As we learn time and again when we share worship – on Sunday, in small groups, in volunteering, in education and so on – each of the UU principles may be easily accepted superficially, but also provides a portal to great depths of meaning, self-discovery and action in the world. Unitarian Universalists neither want nor need slick, easy answers to life’s mysteries and about our own yearning for purpose and meaning. We know there is work to be done, and doing it together makes our journey both easier and more fulfilling.

*“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.”*

– Winston Churchill

## We Love the Vision

As a congregation, we have staked our claim to Unitarian Universalist values with this **Vision Statement** of what the First Unitarian Church of San Jose ought to be:

- A church with a vibrant congregational life that reflects a supportive, joyful, and diverse intergenerational community.
- A church that offers a wide variety of opportunities for spiritual expression and personal growth through multiple worship services, not limited to Sundays, with an excellent music program, and a strong lifespan religious education program.
- A church with a solid infrastructure that has effective administration, a comprehensive volunteer structure, a thoughtful visibility plan, and a program to broaden the financial base through an endowment and other investments.
- A church that is a recognized leader in the community, Pacific Central District, and the Unitarian Universalist Association, especially in action for social justice, campus ministry, Spanish Speaking Ministries, and Small Group Ministry.

*Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.*

–Buddha

“Stewardship is about conversion, not budgets and income.”

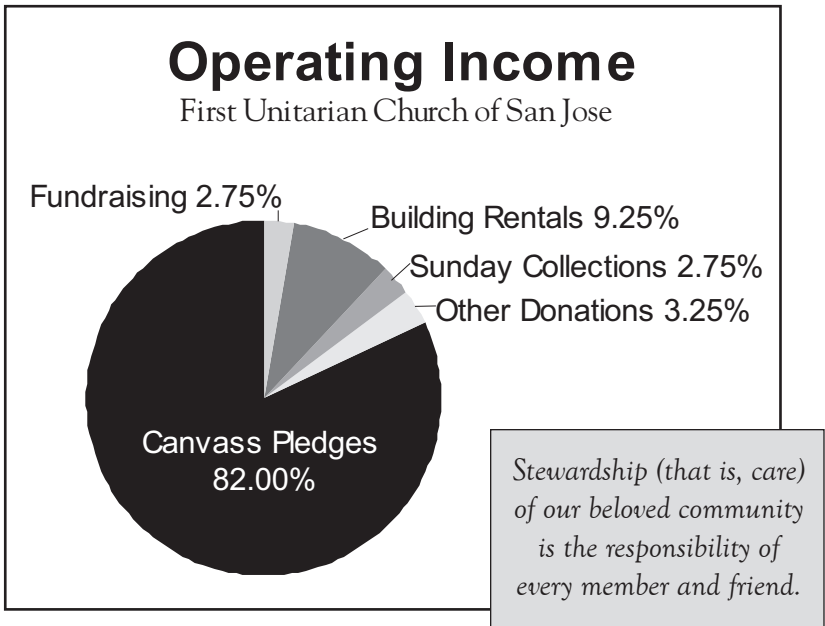
- C.K. Robertson

## A Loving Gift of Resources

An important part of our gift to ourselves in supporting our church community, is the regular contribution of our time, treasure and talents in the expression of our values and in the success of our vision outlined above. Frankly, we all must pull together as best we can to make our dream of the world come true.

Your annual pledge adds to the lifeblood of this spiritual cooperative. The income of First Unitarian Church of San Jose for the past fiscal year looks like this:

Canvass Pledges	82.00%
Other Donations to Operations	3.25%
Sunday Collections	2.75%
Building Rentals	9.25%
Fundraising Events and Activities	2.75%



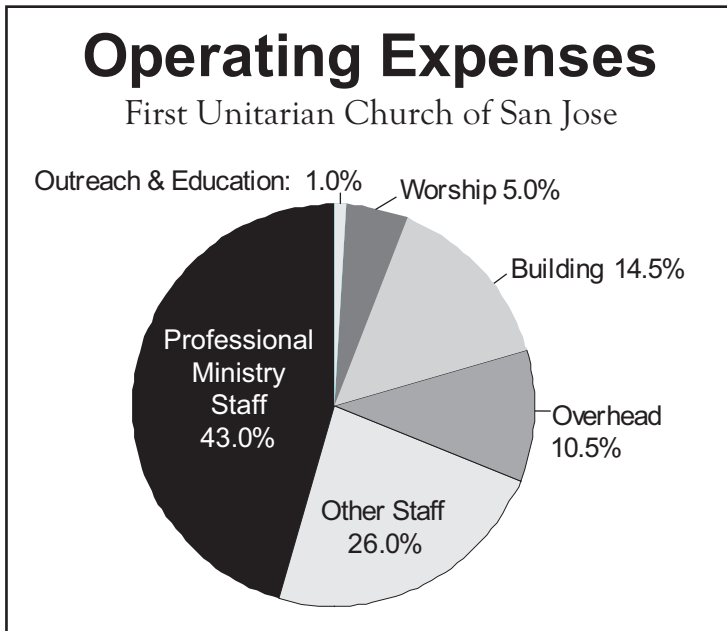
*“I can remember way back when a liberal was generous with his own money”*  
—Will Rogers

