



Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Cleveland STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2021-22

March 2021

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.

— John Wesley

Dear Members and Friends,

This year, as we head into the future, our Congregation calls to all of us to embrace our mission, advance our vision for our Congregation and our community, and answer the call of stewardship.

Opportunity beckons and the future is bright. Our stewardship campaign theme, “*Sailing into 2021*” reflects our optimism for UCC and our capacity to “keep on course.”

Despite the disruption caused by the pandemic, we have *persisted*! We have never lost sight of our hopes for our Congregation or our community. We have discovered and devised new ways to meet, connect and collaborate – in worship, religious education for all, small group ministries, justice efforts, and just to have some fun. And, even in these difficult times, we have maintained the Congregation’s financial stability – thanks to our congregants making and fulfilling their stewardship pledges. We’ve done well despite the pandemic and its impact on our ability to be together in person – we have a good wind at our back for moving forward

By this summer, we expect a new minister will have answered our call to ministerial leadership. The COVID-19 vaccines provide us with hope for convening in person later this year, in whatever a “new normal” may be. Our strategic plan, mission and vision adopted last year is guided by our time honored UU values and principles.

Our mission certainly proclaims our aspirations: **Community within and without, search for and grow Spiritually, and promote Justice in action.**

which all members consider what wealth, work, and wisdom they can contribute to support UCC.

In addition to addressing our ministerial and facility needs, there are three key elements to our strategic plan:

- **Visibility** – Increase awareness of UCC and UU values to draw visitors and new members.
- **Community Building** – Expand activities and programs that foster engagement, connection and spirituality.
- **Intersectional Justice** – Engage members in justice work to achieve a more equitable, inclusive and resilient community.

Our goal this year is to raise \$475,000, as we explore new horizons in justice and community service while continuing to build fellowship within our congregation and our communities. These funds will support the needed programs, staff, and facilities. As a point of reference, last year's stewardship campaign generated \$442,000 in pledges.

We encourage all of our members to be as generous as their means allow in making their stewardship commitment for 2021/22. We are asking that all who can consider pledging at the Sustainer level -- \$5,000 for couples, and \$3,500 for an individual. The enclosed brochure may be helpful in your consideration of your pledge amount.

Your pledge card is enclosed. Please return it promptly so that the Board can plan and present a budget to the congregation in May that is based on our collective commitment. You can also make your pledge online – details are on the pledge card.

Please answer the call to stewardship, service and fellowship. Contribute time, talent and treasure to support the collective endeavors of our congregation and our mission to build community, deepen spirituality and promote justice! With you on board, we will indeed have a bon voyage *Sailing into 2021*.

With gratitude and respect,
The 2021 Stewardship Committee

