



Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Santa Cruz County

6401 Freedom Boulevard, Aptos, CA 95003

(831) 684-0506

2026-2027 FINANCIAL PLEDGE



The Magic in Teamwork with our Time, Talent, & Treasure

Dear Members and Friends,

It is time to ask for your annual Pledge Commitment to support our Fellowship. As we see our country's politics moving in a direction opposite to the values we hold dear, we are called to redouble our efforts to uphold those values here in the Fellowship, in Santa Cruz County, in our State, in the Nation, and in the World. To do this we must remain strong in our commitment to our Fellowship and to each other. So, along with Time, Talent and Treasure, it will take Teamwork: the teamwork of making a financial pledge.

In recent months we have renewed the contract with our hybrid minister, strengthened our Team with a new Music Director, and added more robust Tech Support. The new staff will add a great deal to our Worship & Zoom experience. However, they bring some additional **costs and overall expenses have also been rising**. Thus, we are asking you to **consider an 8% increase in your Annual Pledge**.

Our pledge goal for 2026-27 is **\$166,037**, an increase of **\$12,500** from the prior year. Our pledge campaign officially kicks off on **Sunday, March 8th**. You can pledge in person after the service on March 8, or online at uufsc.org (click Donate or Pledge, scroll to "Pledge Commitment 2026-2027", and fill in your information). Be sure to specify whether you want the pledge to be paid automatically every month, or with other frequency.

Thank you for your generosity to our values, our UU Team, and Our Congregation.

Sincerely,

Your 2026-2027 Stewardship Committee:

Diana Wirt Joy Hinz Chuck Torrey Joe Griffin Jan Taylor

UUFSCC Pledge Guide, 2026-2027

As you may know, **we** are the financial backbone of our Fellowship. We do not get support from UUA or anywhere other than ourselves. Fortunately, we own our building and grounds, and collect some rents for use of our facilities. Our own contributions serve our mission via services and programs.

The chart below shows how to best estimate a level of support based on your financial and household situation. If you did not pledge this year, please consider how you might be able to do so now for 2026-27.

Number of pledging units	Actual Pledge Amounts for 2025-2026	Total pledge \$ at each level	Percent of total pledges	Pledge Rainbow Level	How do you decide what to pledge? Consider your household financials:
4	\$8,000-10,500+	\$36,250	24%	Purple	significant, stable income; may own more than one home or other assets
7	\$4,000-\$7,999	\$40,200	26%	Blue	financially comfortable, well-paying job, robust retirement fund or other assets, with significant discretionary income
17	\$2,000-3,999	\$44,520	29%	Green	adequate income and enough resources for some discretionary spending
14	\$1,000-1,999	\$18,125	12%	Yellow	modest income or income that is fixed or that fluctuates
28	\$25-999	\$14,442	9%	Orange	small amount of extra money, perhaps may have a large family or low income
10	0			No pledge	Difficult financial status. Let us know your situation**
69	Totals	\$153,537	100%		

****** Please fill out a pledge form even if your financial situation is difficult this coming year. Whatever amount you can contribute will help us continue to work together as a Team to support our UU values in these turbulent times. Thank you again for your generous contributions of time, talent, and treasure.

Our values: *Covenant, Transformation, Curiosity & Openness, Universal Inclusiveness, Justice and Action, Love & Compassion.*

Pledge from Retirement Funds, RMDs, or Legacy Gifts

If you have a retirement account, you can donate directly from that account and the withdrawal will be tax free, whether you itemize your tax return or not.

- If you have attained the age of a required minimum distribution (RMD), usually required by age 73, you can fulfill some or all of that RMD by donating directly to UU tax free

Check with your financial advisor or custodian for the procedure to complete these donations

Trust or Legacy Gifts

Pledgers are encouraged to consider putting the UUFSCC in their Trusts or designating other assets to the UU that will live on beyond us and support our future.

Please talk to our Treasurer, Chuck Torrey, and/or your financial advisor about how to do this.

Donor Advised Funds

You can also donate to the UU via Donor Advised Funds. Such donations cannot be designated as “pledges”, but they can serve the same purpose of supporting our UU mission.

Please talk to our Treasurer, Chuck Torrey, and/or your fund manager about how to do this.