



UNITARIAN  
UNIVERSALIST  
ASSOCIATION OF  
CONGREGATIONS

Dear Congregational Leaders,

It has almost become a cliché to talk about finding opportunity in crisis. Still, the economic and social upheaval we are witnessing today demands that we share Unitarian Universalism's hopeful and life-affirming message with as many people as possible. To do this we need to grow – in numbers, in spirit, in diversity, in leadership, and in witness. As an Association, our foundation is solid and strong. Your congregation's support for *both* the **Annual Program Fund** (APF) and **Association Sunday** (AS) will help to strengthen your Association.

The **Annual Program Fund** provides the vital income necessary to fund the annual operating budget, and thus the infrastructure on which our congregations and districts depend. **Association Sunday** funds leading edge projects and initiatives designed to further strengthen and grow Unitarian Universalism, increasing our capacity to carry out our mission and expand our reach.

Ours is a covenantal Association in which congregations pledge their mutual trust and support. The ongoing financial support of our Unitarian Universalist Association is a matter of congregational responsibility and commitment to the whole. This is accomplished through year-round stewardship practices and careful budgetary planning that includes the congregation's full contributions of support to the **Annual Program Fund** and District in their operating budget.

Funds raised on **Association Sunday** are not derived from the congregation's operating budget, but from individual Unitarian Universalists who are motivated to support these special initiatives and programs. Many individuals are pleased to have additional opportunities to contribute to a vision of a more abundant, more connected faith community.

We honor the funding decisions and priorities of each congregation, as determined by its members. This is central to our congregational polity and covenant. However, our covenant calls congregations to actively affirm their principles in relationship with one another. In turn, individual Unitarian Universalists are called to actively support their faith. Giving generously to multiple projects and programs in support of one vision – the vision of Unitarian Universalism – is a meaningful way to demonstrate support and celebrate our connections.

We seek to support giving at the congregational level as well as to the wider Association. As individuals feel more connected and experience the true value and larger purpose of Unitarian Universalism in their lives, their spirit of generosity will grow. In affirming our common bonds and purposes, transcending a theology of scarcity, and renewing a spirit of generosity, we pave the way for a greater future for our faith.

For more information on the projects **Association Sunday** will fund this year, or to register your congregation's intent to participate, please visit [www.uua.org/associationsunday](http://www.uua.org/associationsunday), or email [associationsunday@uua.org](mailto:associationsunday@uua.org).

For more information on the **Annual Program Fund** and resources for congregational stewardship, please visit [www.uua.org/giving/annualprogram](http://www.uua.org/giving/annualprogram), or email [apf@uua.org](mailto:apf@uua.org).

We are sincerely grateful for the many ways congregations are financially supportive of the Association.

In faith,

**Laurel Amabile**, Director of the Annual Program Fund  
**Stephan Papa**, Special Assistant to the President for Growth Funding

CC: APF Committee and District Staff