

The Suggested Fair-Share Contribution Guide

Your faith in action is at work all year.

Your support of CCUU programs and initiatives helps our faith thrive and builds our capacity to fulfill our mission. Money is not easy to talk about. We provide this guide as a way to help. More than anything, we want all of us moving toward fulfilling our mission and living in a state of abundance and possibility.



All of us have different constraints and/or abundance in our giving. Some of us are able to give more when others cannot. Some of us are in a place where we can share to help the whole. As Unitarian Universalists, we aim to be a part of regenerative practices **“based on reflective, responsive, reciprocal relationships of interdependence...and the living world upon which we depend.”**¹ This is why we encourage you to give more if you can. We never turn anyone away from membership, and all are welcome. You can also ask for an annual waiver if your financial situation is such that a minimal gift is not possible at this time.

In making your decision, consider the four commitment levels listed in the guide 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 listed. Note that within each commitment level, **the guide is progressive**, with giving levels rising with capacity. The capacity for each person is different and we aim to exist for all. **Our Countryside congregation is fueled on generous gifts of time and talent too. We are grateful for all you do to make this congregation thrive.**

All are welcome. All pledges are welcome.

¹Source: *From Banks and Tanks to Cooperation and Caring: A Strategic framework for a Just Transition*. Movement Generation, 2016.

What do other people give?

In 2025-26, CCUU pledges are between \$25 to \$20,000 annually. We are aiming to have a healthier, more sustainable spread of giving. If every pledge household gave an equal share, it would be approximately \$3,000 a year or about \$250/month needed for 2026-27. Some of us can afford to share more to make up for those who cannot.

If you divide our pledging into four quartiles, it looks like this:

- Quartile 1: \$25 to \$2,900
- Quartile 2: \$3,000 to \$5,000
- Quartile 3: \$5,100 to \$9,000
- Quartile 4: \$9,100 to \$20,000

If your pledge is close to the next quartile, please consider increasing to reach the next one.

Revisit your giving periodically and reassess whether it's still the right level for you. We are here for you if financial difficulty arises too. **You can change your pledge at any time.** *Pledge waivers are available; in order to request a waiver, you need to have a conversation with the minister, so we can be sure that we are supporting you in every way possible and meeting our records requirements.* Our minister also has a special fund to support those experiencing financial difficulty.

