

## PURPOSE, VISION, PRINCIPLES



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Benton County (UUBC) is a vibrant spiritual community for Benton County, AR, free of

dogma and guided by love, reason and conscience.

Our vision is to be a fellowship seeking knowledge, expressing love, providing service, and building community.

## THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF UU

These are the seven principles that we as a Unitarian Universalist congregation affirm and promote:

- 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.

## WHY STEWARDSHIP?

Stewardship means taking care of something we value and enabling it to grow. It calls us to take responsibility and to make a contribution of our time, talent, and treasure.

Stewards are caretakers with a forward vision. They hold something in trust. They ensure that it will be there in the future for the benefit of others. Successful stewards not only protect, but help something to improve and grow. Their actions are empowering. This is true regardless of whether we are stewards of the earth, institutions, people, or the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Benton County.

We are all connected to the earth; to the air, water, and soil; to other living creatures; to all other human beings, to the spinning world, moon, stars, planets, and sun. We are part of a web. If a thread of this web is broken, the whole is diminished. We live in and by our web of loves and relationships, each lending support and strength to the other.

“[The UU] seventh Principle, respect for the interdependent web of all existence, is a glorious statement. Yet we make a profound mistake when we limit it to merely an environmental idea. It is so much more. It is our response to the great dangers of both individualism and oppression. It is our solution to the seeming conflict between the individual and the group. Our seventh Principle may be our Unitarian Universalist way of coming to fully embrace something greater than ourselves. The interdependent web—expressed as the spirit of life, the ground of all being, the oneness of all existence, the community-forming power, the process of life, the creative force, even God—can help us develop that social understanding of ourselves that we and our culture so desperately need. It is a source of meaning to which we can dedicate our lives.” ~ Rev. Forrest Gilmore

*The Seven Principles in Word and Worship*

# Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Benton County

## STEWARDSHIP July 2016-June 2017



## QUESTIONS ABOUT PLEDGING

*Do I have to make a pledge to be part of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Benton County (UUBC)?*

No. All are welcomed and valued, all of the time.

*What if I volunteer?*

We love it!! With *no* paid support or ministerial staff, UUBC succeeds through active participants. Some aspects of our fellowship can *only* be met financially – facility rental, RE salaries, advertising, stipends for musicians and outside speakers – while others depend on gifts of time. We need pledges of time *and* money.

*What if I aspire to be a voting member?*

An annual commitment of financial support is one requirement of formal membership.

*What is the average pledge at UUBC?*

Our membership is small and pledges vary widely; please be as generous as makes sense for your budget and your vision for this community.

Regular monthly expenses in FY 2017, which starts July 1, will be about \$2,500 when UUBC starts paying dues to the Unitarian Universalist Association. This is slightly more than we take in now through pledges. Becoming the community we aspire to be – with our own 24/7 dedicated space, a teen group, adult classes, support staff, and enough to share with others in need will require upwards of \$5,000+/month.

*What if my situation changes?*

Change is a fact of life. If your circumstances change, simply contact UUBC treasurer Jim Jensen to adjust your pledge of time or financial support.

*When does my pledge need to be paid?*

Financial pledges need to be paid by June 30, 2017. Pledges of time will vary depending on team needs.

*How can I pay my financial pledge?*

Pledges may be paid weekly, monthly, quarterly or, in a lump sum. Consistent payment is extremely helpful.

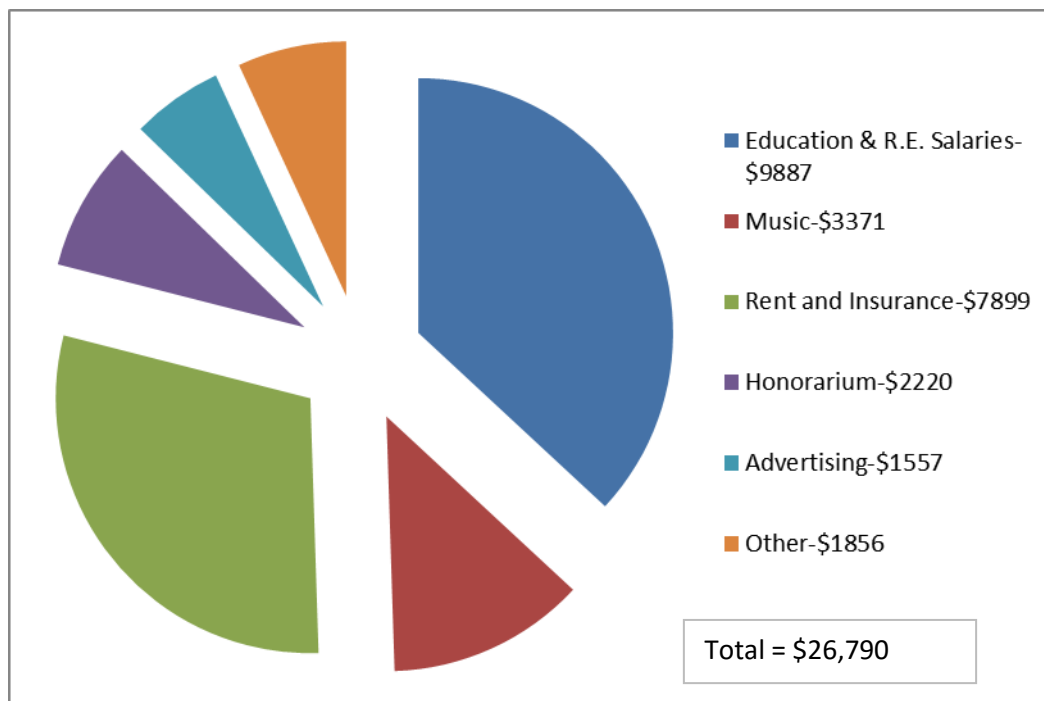
*I give cash for the Sunday offering. How will UUBC know I am paying my pledge?*

Place your cash offering in an envelope found on the seats and write your name on the front. The treasurer will credit your contribution toward your pledge.

