



Unitarian Universalists of Santa Fe

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

Visioning Our Future—Together with Love

Dear Friends,

It is that time of year again— the annual Pledge Drive!

We are so grateful for your financial contributions, and equally thankful to each of you for your contributions of time and talent. By contributing in this manner, you make UU Santa Fe a thriving congregation. Your commitment to nurturing our community enables us to serve each other, our larger community and the visitors that seek us out. Again, thank you.

Because of your generosity we can say:

- UU Santa Fe is financially stable because of your pledges each year; the vision and generosity of those who set up and contributed to the Permanent Endowment Fund; the income received from our many rentals; and the careful stewardship of our shared resources.
- We have a healthy attendance for Sunday worship services, both in person and on YouTube, thanks to the dedicated members who provide the technical support each week, and the creativity of the Worship team. We will continue to offer all services in a hybrid format.
- Programing remains vibrant under the guidance of Teresa Tunick (Vice President for Program) and Rev. Kimi Floyd Reisch (Program Ministry Director). The Neighborhood Groups and Covenant Groups have kept our community knitted together, and the Justice Council is helping us live into our values with community partnerships including our relationships with Esperanza, Adelante and the NAACP.

We have listened carefully to your thoughts and comments through the survey, town hall and feedback sessions and we take your feedback seriously. We are committed to maintaining our facility, supporting our staff and growing our programs in ways that align with the vision emerging from the long-range planning process.

This year the Board set a pledge goal of \$354,000. This is a significant jump from last year's ask of \$310,000 and an even larger jump from the \$287,000 that we raised in last year's canvass and supplemented from our dwindling reserve fund. Such a jump is necessary if we are to maintain our building, support our programs, treat our staff fairly and act on our dreams. That said most of our budget goes to support our small but talented staff.

And who are our staff members? **Aaron Leventman and Mary Kreutz** work with volunteers to manage the office, the building and our finances. **Pete Vogel** has been working with the Facilities Team to keep our building in shape for years—he knows every inch of our campus. **Rev. Kimi Floyd Reisch** works with the many programs offered through the Program Council including worship, membership, lifelong learning and justice, as well as providing invaluable assistance with our website and newsletter. All of these things help put our values into action with opportunities for learning, action, and caring. This year, **Lydia Madrick**, our Music Director and primary keyboardist, will be celebrating her 30th anniversary of providing music for our community. Her skill and her community connections are invaluable.

Rev. Gail Marriner is central to our team. She supervises staff, works with the Board of Trustees, the Program Council and the Operations Council, leads the Worship Team and our worship services, tag teams with Membership, Hospitality and Bridges, provides pastoral care, memorial services and weddings, participates with interfaith and community allies in the larger Santa Fe community, and endeavors to be a calm, sane and welcoming presence in our midst.

As our called minister Rev. Gail is full-time, Rev. Kimi three-quarters time, Aaron and Mary half-time and Lydia and Pete 20%-time employees.

This level of staffing is at the UUA-recommended level for a congregation of our size. The Pledge Goal this year includes a cost-of-living adjustment to keep staff compensation in line with UUA guidelines for living wages here in Santa Fe. We practice our UU values when we honor the inherent worth and dignity of our staff by compensating them fairly.

We can do this. Consider our shared UU values and how important they are in these challenging times. Think about all the ways that UU Santa Fe enriches your life: the programs, the ideas, the potlucks, the justice opportunities, the encouragement and support, the friends and co-conspirators you have found here. These things are worth supporting.

As we write this, UU Santa Fe membership, attendance, programs and staffing are all strong and healthy. We are living out our UU values and working to make Santa Fe and New Mexico happier, healthier places. We need your support to keep moving forward. Your annual pledge tells us you are still part of UU Santa Fe. Please confirm your continued enthusiasm for our community by filling out your pledge form and returning it promptly. We trust you will pledge as generously as you are able. Please know that everything you give will be gratefully received and wisely spent.

Laura Brockington,
President UU Santa Fe Board of Trustees

Rev. Gail Marriner,
Senior Minister