

## Pledging Questions and Answers

**Why does the Fellowship ask for a pledge?** One step of becoming a member of the Fellowship is making a pledge and financial contributions will retain your membership. Budgeting is a necessary part of fiscal responsibility, and pledging allows the leadership to plan expenditures at the appropriate level. We are glad to continue welcoming new members and expanding our programs in response to membership requests. Pledges from members and friends account for over 80% of the annual Fellowship income. The rest comes from a variety of sources including fundraisers, rental fees, and contributions from visitors.

**How do I pay my pledge?** Most people elect to pay by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). You may also pay by check at the interval most convenient to you. You can mail the check to the office or put it in the plate at services. Please note on the memo line that this is your pledge payment. If you choose to give cash, make sure your name is attached securely so it can be matched to your pledge.

**What is “EFT?”** EFT is Electronic Funds Transfer. This is similar to direct deposit of checks. If you sign up for EFT, each month your bank has been preauthorized to transfer your pledge amount electronically from your account to the Fellowship’s bank account. EFT helps the Fellowship by providing funds evenly throughout the year and helps you by not having to remember to write a check each month.

**What is the Annual Pledge drive?** Prior to our annual budgeting process, our Finance Committee conducts the Annual Pledge Drive where all members and friends are given an opportunity to assess the degree to which they are financially able to support the Fellowship’s ongoing programs. We hope you take this annual opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the Fellowship in your life and to determine an amount that fits your ability in order to help us meet our goals within the Fellowship and the wider community.

**How much should I give?** Guidelines have been developed to help you make this personal decision, but any contribution you feel appropriate is welcome.

<b>Fair Share Giving Guide</b>								
Adjusted Annual Income	<b>Level I</b>		<b>Level II</b>		<b>Level III</b>		<b>Level IV</b>	
	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment
\$10,000	2.0%	\$17	2.0%	\$17	5.0%	\$25	10%	\$83
\$25,000	2.0%	\$42	3.0%	\$52	5.0%	\$83	10%	\$208
\$50,000	3.0%	\$104	4.0%	\$125	5.0%	\$208	10%	\$417
\$75,000	3.5%	\$188	4.5%	\$219	6.0%	\$344	10%	\$625
\$100,000	3.5%	\$292	5.0%	\$333	6.5%	\$500	10%	\$833
\$150,000	4.0%	\$438	5.0%	\$625	6.5%	\$813	10%	\$1,250
\$200,000	4.5%	\$667	5.5%	\$917	7.0%	\$1,167	10%	\$1,667

**If the majority of the congregation would commit to making a “Fair Share” financial commitment, we would be able to comfortably support all of our current programs and add many more.**

**We encourage you to review the table and determine the level that is appropriate for you.**

**What if I truly can’t give a Fair Share percentage?** Our community is made up of more than just money. If you are genuinely able to give minimally or not at all, please know that your heart and your presence in our community far outweighs any financial consideration. If you are not able to give at all, please speak with one of the Ministers or the Membership Coordinator about receiving a financial waiver.