



## **Unitarian Universalists of Santa Fe**

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### **Pledge 2026-2027—We Are the Light!**

March 15, 2026

Dear Friends,

Late on a chilly Christmas Eve, 1886, a three-masted ship named the Annie C Macquire slammed into the treacherous rocky shore along the Atlantic Coast at Cape Elizabeth, Maine. The alert and nimble lighthouse keeper, Joshua Strout, quickly rigged a ladder to extend from the shoreline to the crippled vessel. All aboard clambered across the makeshift gangplank to safety. The records reflect a befuddled captain who had no explanation for the accident. The night was clear and the lighthouse (which consisted of not one, but two, towers) was beaming brightly. One wonders if the captain, or anyone else onboard, was awake.

We would hazard a guess that most of us at UU Santa Fe are awake to the perilous social and political seas swirling through our country, disquieting our lives. Yet the beacon of our Beloved Community is carefully tended by our devoted membership. It radiates powerfully in and through the larger community. At any given moment in time, UU Santa Fe harbors small study groups, neighborhood groups, meditation groups, yoga class, Tai Chi and Tai Chi Chih class, recovery groups, covenant groups, musical groups, social justice initiatives, and our friends of HaMakom and Desert Rain Sangha. There are still other community initiatives with UU involvement such as assisting humanitarian programs to feed and clothe the unhoused in Santa Fe.

Of course, Sunday service at UU Santa Fe is a sanctum of peace and quiet where love and reason are preached. UU Santa Fe nurtures our individual spiritual journeys and provides a hope-filled community in which we find camaraderie and friendship. Like Mr. Strout, the lighthouse keeper who lent a helping hand to desperate people stranded in the dark, UU Santa Fe inspires us all to let “love flow through us and walk among us as we live our lives and work to heal our world.”

But it takes all of us working together to keep our lamp afire. And it takes significant financial resources. As our congregation grows, our staffing needs increase. Our aging building has its own deferred maintenance issues. We urge that you devote a few minutes now to reflect on the important role UU Santa Fe plays in your life. Then, pledge accordingly as if the lifeblood of UU Santa Fe depends upon it. Because it does. Together we are the light!

Thank you and Blessings,

Bryan Fredrickson, Board President

Rev. Gail Lindsay Marriner, Minister