



Unitarian Universalists of Santa Fe

P.O. Box 4637, Santa Fe, NM 87504 Phone: 505.982.9674

Nurturing hearts and minds, practicing beloved community and working for justice

March 7, 2021

Dear Member or Friend of UU Santa Fe,

We are inviting you to participate in our annual pledge campaign for the July 2021-June, 2022 financial year. After a year of unprecedented events, a year full of anxiety, loss and isolation, we are hopeful the new year will bring a gradual return to being together.

We have adapted to maintain our UU Santa Fe friendships and communities while protecting ourselves through isolation, social distancing and 'virtual' gatherings. Our members have stepped up outreach programs to keep our community connected. Bridges has been active with calling programs to keep touch with our members, especially those living alone or dealing with personal challenges.

There have been challenges. Losing the ability to come together in our building impacted our ability to host fundraising events, our weekly offertory was significantly reduced, and the financial help outside community groups provide through building rentals disappeared. This left a huge gap in our budget. The Paycheck Protection Program grant we received allowed us to keep our staffing in place and 'balance' our budget but moving to online required investing in audio/video equipment and adding Zoom accounts while most operating costs continued at the pre-pandemic levels. While many of our members have faced challenges, the level of support for our congregation has remained high.

Next year is uncertain but we have hope that vaccination and adaptation will allow some return to 'normalcy' and at some point allow us to come together in person. Supporting our community is stretching our capabilities so budgets and pledges are especially important. It's about nurturing the community! Even as our membership, on-line engagement and scope grow, our budget has been constrained given the loss of several sources of income. Recognizing our personal financial challenges, we reduced our pledge goal for 2021-2022 to \$265,000.

Your pledge form is available on the website in two formats:

- As an easy to complete web form—<https://uusantafe.breezechms.com/form/ab0680766>
- As a document to download, print and complete and then either scan and email to financeteam@uusantafe.org or mail to the office

We would appreciate if you can return your pledge by April 15, 2021, so that final budget decisions can be made before the May 23, 2021 Annual Meeting of UU Santa Fe.

With optimism and hope, your 2021-2022 Pledge Team, Gregory Berg, Brent Farler & Roberta Armstrong

P.S. The Board and Minister's Message enclosed will tell you more, and our website members only page (www.uusantafe.org/membersonly) provides additional information.