

The reality is, it takes money to allow our beloved community to function. Our campaign goal is to raise \$275,000 towards this year’s budget.

FY2024 Proposed Budgeted Expenses\*

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Worship & Music                         | \$130,667 |
| Community Within                        | \$140,192 |
| Lifespan Learning                       | \$75,309  |
| Income Generation                       | \$31,451  |
| Social Justice & Community Outreach     | \$10,926  |
| UU, Interfaith, & Community Connections | \$47,950  |
| Total                                   | \$436,495 |

\*a detailed description of each program area can be found in the Stewardship and Generosity section of our church’s website

We are again projecting funds borrowed from our Endowment to get us over this current hump and set us on the path to future growth.

FY2023 Proposed Income

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Pledged Donations          | \$275,000 |
| Endowment Fund Loan        | \$98,243  |
| Service Auction            | \$22,000  |
| Non-pledged Donations      | \$16,000  |
| Rental Income              | \$15,000  |
| Fundraising                | \$3,700   |
| Plate Donations            | \$3,600   |
| Grocery Card Profits       | \$2,500   |
| Coffee Hour Donations      | \$400     |
| Interest                   | \$52      |
| Estimated FY2023 Carryover | \$0       |
| Total                      | \$436,495 |



LOVE  
IS THE SPIRIT  
OF THIS CHURCH



## Love is Our Greatest Purpose

Jay E Abernathy, Jr

We affirm that love is our greatest purpose.  
Accepting one another is the truest form of faithful living.  
The search for truth is our constant star.  
We pledge our hearts, minds and hands:  
To challenge injustice with courage;  
To find hope in times of fear;  
And to live out our Unitarian Universalist values  
every day as a beloved community.  
Thus we do covenant with each other  
and with all that is sacred in life.



## A Message from your Generosity Team

Love is the Spirit of this Church

We love this church. This beloved community plays an important role in our lives. It gives us a welcoming circle of fellow travelers on a spiritual quest and gives us opportunities to help in service to the wider world. This church makes us better people.

Our church has pulled through a tough past two years and is well on its way to moving beyond covid. There is much reason for optimism. The sanctuary is filled to capacity again on Sundays and we have a robust online attendance. Our congregation is starting to live into all the opportunities for service that Hobbs Hall allows us (and rental income is picking up). The growing energy is palpable, but financially, we are still in a place where we will need to tap our reserves. Your monetary support is more important than ever this year as we keep our focus firmly on future financial self sufficiency.

Think about the ways that you love this church as you decide on this year's pledge.

Kay Eckman, Marion Yeagler and Claudia Miller

## A Message from your Minister

Dear Members and Friends of the UU Church of Kent,

We often use the words of James Vila Blake for our chalice lighting: "Love is the spirit of this church..." Have you ever stopped to think about what that means? It means that one of our deepest values, a core part of our theology as Unitarian Universalists, is Love. Love is woven through our UU Seven Principles and is the heart of our Universalist heritage with its message of a Love that holds all of us in its embrace and accepts us just as we are; a Love that challenges us to continue to grow and to dare to continue our quest for meaning and wholeness.

Since the founding of this congregation in 1866, love has been the spirit of our church and it continues to be the spirit of this church, calling us to serve one another and the world, work for justice, provide a safe and inclusive welcome and space for all, especially LGBTQIA+ individuals and others on the margins, to engage in ministries that change and touch lives, and to do the work that helps move our world toward the Beloved Community. This is all possible because of your continued generosity, the sharing of your gifts of money, time, and your unique self with all your skills, talents and passions. Thank you.

It is once again time for the annual pledge drive, our yearly opportunity to ensure that this community continues to thrive and live out our mission to inspire love. As you consider your annual pledge, which is your promise to support the operating expenses of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Kent, I invite you to take some time to reflect about what this spiritual community means to you. How has the love that is the spirit of this church changed you for the better? How are you inspired and challenged by Love to serve others and the world?

With gratitude for the opportunity to share with you the love that is the spirit of this church,

Rev. Steven

