



Unitarian Church of Montpelier
130 Main St, Montpelier VT 05602
(802) 223-7861 • ucmvt.org

*We welcome all
as we build a loving community
to nurture each person's spiritual journey,
serve human need,
and protect the earth, our home.*

Renew, Nurture, Grow **Pledge Drive 2023-2024**

Dear Members and Friends of the Unitarian Church of Montpelier,

“This year, I hope to...”

Renew my attention to community; my commitment not to judge others; my focus on spiritual practices; my connections with old friends; my “joie de vie”;

Nurture the gifts of myself and others; connections with neighbors; my spiritual center; my inner creative spirit;

Grow my relationship with the living earth; making space for joy; non-screen time;

These are a few responses from members of our Stewardship Team. This annual pledge drive, we want to know what you hope to renew, nurture and grow in your lives, communities and at UCM this year. We invite you to write your hopes on the notecard included in your pledge materials and bring it to the Stewardship table in the church vestry to share with others in our community.

At UCM, we connect with each other and our values in many ways: through song and solidarity during Sunday services; through fruitful conversation in small groups; in celebration and in grief; in learning and in service to others. At this time of division and cynicism, it is vital to have communities where we are called into the work of love.

The annual pledge drive is one way we support the work of our spiritual community. It ensures that UCM remains a place where it is possible for each of us to renew ourselves and our relationships, nurture our connections with others, and grow our capacity for love. It pays for the programs we value and for the beloved staff members who make them possible.

This year we are seeking a 12% increase in our pledged income and a 10% increase in the total number of pledges we receive. These increases reflect our commitment to equitable, transparent and just compensation for our staff and a desire to expand our community of pledging stewards.

We deepen our ministry through stewardship of UCM by sharing our resources, our time and expertise, and our gifts with each other. Through this generosity, we grow as individuals, as a community and as an organization. We appreciate your gifts and all the ways you share them.

You can make your pledge to UCM using the pledge envelope enclosed or by pledging online through the Breeze platform (<https://tinyurl.com/UCM-pledge-2023>) by March 12. For help in determining your pledge amount, please read the Suggested Fair Share Giving Guidelines on the back of Rev. Joan's letter or speak to one of our Pledge Drive Stewards during coffee hour after Sunday services.

Thank you for your generosity,

The 2023 Stewardship Team:

Ansel Ploog, Claudia Clark, Scott Hess, Sue Stukeey, Peter Thoms, Rocky Kelley, John Poeton, with Rev. Joan Javier-Duval and graphic design by Brian Prendergast

Ansel Ploog *Claudia Clark* *Scott Hess*
Sue Stukeey *Peter Thoms* *John Thoms Poeton*