



# Follen Church Society

## Unitarian Universalist

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December 27, 2011

Dear Members and Friends of Follen,

The Follen annual stewardship drive begins January 8. This is a vital effort for the church and we're counting on your support. Our cherished programs, including religious education, music, social justice and community outreach, depend upon your and others' financial commitment. Fair and equitable salaries for our staff and essential maintenance for our wonderful, historic building also rely on our collective stewardship. These costs go up every year. The enclosed brochure provides some additional perspective on stewardship, our programs, and the importance of our church community.

The chart on the back of this page shows how church funds were allocated in the current fiscal year. Some relevant facts about our operating budget and pledging:

- Approximately 75% of our operating budget goes towards supporting our valued staff (salary, professional expenses, and benefits)

- Approximately 65% of our operating funds come directly from pledges

- Pledging amounts obviously vary significantly based upon commitment to Follen and financial ability. Of those who choose to pledge and are able to do so, the average annual pledge last year was a little over \$1600.00. We hope to increase the average pledge this year.

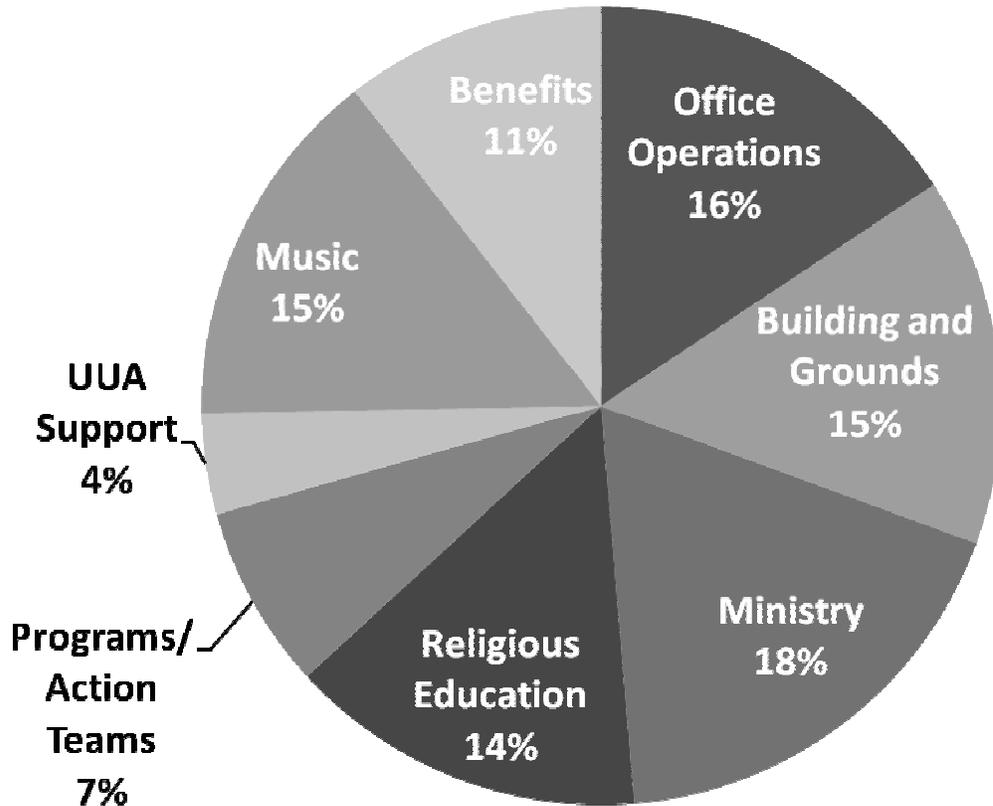
Visiting stewards will contact you in early January to arrange an in-person or telephone conversation about Follen. With your help, we hope to complete the fund drive by the end of January so please respond to your steward quickly. Please welcome this conversation as an opportunity to reflect on and dialogue about what the Follen community means to you. Your steward will also ask you to provide them with a completed pledge form when you meet. The amount that you pledge is of course a personal choice. Pledge amounts are private, and your visiting steward will not know the specifics of your pledge.

Please take a moment to review the UUA "Fair Share Giving Guide" on the reverse side and consider what you are willing and able to pledge. Per UUA guidance, in reviewing the Fair Share Giving guide, we ask that you consider making a commitment to *move toward* the suggested financial fair share. It might be a three-year process or even a five-year process for some of us, but we advocate moving toward a fair-share financial commitment in a steady, intentional way.

In the spirit of community,

Brian M. Cali  
for the Stewardship Committee

## Allocation of Church Funds in Current Year



### Fair-Share Giving Guide

Adjusted Annual Income	Supporter			Sustainer			Visionary		
	Suggested Percent. of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested Percent. of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested Percent. of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment
\$10,000	1	\$8	\$100	2	\$17	\$200	5	\$42	\$500
\$25,000	1	\$21	\$250	2	\$42	\$500	5	\$104	\$1,250
\$50,000	1	\$42	\$500	3	\$125	\$1,500	5	\$208	\$2,500
\$75,000	2	\$125	\$1,500	3	\$188	\$2,250	6	\$375	\$4,500
\$100,000	2	\$167	\$2,000	3.5	\$292	\$3,500	6.5	\$542	\$6,500
\$150,000	2.5	\$313	\$3,750	3.5	\$438	\$5,250	6.5	\$813	\$9,750
\$200,000	2.5	\$417	\$5,000	4	\$667	\$8,000	7	\$1,167	\$14,000

To determine your adjusted annual income, write down your adjusted gross income (AGI) IRS 1040, line 31 or the appropriate line on the IRS form you use, add depreciation, tax-free income and tax-exempt pensions, then subtract unreimbursed medical expenses, care of dependents (including elderly parents) and college costs.