

March 2024

Dear Friend of UUCGL,

If you're familiar with the cycle of the church year at UUCGL, you've probably guessed that this is the annual appeal letter for pledges. But there's a change this year – I want to ask you to do a little homework related to this appeal. Please read through the Reimagining Task Force's recommendations for improvements to our building, recommendations that have come directly from you and others in the congregation. You can find the report online at <https://tinyurl.com/reimaginingUUCGL> and printed copies of it will be available at church.

I want you to read the report because it outlines several very specific steps we can take to make our building more vibrant, welcoming, and usable, not just for members of our congregation but for the broader community as well. But none of these steps come without a price tag. Want a sanctuary that we can use in summer? Where community groups can host presentations, where we can hold fundraising concerts and gatherings even during a heatwave? That's going to require an investment in insulation. Want a more vibrant entryway, with warm lighting and great signage? I do too, but it isn't free. At UUCGL we haven't historically had a culture of fundraising but we need to change that. We simply do not have enough income from our endowment for everything we want to do. We deserve to be ambitious and creative. To do that I believe that we need to shift our church's culture to embrace the expectation that if you can donate, you will.

Pledging looks different for everyone. In recent years, the most frequent pledge amount at UUCGL has been around \$1500. But maybe you're on a fixed income, or have a child on the cusp of college, or maybe you just passed "Go" and collected 200 dollars – hooray! Every gift matters. It shows a commitment to our faith community and to the values we want to share beyond our church's walls. It shows that you are invested in the future of UUCGL. **Please mail in the enclosed envelope or visit <https://www.uucgl.org/pledge> to make your pledge for the 2024-2025 fiscal year.** Pledges made by mid-April 2024 will help us choose what projects we can take on from July 2024 – June 2025 (our next fiscal year). You don't need to pay right away – you can spread it out with monthly payments through June 2025. If you have any questions you can contact UUCGL's Business Administrator, Elizabeth Muller, at [emuller@uucgl.org](mailto:emuller@uucgl.org) or 781-595-8836, ext. 10. Your specific pledge information is always private.

Thank you,

Mary Gatlin  
President, UUCGL Board of Trustees