

## Your support made it happen

- Expanded the Director of Religious Education position from three-quarter to full-time
- Hired a part-time intern minister
- Established a new staff retirement plan
- Provided salary increases to help employees keep pace with the cost of living
- Paid hourly workers close to or equal to a Sonoma County living wage
- Gave financial support for members wishing to attend District Assembly and General Assembly
- Completed building improvements in our kitchen and courtyard, and improved building security

*Appreciation to Patrick Craig for photos of UUCSR members.*



## In your own words

**"This circle of giving and sustaining** takes a financial commitment from each of us and as our congregation grows, that commitment needs to grow. This year and every year, I increase my financial support. It's just one way I can say thank you.

- Claire Beery

**"At the "Getting to know UU" class,** Rev. Chris said, "Something important and unexpected happens when you make a commitment." On a very deep level I got the truth of what he was saying. I joined and committed to a regular, monthly pledge. The reason I've done this is because UUCSR is an organization that I trust. The congregation gives me a way to effect positive change in the community that is in keeping with my deepest values. The money flows through me, through the congregation, and out into the community. There are few things in my life that are more important."

- Mary Chapot

**"Since its beginning, our congregation** has been devoted to giving voice and place to hope and justice. We gather together to grasp and consider the larger mysteries of experience, and to share as a spiritual family a uniquely rich tradition. And we extend this vision of tolerant, embracing inquiry to all who walk through our doors. I'm proud to support UUCSR."

- Bill Haigwood



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# To you I give ... from you I receive



## Financial Giving for a Sustainable Future



## Our Mission in Words & Actions

UUCSR is a congregation with a mission, not just a mission statement.

### ***Celebrating Life***

We come together to celebrate services every Sunday, weddings, dedications, and memorials. With wisdom from humankind's spiritual history, we share joy, comfort and hope.

### ***Empowering People***

We develop leaders with worship and music programs, TIE Groups, community organizing, and congregational governance.

### ***Caring for One Another***

We care for each other and the wider community through friendships, men's and women's support groups, Caring Connections, and the Saturday Breakfast for Our Neighbors.

### ***Building a Better World***

We offer welcome and acceptance to all regardless of religious belief, race, gender identity or sexual orientation. We work for social justice in Sonoma County through our Advocates for Social Justice and our work with the North Bay Organizing Project.

## Dear Members and Friends

Our congregation is a blossoming work in progress. We strive to create new ways to stand for justice, to serve those in need, to foster healing, and to cultivate personal growth. And we have a lot of fun!

If you share the same values this congregation strives to live by, I encourage you to take action in line with your beliefs by offering or increasing your financial support to UUCSR.

Our vision is always expanding, and thus our financial needs are always expanding, too. This congregation is supported almost entirely by the pledges and donations of its members and friends, who must be good stewards of this valuable resource. Thus, members are asked to tithe 5% to 10% of their income, or work toward that goal. Every donation and pledge makes a difference!

Since offering one's resources to others is known to bring a sense of inner peace and contentment, we ask this of one another for our own spiritual growth, as well as for the benefit our community. Giving is one of the greatest ways to express gratitude for our blessings.

Please take some time to call the office, or visit [web.uusantarosa.org/giving](http://web.uusantarosa.org/giving) to make, or increase, your sustaining pledge of support today. Blessings and thanks to you!

- Reverend Chris Bell



## “They say

*you can tell what your values are by looking at your calendar and your checkbook. Since we value the UU so much, we know that it is our responsibility to help support it to the best of our ability.”*

- Tess & Bill Hageman

