

# ***Growing Stewardship and Generosity in our Congregations***



A Workshop for UU Congregation  
Leaders facilitated by  
Rev. Bob Thayer and Laurel Amabile

# **National Giving Data and Spending Statistics**

- 84% of all adults donated to churches and non-profit organizations in 2007
- Donations average about \$1,300 in 2007, slightly lower than in 2006.
- Religious people contribute 52% of all charitable dollars, compared to self-described “secular” (13%) and “occasionally religious” (35%) people.

# **National Giving Data and Spending Statistics**

- Teenage youth who attend religious services regularly volunteer twice as much as those who don't attend.
- Children and youth, ages 8-21 spend approximately \$175 Billion a year of their own money.
- More children go shopping each week (52%) than read (42%), go to church (26%), play outdoors (17%), or spend time in household conversations (32%).

# **National Giving Data and Spending Statistics**

- Religious people are 25 percentage points more likely to donate money and 23 percentage points more likely to volunteer time than secular people.
- Families with higher incomes give more money, but the percentage given decreases as income rises.

# What does Stewardship Mean?

## Definitions of Stewardship



***Stewardship*** (noun) source: Webster's Dictionary

- 1) *the office, duties, and obligations of a steward*
- 2) *the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially : the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care (stewardship of our natural resources)*

# Definitions of Stewardship

Source: 1993 pastoral letter, *Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Roman Catholic Church in the U.S.

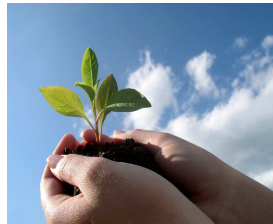
*“A sharing, generous, accountable way of life...”*

Source: Growing Givers' Hearts: Treating Fundraising as Ministry by Jeavons and Basigner

*“Careful attention to the care and use of all the gifts God gives us, including our time and talents, as well as material goods.”*



*How do our stewardship  
practices reflect our  
Unitarian Universalist  
principles and purposes?*



# **Personal Reflections on Relationship to Money and Personal Finances – Your Story**

- *Money and you as a child*
  - Happiest memories
  - Unhappiest memories
  - Your family's money culture, attitudes & messages



# Personal Reflections on Relationship to Money and Personal Finances – Your Story

- *What is your relationship to money currently?*
  - The role it plays in your life, family, work
  - Your attitudes towards money, spending, giving, and receiving
  - Money as an expression of your values and beliefs

Ask yourself...

*What can I do to make my practice  
and value of stewardship more  
evident in my life and in the world?*

# Money, Giving and the Spirit

Rev. Dan Hotchkiss: *Ministry and Money: A Guide for Ministers and their Friends*

- “Money is a medium of power through which we act and are acted upon.”
- “A spiritual life that does not concern itself with money can have little effect on our daily lives, especially in a culture as saturated by financial forces as ours.”
- “In many if not most American congregations, religion no longer offers an effective counterweight to the pressures of the broader culture, at least where money is concerned.”

# Annual Program Fund Staff

- Molly Farrell, APF Assistant
  - Email: [apf@uua.org](mailto:apf@uua.org)
  - Phone: 617-948-6512
  - Data management, monthly reports, statements and pledge forms, communication with committee and district leaders, support to committee and director
  - First line of contact for congregational data

