



GIVE ♥ GROW ♥ CELEBRATE  
2026



*Choosing our own paths, we come together to grow in spirit; to honour and **celebrate** our connection to each other and the natural world; to listen with humility to the wisdom of each person's experience; to work together for justice, and co-create a diverse and thriving community, where all feel respected, cared for, and held in love. UUCV Mission Statement*

## LET'S CELEBRATE TOGETHER!

We've got it pretty good here. I've been increasingly struck by how fortunate we are to have this community. Whatever the whims of change in the world, no matter what positive or difficult dynamics we may be experiencing in our own lives, we can come here and sort through things together. The need for community and connection and meaning is achingly clear. We gather week after week to be reminded of our aspirations and values, of beauty and possibility, and of all the losses and loves we find in our shared humanity. We seek insight and understanding that we can take into our everyday interactions. We have fun together.

We have been gifted this community by those who founded this congregation. It's now up to us to keep it going and ensure its future. We want a place and a people to return to again and again—to laugh, to grieve, to sing, to dance—to make meaning of our lives in an amazingly beautiful setting and in extraordinarily good company.

It is a unique gift—a community with a spiritual heart at its centre. A place where we listen beyond the noise of the headlines or the most strident, polarizing voices of our time for what feels most essential, true, and meaningful. We come together to remember and distill, to seek what matters. Why are we here? How shall we live? How can we care for one another and this world? How can we celebrate our lives?

I hope you'll join me in giving what you can to this place which is unlike any other. Please pledge as generously as you are able for 2026. Together we can make this spiritual community sustainable. We can ensure that it will always be here for us, and those who will follow. Blessed be.

**Rev. Shana**

## Annual Budget Campaign 2026

### UUCV Stats

*It costs about \$1,600 and many volunteer hours every day to support our community.*

***It costs us about \$2,300 per member to operate with our present level of programs for one year.***

*62% of our revenue comes from financial pledges made by our members and supporters.*

*63% of our expenses go to living wage staff and contractor salaries.*

*Special events fundraising from our annual Auction brought in about \$24,000 in 2025.*

# COME CELEBRATE! OCTOBER 5 – ABC SUNDAY

JOIN US FOR A FREE PANCAKE BRUNCH AFTER THE SERVICE,  
IN THE SANCTUARY.

(THE MENU INCLUDES PANCAKES, SCRAMBLED EGGS, SAUSAGES, TEA, COFFEE AND JUICE.)

## ABC FAQs

**How do I pledge?** Through the website, or by mailing your paper pledge form to the UUCV office. See the October Newsletter to learn how to find the pledge form. Your previous year's pledge amount is on your Breeze profile.

**When do I pledge?** To minimize work for our volunteers and provide timely input for the budget to the Finance Committee, we ask everyone to pledge – either online, at church, or by mail – **by October 12**. Come to or watch online the special ABC service on Oct. 5 and then complete your pledge form.

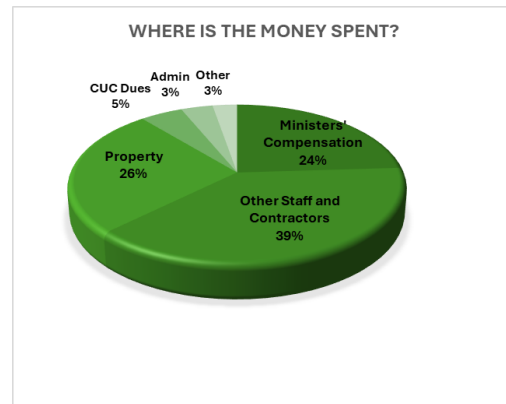
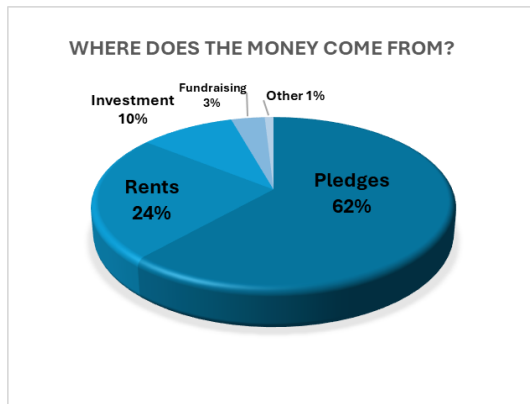
**How much should I give?** Through pledging, we show our support for UUCV and the activities that we all enjoy, such as thought-provoking sermons, children's programming, outreach, the wonderful music from the choir, etc. As members and supporters, we are UUCV's stewards. Stewardship is about time, talent, and treasure – we know you contribute in many ways. **Based on your personal situation, the ABC Team suggest you consider one of these alternatives:**

- A pledge increase of 8% to help close the gap between the growth in pledges and the growth in expenditures; OR
- If you are able to financially pledge more, this will assist those who cannot.
- Some of us are experiencing financial difficulties. You know what you can manage. A generous pledge comes in all amounts. What matters most is that you give what feels like a generous gift based on your finances, sense of connection, and commitment to helping sustain UUCV. All pledges are appreciated, including \$1 pledges (for a contribution of record), which lets us know that you wish to continue being a Member or Supporter of the community. For those experiencing financial hardship, asking the Board for a waiver for your 2026 pledge is option f) on the pledge form. If you are unable to make a financial contribution in 2026, please consider contributing in other ways such as volunteering time.

**Where can I get answers to other questions?** Contact ABC: John Hopewell [hopewell@telus.net](mailto:hopewell@telus.net) 250-588-3920; Kathleen Zimmerman [AgResults@shaw.ca](mailto:AgResults@shaw.ca) 1 778 833-0158; Linda Grimaldi [grimlinda@gmail.com](mailto:grimlinda@gmail.com) 250 654-1036.

If you have any comments about the Annual Budget Campaign or the church, please write them on the back of your paper pledge form, or include them in the final text box in the online form.

## FINANCIAL FACTS – 2025 FISCAL YEAR



For those who are fortunate enough to pay income tax, the following table gives an idea of your approximate savings. Your actual tax credit is based on your taxable income and may vary from below.

When you Pledge:	Estimated Tax Credit	Actual Cost
\$ 600 (\$50/mo.)	\$ 223	\$ 377
\$1,200 (\$100/mo.)	\$ 498	\$ 702
\$1,800 (\$150/mo.)	\$ 773	\$1,027
\$2,400 (\$200/mo.)	\$1,048	\$1,352
\$3,600 (\$300/mo.)	\$1,597	\$2,003
\$4,800 (\$400/mo.)	\$2,147	\$2,653

**Note:** You can now also donate investment shares, which may reduce the after-tax cost of your charitable giving or increase the amount of your gifts without increasing the after-tax cost. See Option e) on the pledge form.

### How much do other people give and how much should I pledge?

This table shows how many people pledged last year in each \$ range and how many pledges at each level are needed to meet our 2026 goal. Where do you fit?

Pledge Amount	# Pledges Received 2025	# Pledges Needed 2026	Pledge Increase Needed
\$8000-12000	2	3	1
\$5000-7999	9	11	2
\$3000-4999	27	30	3
\$2000-2999	25	27	2
\$1000-1999	42	45	3
\$500-999	36	40	4
\$10-499	21	24	3
	<b>162</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>\$380,000</b>