*Are there automatic payment options?*

Yes. Simply check the box indicating your payment preference, and we will follow up with the details.

## How your UUBC pledge supports a vibrant spiritual community



# FOR *THE* RECORD

Please complete the following section to help UUBC keep an up-to-date directory.

## Adults

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ B'day \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Daytime/cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ B'day \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Daytime/cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Children

Name \_\_\_\_\_

B'day \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

B'day \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

B'day \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

B'day \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

# July '16-June '17

*Claim Your Place at UUBC!*

How will you share your time to make UUBC **your** vibrant community?

I/we would like to learn more about:  
(Please check areas of potential interest to you and we will follow up with details.)

\_\_\_ Admin/Sunday Set-up

\_\_\_ Caring and Sharing

\_\_\_ Choir

\_\_\_ Community Action

\_\_\_ Marketing/Outreach

\_\_\_ Meeting and Greeting

\_\_\_ Religious Education (RE)

\_\_\_ Social Events

\_\_\_ Sunday Programming

\_\_\_ UUBC Leadership

I/We pledge \_\_\_\_\_ hours a month.

# Stewardship Pledges

Help our UUBC fellowship be *THE* place for people, programs, and community support!

All pledges of support help grow UUBC.

NAME(S)

My/Our financial pledge to support UUBC for July 2016-June 2017 will be:

Monthly Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
X 12 months

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

I/we will pay by:

Weekly/monthly/quarterly cash or check

Monthly bank draft or other direct payment (UUBC will send details)

Please return this form to: Jim Jensen, UUBC Treasurer, 88 Forfar Drive, Bella Vista AR 72715

*The UUA Fair Share Giving Guide offers suggestions on giving levels, based on income adjusted for large expenses, such as medical costs or care of a parent.*

## The Suggested Fair Share Contribution Guide

|                         |                                | Supporter      |                | Sustainer      |                | Visionary      |                | Transformer   |                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                         |                                | 2-6% of Income |                | 3-7% of Income |                | 5-9% of Income |                | 10% of Income |                |
| Adjusted Monthly Income | Approx. Adjusted Annual Income | % of Income    | Monthly Pledge | % of Income    | Monthly Pledge | % of Income    | Monthly Pledge | % of Income   | Monthly Pledge |
| \$1,000                 | \$12,000                       | 2%             | \$20           | 3%             | \$30           | 5%             | \$50           | 10%           | \$100          |
| \$1,500                 | \$18,000                       | 2%             | \$30           | 3%             | \$45           | 5%             | \$75           | 10%           | \$150          |
| \$2,000                 | \$25,000                       | 2%             | \$40           | 3%             | \$60           | 5%             | \$100          | 10%           | \$200          |
| \$3,000                 | \$36,000                       | 2%             | \$60           | 3%             | \$90           | 5%             | \$150          | 10%           | \$300          |
| \$4,000                 | \$50,000                       | 3%             | \$120          | 4%             | \$160          | 5%             | \$200          | 10%           | \$400          |
| \$6,500                 | \$80,000                       | 3%             | \$195          | 4%             | \$260          | 6%             | \$390          | 10%           | \$650          |
| \$8,500                 | \$100,000                      | 3%             | \$255          | 5%             | \$425          | 6%             | \$510          | 10%           | \$850          |
| \$10,000                | \$120,000                      | 3%             | \$300          | 5%             | \$500          | 6%             | \$600          | 10%           | \$1,000        |
| \$12,500                | \$150,000                      | 4%             | \$500          | 5%             | \$625          | 6%             | \$750          | 10%           | \$1,250        |

In deciding your pledge amount, consider the four participation levels below and how they relate to your membership. Consider your UU values in thinking about your income and your financial commitment to the congregation as expressed in the four levels below. The guide is progressive, rising with capacity.

**Supporter:** The congregation is a significant part of my spiritual and intellectual life that I want to support. My fair share financial commitment starts at 2% of my income and rises to 6% as my income and capacity rise.

**Sustainer:** The congregation is my central community; I am committed to sustaining the programs and ministries of my congregation. My fair share financial commitment starts at 3% of my income and rises to 7% as my income and capacity rise.

**Visionary:** My commitment is a clear demonstration of the unique importance of this congregation and of my spiritual principles. My fair share financial commitment starts at 5% of my income and rises to 9% as my income and capacity rise.

**Transformer:** I am deeply committed to the congregation; my contribution provides fuel for transformation and is part of my spiritual practices in living out my UU Principles. My fair share financial commitment represents 10% of my income.