



Unitarian Universalist
Church of Kent

29 February 2012

Dear Members and Guests of our Congregation,

It is fitting that I write to you on Leap Day as we are taking a significant leap forward with this year's stewardship campaign. Over the last couple of years, we have made a concerted effort to explore best practices in financial stewardship. We have learned two important things. First, that our congregation has already adopted the recommended processes and procedures for ensuring the transparent and responsible use of contributed funds. Our research has assured us we are doing a good job being good stewards of the money you donate to our church. Second, we have learned that we need to do a better job helping you understand *how the money you contribute to our church funds our mission and our ministry*.

In years past we have shared with you a very detailed line item budget showing every cent we expect to receive and expend over the next fiscal year. This year we are presenting our budget to you in a very different form. Enclosed in this mailing you will find a packet depicting the ways your donation helps us live out our mission and our ministry. Our church does not exist to pay an electric bill. *Our church exists to help people live caring lives of meaning and purpose.*

With your pledge, you are **supporting spirited worship and open minded religious exploration.**

With your contribution, you are **nurturing caring community and strong connections** with other Unitarian Universalist congregations as well as with our interfaith partners.

With your gift to our church, you are **sustaining our ministry which reaches out in the quest for justice and wholeness for all people.**

We hope that this new visual presentation of our budget will help you see the many powerful ways our church is inspiring and transforming lives. If you would prefer to see the budget in its line item format, please contact our Congregational Administrator MaryBeth Hannan in the church office.

Your gift of financial support makes it possible for us to fulfill our mission. I hope you will consider what it means to you to be a part of our many ministries and let your gift generously reflect your commitment. Thank you for your support. Together we make a wonderful church!

In faith,

Rev. Melissa Carvill-Ziemer