# Annual Program Fund Staff

- Laurel Amabile, APF Director

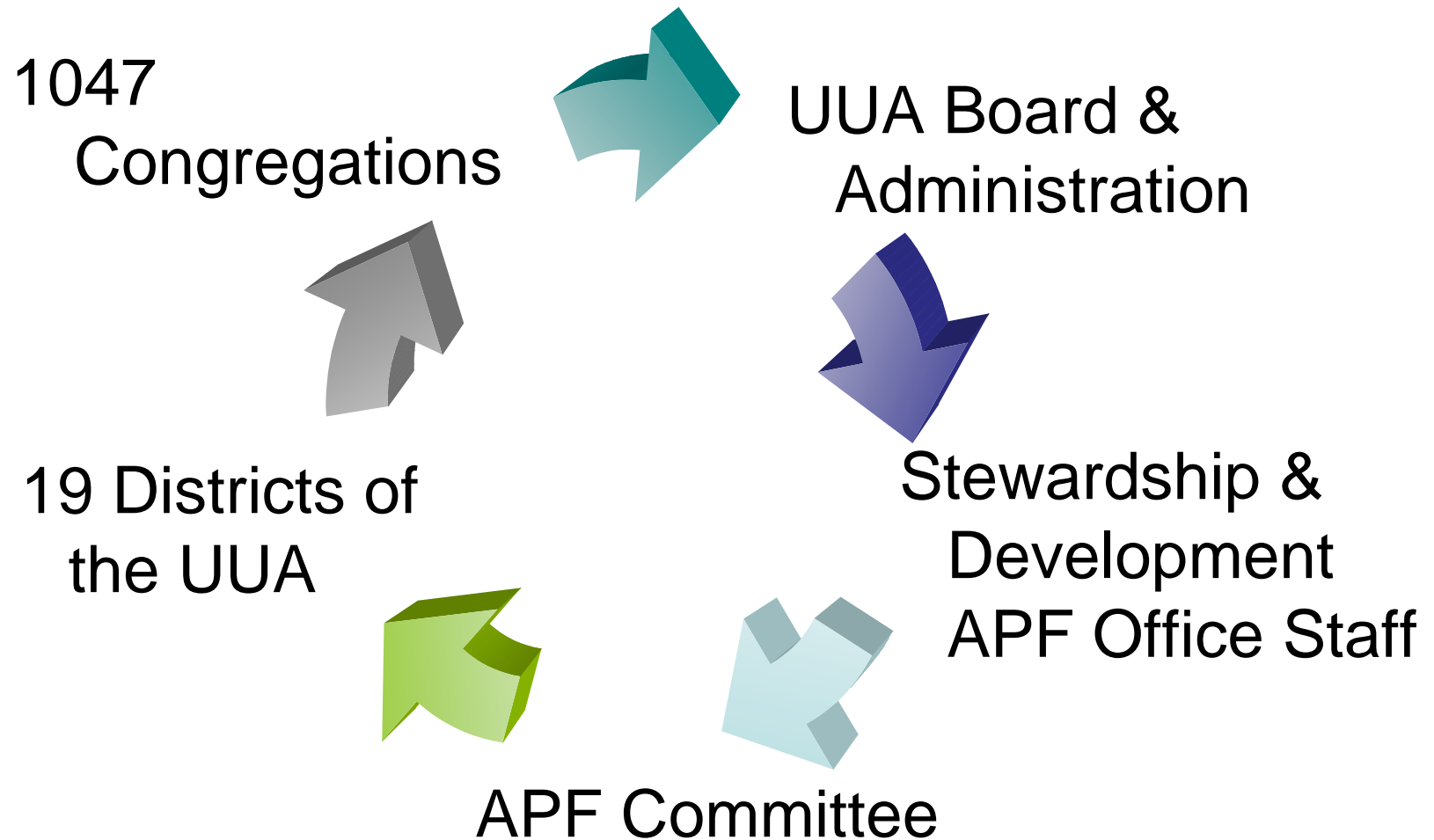
- Email: [LAabile@uua.org](mailto:LAabile@uua.org)