## An Expression of Love

Where does the money go? At the annual congregational meeting in late May, the Board of Directors proposes a detailed budget each year. It reflects three intentions:

- **Honoring the past** – that is, paying for commitments that the congregation has made
- **Honoring the present** – that is, reflecting the generosity of the congregation expressed in this Canvass
- **Honoring the future** – that is, implementing the vision and mission of the congregation in the world

In the most recent fiscal year, the operating expenses of First Unitarian Church of San Jose were allocated this way:



<b>Professional Ministry Staff</b> (wages, benefits, taxes, ret., etc.)	43.0%
<b>Other Staff</b> (office, custodial, SSM, child care, etc.)	26.0%
<b>Overhead</b> (office, insurance, printing, postage, telephone, etc.)	10.5%
<b>Building</b> (utilities, permits and fees, janitorial, repairs, etc.)	14.5%
<b>Worship</b> (decor, music, translation, etc.)	5.0%
<b>Outreach &amp; Education</b> (social justice, advertising, youth, RE, etc.)	1.0%

The story of the last fiscal year was mostly about honoring the past and present. Significant spending cuts were made to bring the budget into line with the economic realities of 2009, combined with diminished income from grants and other ancillary sources. It created a stable foundation for growth and the enactment of the church’s vision going forward.

**The story of 2010-2011 will be written by you.** Will you live out your values? Will you live as a person who is part of something great, and greater than yourself? The chart above shows clearly that our congregation’s investments in “outreach and education” can use improvement. What it doesn’t show, but which every member and friend of the church knows, is that there are also many opportunities for improvement in worship, care of our building, and staffing. Our faith cooperative has great work to do in the coming year, and now is the time to get started.

*“Be an opener of doors for such as come after thee.”*

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Your True Love Pledge

The aspiration of our faith community for each member’s generosity fits the UUA guideline for Fair Share Giving. That is, we hope that each member and friend of the First Unitarian Church of San Jose will strive to give an annual gift of 5% of their gross income, or be on the path to achieving that goal.

Why 5%? Many authors claim ownership of the phrase, “Give until it feels good,” but those who do sacrifice for their beloved community say that it’s true. We sacrifice for what we value, and we value that for which we sacrifice. Many faiths practice ritual sacrifices each year, such as the festivals of Lent

and Ramadan. **Sacrifice is the means by which we show gratitude for all we have and remind ourselves that we alone are not responsible for the fruits of life that we enjoy.** In fact, many faiths require members to give 10% of their gross annual income. Those who are able to reach this full “tithe” amount report feeling a joyous release from their daily cares about accumulation and consumption. Life has greater meaning and purpose.

So, please use the chart below to identify for yourself the most appropriate reflection of your annual income and your love and commitment for this community of faith:

## Suggested Share Giving Guide

*NOTE: If you are pledging as an individual, please use your personal gross annual income as a guide. If you are pledging as a household, please combine the gross annual income of all pledging members in your household. Start with your 1040 adjusted gross income, add any nontaxable income such as pensions or depreciation on rental property, and subtract costs of non-reimbursable medical expenses, parental care, childcare and tuition.*

Gross Annual Income	BASIC 2% Pledge		SUPPORTER 3% Pledge		SUSTAINER 4% Pledge		VISIONARY 5% Pledge	
	TOTAL AMOUNT	MONTHLY PAYMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT	MONTHLY PAYMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT	MONTHLY PAYMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT	MONTHLY PAYMENT
\$10,000	\$200	\$17	\$300	\$25	\$400	\$33	\$500	\$42
\$20,000	\$400	\$33	\$600	\$50	\$800	\$67	\$1,000	\$83
\$30,000	\$600	\$50	\$900	\$75	\$1,200	\$100	\$1,500	\$125
\$40,000	\$800	\$67	\$1,200	\$100	\$1,600	\$133	\$2,000	\$167
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$83	\$1,500	\$125	\$2,000	\$167	\$2,500	\$208
\$60,000	\$1,200	\$100	\$1,800	\$150	\$2,400	\$200	\$3,000	\$250
\$70,000	\$1,400	\$117	\$2,100	\$175	\$2,800	\$233	\$3,500	\$292
\$80,000	\$1,600	\$133	\$2,400	\$200	\$3,200	\$267	\$4,000	\$333
\$90,000	\$1,800	\$150	\$2,700	\$225	\$3,600	\$300	\$4,500	\$375
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$167	\$3,000	\$250	\$4,000	\$333	\$5,000	\$417
\$110,000	\$2,200	\$183	\$3,300	\$275	\$4,400	\$367	\$5,500	\$458
\$120,000	\$2,400	\$200	\$3,600	\$300	\$4,800	\$400	\$6,000	\$500
\$130,000	\$2,600	\$217	\$3,900	\$325	\$5,200	\$433	\$6,500	\$542
\$140,000	\$2,800	\$233	\$4,200	\$350	\$5,600	\$467	\$7,000	\$583
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$250	\$4,500	\$375	\$6,000	\$500	\$7,500	\$625

My/Our Gross Annual Income: \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 = Total Annual Pledge \_\_\_\_\_