



KEEP THE LIGHT BRIGHT

NOW MORE THAN EVER

This past March, we reflected on how our Church and congregation serves YOUR needs, by exploring key themes such as Supportive, Community, Spiritual, and Music. Themes like these define the very fabric of The Unitarian Church in Westport.

We need to work *together* and **KEEP THE LIGHT BRIGHT** so that we can continue delivering within these areas and many others, especially in these unsettling times.

Throughout the month of April we are running our Annual Budget Drive for the Church's July 2017 – June 2018 fiscal year. During this time, we ask that you make your pledge to our Church.

Determining to make a pledge and how much you pledge is very personal. We ask that you consider the important work of this congregation and how it is valued by you and your family. Remember that your pledge will be used to fund staff salaries, the upkeep of church grounds and buildings, support for our community outreach and social justice activities, our Lifespan Faith Development programs, and so much more!

Look for a letter from Rev. Dr. John Morehouse in your mailbox – this contained a brochure outlining the Church's financial information.

The Year Round Stewardship Committee (YRSC) will be reaching out to members this year via "**Visiting Stewards**" – members from our

congregation who have been **trained to have one-on-one conversations with other congregants (if mutually accepted) about how this Church moves us, why we give, and what one's pledge might look like.** Members of the YRSC will also be at a table in the Foyer after each Sunday service.

NOW IS THE TIME!

Our goal for this annual commitment during the **2017-2018 fiscal year is \$640,000.** Pledged contributions provide 67% of our Church's operating income, and is tax deductible.

So if you believe that this Church and congregation provides:

- A supportive environment in which you can truly belong, contribute, learn, and grow...
- You and your family opportunities to become a part of this community which foster your growth, contribute to a cause, and generate connections...
- Wisdom, comfort, resilience, and fulfills your need for spiritual growth through carefully crafted worship...

Then you must please join your friends in our community and commit today!

We also want to thank the nearly 300 families who pledged for this past 2016-2017 fiscal year!

- 16 families committed to contributions above \$6,000
- 37 families to between \$3,000 and \$5,999
- 98 families in the \$1,200 and \$2,000 range
- 136 families committed to less than \$1,200