

68th Anniversary, Pacific Unitarian Church Pledge Drive, 2025–26



MORE LOVE

2025 is a year like no other. Energized by the excitement our new minister brings, we are poised to grow into our potential. At the same time, we're shaken by the changes in our country, and we welcome those flocking to our doors in search of a safe spiritual community. We struggle to find ways to stand up to cruel new policies and executive orders. In a world where love itself seems under attack, the act of **loving more** is nothing short of rebellion. As our UUA President Sofia Betancourt puts it, "Fierce love compels us to action." PUC was founded on loving rebellion; we are up to the task.

More Need

Last year our PUC community pledged \$210,000, and we received our final post-pandemic grant of \$80,000. This helped fund our music program, worship services, guest speakers, social justice work, and paid our staff and our many bills. We also called a new minister, replaced our microphones and projector, and repaired our plumbing.

Our spending budget for next year will be 4% higher because of rising insurance, tax costs, and inflation and our post-pandemic funds are no more. The finance team has combed through each budget line and found ways to trim where possible. Still, to meet our costs and support the grounds, services and staff that we love, we need to raise **\$265,000**. **This means an average of \$2350 per pledger (based on the number of pledgers last year) to meet our budget, compared with last year's pledger averaging \$1850.**

Of course, that amount doesn't work for every budget. If you *can* pledge more, that helps all of us. We just ask each person to give what makes sense for them—and as much as possible, think about what PUC means to you.

Pledge to keep what you love.

Our pledge goal of \$265,000 will allow us to fund programs like these:

- Our phenomenal music program, music director, and special performers
- Religious Education programming, including OWL and Coming of Age
- Continuing enrichment programming for adults
- Multicultural and interfaith programming
- Celebrations and special services
- Maintaining the beauty and safety of our campus, and making necessary repairs and improvements
- Revitalizing our website and outreach platforms
- Salaries for our staff that meet rising cost-of-living
- Taxes and utilities, which have increased with inflation
- Membership dues to our parent organization, the Unitarian Universalist Association
- Community outreach with social justice programs like Community's Child

How much should you pledge?

Pledges are commitments to our community, and should reflect what you can donate to support PUC while meeting your needs and other commitments in the year to come.

We are asking for an average of \$2,350 per pledger. That's less than \$200 per month to meet our current goals as we look to renew and grow our membership in 2025 - 2026.

		Percentage of Income									
Income		2%		4%		6%		8%		10%	
Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly	Annual	Monthly
\$12,000	\$1,000	\$240	\$20	\$480	\$40	\$720	\$60	\$960	\$80	\$1,200	\$100
\$20,000	\$1,667	\$400	\$33	\$800	\$67	\$1,200	\$100	\$1,600	\$133	\$2,000	\$167
\$40,000	\$3,333	\$800	\$67	\$1,600	\$133	\$2,400	\$200	\$3,200	\$267	\$4,000	\$333
\$60,000	\$5,000	\$1,200	\$100	\$2,400	\$200	\$3,600	\$300	\$4,800	\$400	\$6,000	\$500
\$80,000	\$6,667	\$1,600	\$133	\$3,200	\$267	\$4,800	\$400	\$6,400	\$533	\$8,000	\$667
\$100,000	\$8,333	\$2,000	\$167	\$4,000	\$333	\$6,000	\$500	\$8,000	\$667	\$10,000	\$833
\$150,000	\$12,500	\$3,000	\$250	\$6,000	\$500	\$9,000	\$750	\$12,000	\$1,000	\$15,000	\$1,250
\$200,000	\$16,667	\$4,000	\$333	\$8,000	\$667	\$12,000	\$1,000	\$16,000	\$1,333	\$20,000	\$1,667
\$250,000	\$20,833	\$5,000	\$417	\$10,000	\$833	\$15,000	\$1,250	\$20,000	\$1,667	\$25,000	\$2,083
\$300,000	\$25,000	\$6,000	\$500	\$12,000	\$1,000	\$18,000	\$1,500	\$24,000	\$2,000	\$30,000	\$2,500

Questions?

Come see us at the pledge table on the patio every Sunday from February 23 to March 16.

Or contact stewardship@pacificunitarian.org

Make Your Pledge to Pacific Unitarian Now

Save this for Reference



Got Questions about Pledge or Other Donations?

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: I'm not sure if I pledged. How can I find out?

A: Check with church administrator Gaby Sese at

admin@pacificunitarian.org.

Q: I put money in the basket. Does that count as a pledge?

A: No. Money in the basket is part of the collection, but is not a pledge. A pledge is made by completing a pledge form with the amount you pledge for the church year. That helps us create and maintain the budget each year.

Q: I gave to PUC by writing a check or paying on Zelle. Does that count as a pledge?

A: No. Please complete a pledge form to help with church budgeting and ensure your status as a voting member.

Q: Didn't I already pay my pledge a few months ago?

A: You probably did, but that was for the 2024-25 church year, which ends in June 2025. This pledge drive is for the 2025-26 church year (July 2025 - June 2026). And thanks for your pledge!

Q: Do I have to pay my 2025-26 pledge now?

A: No. This pledge drive is for the 2025-26 church year (July 2025 - June 2026). You have until June 2026 to pay the money you pledged. And thank you!

Have further questions? Please contact Gaby Sese: admin@pacificunitarian.org.



Tips on Making Your Donations Count

At PUC, our budget is pretty lean, and every dollar you give is important. To ensure that your donations are properly accounted for, follow these guidelines:

- Pledge or Donation?

To make your annual pledge, be sure to do it through the website and fill out a pledge form, or tell Gaby or the Stewardship Committee. The pledge is very important in setting our annual budget each year. The church financial year runs from July 1 to June 30, so you will have until then to pay your pledged amount.

- Memo, Memo, Memo

Always fill out the memo line when giving via check, PayPal, Zelle, or transfer of funds. "Pledge 24-25" will apply your payment to last year's pledge if you haven't fulfilled it yet. "Pledge 25-26" will apply payment to the coming year's pledge.

- Split Plate Donations

Write "split plate" to share with the organization that week. If you write "pledge" in the memo line, your donation will not be shared that week. If you want your entire donation to be given to the charitable organization, write "all to XXX" on the memo line.

- Weekly Collection Basket

We do have a budget line for these donations, and greatly appreciate them. However, we cannot track cash donations toward individuals' giving. If you want to account for this giving, put your money in a donation envelope, which is available at the door of the hall. Ask an usher if you need help.

If you have any questions, you can contact Gaby or the Stewardship Committee. Thank you!