



THE UNION UNIVERSITY CHURCH
A COMMUNITY CHURCH
www.unionuniversitychurch.org

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Dear

Our church's fiscal year ends on April 30th and once again, we are pleased to report that the church's finances are healthy and we are ending the year in the black. We want to express our deepest thanks for the generosity of our members that has made the continued ministry of this congregation possible. For the 2020-2021 year, we ask you to consider the following:

1. We ask those who currently give through a free-will offering to **consider making a pledge** instead. In the next two years, the congregation will face two major changes:

- Ownership of the church building will be transferred from the Seventh Day Baptist congregation to our congregation
- We will begin the pastoral search process to find a minister to replace Rev. Laurie DeMott when she retires in January 2022.

As we conduct the pastoral search and work with the new fiscal responsibilities of building ownership, **it will be very important to have an accurate picture of our expected income.** As you can imagine, a pastoral candidate will be more encouraged to hear, "We have such and such amount pledged by our congregation every year," than, "We don't know how much people are planning on giving but they usually put such and such amount in the offering plate." We know that sometimes people are reluctant to make a pledge because they are afraid that the church will contact them if they get behind, but **we promise that all pledges (and all giving) remains confidential and we will not pester you.** You can even pledge the same amount that you normally give as a freewill offering — pledging simply gives us a way of making our financial picture clearer to prospective ministerial candidates.

We have included a chart to show you the current distribution of pledges so that you can see that we have quite a range of giving. Every pledge, small and large, will help with our future planning.

2. We ask that you make a very modest increase in your giving for the coming year by **1.6%** so that we can make a cost of living adjustment to our staff salaries.

3. We have also included our yearly volunteer sheet to assist our Boards in organizing responsibilities for the 2020-2021 church year. Please take a few minutes to fill it out. If you have questions about any of the volunteer opportunities, contact a member of the Stewardship Committee.

Please return your pledges and your volunteer sheets to the church office by **April 19th**. On behalf of the entire congregation, we thank you for your continuing support of the work of Christ through our church and look forward to another wonderful year of ministry. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email any of us at any time.

Sincerely,

The Stewardship Committee

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