- Phone: 617-948-6513

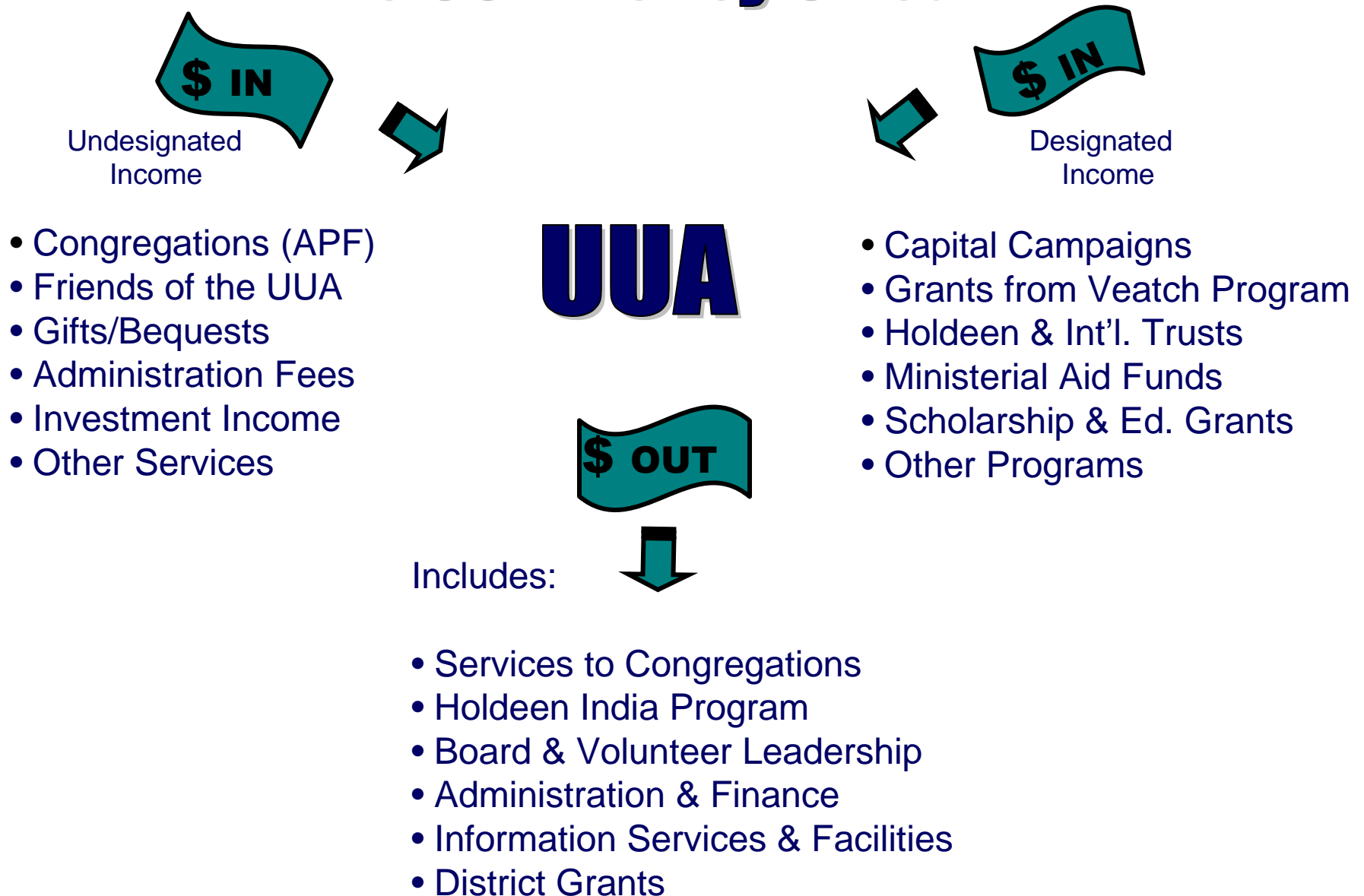


- General staff direction and accountability for the APF program area.
  - UUA-APF representation to districts
  - Relationship-building throughout the UUA
  - First line of contact for scheduling congregational and district visits, district troubleshooting, challenging relationships.

# The Context in which We Function...



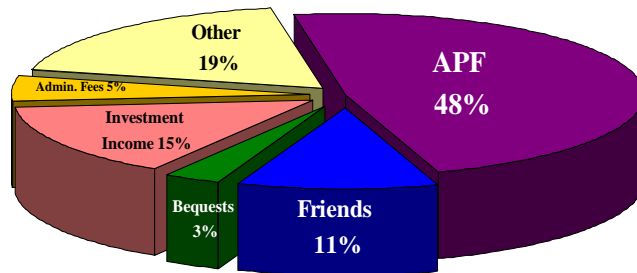
# The UUA Money Stream



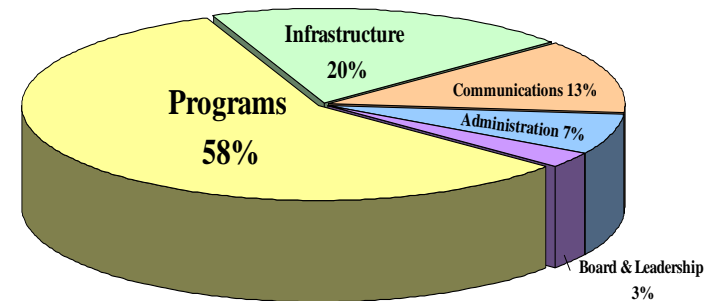
## We Build This Community Together: Recognizing Congregational Contributions to the UUA Annual Program Fund

The UUA has a total operating budget of \$26, 712,750 for fiscal year 2008-2009.  
Income for the UUA comes from unrestricted and restricted sources.

**Sources of Income for General Support  
(Unrestricted Funds)**



**How Total Operating Budget Funds are  
Used (Including Restricted Funds)**



Annual Program Fund requested contributions for the next two fiscal years:

2008-09: Fair Share per certified member: \$56

2009-10: Fair Share per certified member: \$58

For more information about the Annual Program Fund, visit  
[www.uua.org/annualprogram/index.shtml](http://www.uua.org/annualprogram/index.shtml)

For more financial information about the UUA, visit  
[www.uua.org/aboutus/finance/index.shtml](http://www.uua.org/aboutus/finance/index.shtml)



# The Unitarian Universalist Association: A Covenantal Partnership

## Our Purposes



*The Unitarian Universalist Association shall devote its resources to and exercise its corporate powers for religious, educational and humanitarian purposes. The primary purpose of the Association is to serve the needs of its member congregations, organize new congregations, extend and strengthen Unitarian Universalist institutions, and implement its principles.*

# Our Covenant

***We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote:***

- *The inherent worth and dignity of every person,*
- *Justice, equity and compassion in human relations,*
- *Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations,*
- *A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;*
- *The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large;*
- *The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;*
- *Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.*

# **Our Covenant**

***Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.***

# Thank You!!



***Your congregation's contributions to the Annual Program Fund (APF) enable our UUA to provide an array of resources, programs, and services designed to help congregations implement our principles and achieve their missions.***

***Thank you for your advocacy and support of this vital source of funding.***