



Renewal

The TVUUC 2023-2024 Pledge Campaign

Dear Member or Friend:

These last three years of COVID have had a significant impact on all religious denominations, and Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (TVUUC) has been no exception. But now we are coming back to normal – actually, on to a new normal. We are beginning to gather together again in person, with a new added dimension of on-line streaming of worship services. We are recreating volunteer activities with a new Let's Connect program to help our community reengage with each other and the church. We are in a process of renewal – rising from the strain of social isolation to begin again and meet our personal and community challenges.

We are working to care for each other in a variety of ways. Small Group Ministry groups and Heart-to-Heart Circles bring us together in person and virtually to provide support and connection. Our Spiritual Care Team offers services by phone or in person, and works to provide support to all that need it in our church community. The Personal beliefs and Commitments group continues to meet, as it has for years, and helps people find their own spiritual path. Our Sunday worship services, bolstered by the Music program, offers a weekly centering and gathering activity for the adults, while our innovative Religious Exploration program fosters the children and youth of our community to find their own path as well.

“TVUUC has changed Knoxville. Repeatedly.” Walter Davis

TVUUC continues to lead the way in helping change our community for the better. Our community is involved in a host of activities to help others as well as change social systems for the better. We help feed the hungry through our outreach to Volunteer Ministry Services. We participate in the interdenominational FISH program, delivering food to those in need. Our new Little Food Pantry at our entrance offers free food in a no barrier way. Our Community Garden provides fresh food for the Pantry and for the WIC program. We help provide shelter and meals to the homeless through the family Promise Program.



To pledge now: point your phone to the code to the right and click the yellow url tab that pops up. It will take you to a pledge card.



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TVUUC Fair Share Giving Guide

Deciding how much to give our church community is a very personal and individualized decision. This giving guide is one tool that some people find helpful. It is based on your Adjusted Monthly or Annual Income. This is your income after basic expenses are paid.

Giver Level: \$1 to 2% of your Adjusted Income.

The congregation is my spiritual community that I want to support. This is what I can give at this time.

Supporter Level: 2% - 6% of your Adjusted Income

The congregation is a significant part of my spiritual and intellectual life that I want to support. As my income rises I will give closer to 6%.

Sustainer Level: 3%-7% of Your Adjusted Income.

The congregation is my central community. I am committed to sustaining the programs and ministries of the congregation. As my income rises I will give closer to 7%.

Visionary Level: 5%-9% of Your Adjusted Income.

My commitment is a clear demonstration of the unique importance of this congregation and of my spiritual principles. As my income rises I will give closer to 9%.

Full Tithe: 10% or more of Your Adjusted Income.

I am deeply committed to the congregation; my contribution provides fuel for transformation and is part of my spiritual practices in living out my UU principles.

2023 Share the Plate Information

This is the information for Share the Plate for the coming year. During the pandemic, we had kept most of the organizations previously voted on since we could not easily and safely hold an election for Share the Plate. This year, we did hold our usual process but moved it up near the beginning of the new year instead of near the congregational meeting. Our schedule does have some flexibility if the need arises.

Terry Uselton, STP Chair

Twelve organizations were nominated for the twelve Share the Plate spots for 2023. Because of that we will not have voting as all organizations are automatically approved.

The organizations in alphabetical order are:

1. Beck Cultural Center - www.beckcenter.net
2. Bryant's Bridge - www.bryantsbridge.org
3. Ijams Nature Center - www.ijams.org
4. Justice Knox - justiceknox.org
5. Lonsdale Environmental Camp at Tremont - www.knoxschools.org/lonsdalees
6. Mountain Access Brigade - mountainaccessbrigade.org
7. Planned Parenthood of TN and North Mississippi - www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-tennessee-and-north-mississippi
8. Remote Area Medical (RAM) - www.ramusa.org
9. SEEED - www.seeedknox.org
10. The Bottom - www.thebottomknox.com
11. The Highlander Center - highlandercenter.org
12. Trans Empowerment Project (TEP) - transempowerment.org

Six Organizations are considered part of the TVUUC "Social Funding Network" They are part of the Designated Offerings.

1. Family Promise
2. FISH
3. Lonsdale Mentoring Program
4. TVUUC Community Gardens
5. VMC (Volunteer Ministry Center) Meals
6. TVUUC Advancing Equality Fund

The Senior Minister has six Sundays for Designated Offerings (including Helping Fund Christmas Eve Service).

A rough estimate of where our budget money goes, in terms of “outputs”, based on personnel expenses.
2022-2023 budget.

Prepared by Ted Jones, January, 2023.

