



Stewardship Conversations

Countryside Church: Beacon for Today, Blessing for Tomorrow

Every year around this time, we hold a pledge drive during which each member is asked to reaffirm their commitment to Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist and to make a pledge of financial support to sustain this welcoming and loving community. We all know that Countryside Church is a place where we are free to explore and grow our mind and spirit; a community where ethics and compassion are more important than dogma; and, a place where we thrive on spiritual diversity. We find comfort knowing that here we embrace our differences; here we are united in the belief that each person's unique spiritual path enriches our shared journey; and, here a strong thread of humanity brings us closer to one another.

While recent political events have shocked our sensibilities and left us feeling uncomfortable and uncertain, for all of us, Countryside is the one place we know where we can go to join in community with others that share our common views and attitudes, to calm those feelings of discomfort and uncertainty, and to find meaningful and spiritually grounded action that we can take to address our concern for justice and compassion. Countryside is a beacon of hope for all those who repudiate the voices of hatred and bigotry and who stand more strongly than ever with the marginalized communities most vulnerable to the toxic message those voices spread. With our continued and generous financial support, Countryside Church can be a blessing to the future, ensuring that our core Unitarian Universalist principles live on for future generations.

Now more than ever, we need Countryside Church to continue to be a beacon of hope in the present, and now more than ever, we need Countryside Church to be a blessing to the future. For these things, we need your continued financial support – now more than ever.

We ask you to invest in your faith and your values here at CCUU. Generous pledges come in all sizes and only you know what size fits your means. You may be able to significantly increase your pledge – but it is stunning to consider what a difference we can each make when we join together. If everyone who pledges increased their pledge even by just \$8 per month, we would increase our resources by more than \$21,000, and if that increase were \$21 per month, it would increase our resources by more than \$50,000. A small increase can make a big difference.

With gratitude for your continued financial support of Countryside Church,
Gary LaBedz
Chair, Stewardship Team