

Celebrating 30 Years;
Looking Forward to the Next
30!!

This year is UUCNC's 30th anniversary. How many people have given generously over the years to make possible our having this faith community to enjoy? How fortunate we are for their big hearts, determination, and joy in establishing and maintaining this spiritual home we all now share.

What might the next 30 years bring?

How might we contribute to assure UUCNC's growth and well being, out of gratitude for what it means to us, the importance it has in our lives and those of our children?

Our stewardship campaign offers us one possibility of how we can continue to strengthen, support, and encourage the well being of this beloved faith tradition and congregation. We hope you'll offer your financial gift in gratitude and celebration of this home we have created...a congregation that changes lives and serves our world.



Meeting our Goals.....

Last year our congregation participated in a visioning process which helped us define our priorities for the coming years. Overwhelmingly, our number one priority was acquiring space that better suits our needs. Financially this means:

- We need to increase the building fund so that we have a sizeable down payment
- Our annual budget needs to increase.

Conservatively, an additional \$12,000 to \$20,000 to cover monthly expenses of additional rent or mortgage payment, utilities, maintenance, insurance, etc, is needed if we are serious about meeting this goal. Establishing a stronger budget that truly reflects the additional cost of meeting our needs is essential. As you consider your financial gift to UUCNC this year, your stewardship committee encourages you to keep this in mind and hopes that for the coming year we can add at least half of this amount to our annual budget to show our commitment to reaching our number one goal.

UUCNC
PO Box 11,
Fredonia, NY 14063

716-679-7944
www.uucnc.org
information@uucnc.org

UUCNC
Celebrating 30 years of
Stewardship



*Connecting with
courage through
love, faith,
and service*



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Northern Chautauqua
 P.O. Box 11 • Fredonia, New York 14063 • (716) 679-7944
Financial Pledge Form for 2013-2014

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____ City/St/ZIP _____
 Email: _____ I am interested in electronic giving

I/we will pledge:
Weekly _____
Monthly _____
Yearly _____

Please choose from the options below:

- A number of families in our congregation give 5-10% of their income to the church. I/we would like to join them. Our pledge is \$ _____
- I/we cannot tithe right away, but we would like to begin a plan to tithe. An initial pledge toward this goal is \$ _____
- I/we pledge \$100 per month to the church, or \$1,200. _____
- I/we will pledge \$ _____ to the church for the coming year.

Determining Your Financial Gift

UU Michael Durall states that if UU members and friends gave 5-10% of their income to their congregations, a whole new world of opportunity would open up to them. We are encouraging us all to take this challenge and to use this year as a baseline for where we are in terms of our percentage of giving and looking at where we might go—knowing we’re aiming at the 5-10% goal.

Some may wish to figure 5-10% on their net or gross income. Others may wish to subtract unusual expenses (college tuition, medical bills). Some may find themselves in difficult financial circumstances and may be unable to give this year. Each of us must determine for themselves their financial health and their basis for determining their giving. All gifts are important and the many forms of generosity members and friends offer are gratefully received.

To determine your current percentage of giving, take your annual income and divide your pledge by that amount. If your annual income is \$30,000 and you pledge \$900 per year, your percentage of giving is 3% ($900 \text{ divided by } 30,000 = .03 \times 100 = 3\%$). With this as a baseline, we might then determine what a next step might be. Having a baseline and knowing where we’d like to go can help us easily determine our level of giving. It provides a direction, one which can be modified as needed, given your own personal financial circumstances.

Meet with your steward and help us add to our mission covenant statement

When you meet with your steward you will

- Have the opportunity to talk about how important UUCNC is to you
- Discuss why is it important that a UU congregation exist in Northern Chautauqua County
- Ask any questions you may have about pledging
- Offer you financial gift for the coming congregational year

For many years, UUCNC has been guided by a mission-covenant statement. Recently, our Threshold Team met with Renee Rutchotzke concerning our application to the Threshold Program. This program provides professional guidance for three years to aid in congregational growth. Renee remarked that our mission-covenant statement is good in describing our purpose in relation to the congregation and suggested that we may wish to add a sentence or two stating our broader purpose...why we are here for the larger community? What does UUCNC have to offer our region?

Given this, when you meet with your steward, we are asking that you consider providing your response in relation to these questions. The steward will record them and then we will have one or more after service conversations to determine what we might add to our mission-covenant statement to capture this part of UUCNC’s mission.