

**RISING UP!**

Stewardship, 2022

The Unitarian  
Church in Westport  
10 Lyons Plains Rd  
Westport, CT 06880  
203.227.7205[uuwestport.org/2022pledge](http://uuwestport.org/2022pledge)**From:** Rev. Dr. John Morehouse**To:** Members and Friends of our wonderful UU community**Re:** Stewardship, 2022

Thursday, March 3, 2022

**The Unitarian Church in Westport 10 Lyons Plains Road Westport, CT 06880**

Dear Friends,

What an exciting time to be part of our congregation! As we emerge from the pandemic which has held us in place for so long, we are coming together again in new ways. Our worship is full of new energy and we continue to work towards a better virtual experience.

Our social justice ministry is thriving: we have deepened our relationship with the Greater Bridgeport Council of Churches and we have added Desegregate CT to our strong list of community partners. Thanks to some new funding we will be adding a new position, Lead for Social Justice Outreach which David Vita will be filling next year.

And let's not forget our ever-inspiring music ministry. Our choirs have performed admirably under the pandemic and they are now coming back in full voice. The NYC-based Choral Chameleon premiered Ed Thompson's newest masterpiece "Step Into the Night" to a sold-out audience.

Perhaps most exciting, we are seeing new faces and new members of all ages joining us, including children, youth, and young families. This is the sign of a truly thriving community.

We are blessed with an amazing staff of people, talented and dedicated volunteers, and our beloved building is being renovated and renewed. This is our time. This is the time to support our congregation. Please give generously to our annual pledge drive. The pledge drive funds our operating budget. By making a pledge for the coming year, you provide us with the means to plan our budget and continue to grow this amazing ministry that we all share.

The math speaks for itself: your pledge makes a tangible difference. Approximately 75% of our budget goes to salaries and compensation, and approximately 65% of our income comes from our annual pledges. By making a pledge you are doing your part to ensure that our ministry continues to thrive.

I hope you will join me in making a generous pledge. We are the future of our faith as Unitarian Universalists. We know the world as it is and we know the world as it can be. It takes all of us to make that future a reality.

Please join us if you can this coming Friday from 6-9 PM in the sanctuary for our pledge dinner and program "[An Evening in Black, White and Gold](#)." This is an event you don't want to miss.

As we embrace our theme "**Rising Up!**" we look to you to step up to the challenge of 100% participation. We are waiting for you.

Yours Always,

Rev. John

*Pledge forms will be available Friday evening, and at upcoming services. Online pledging is always welcome at [uuwestport.org/2022pledge](http://uuwestport.org/2022pledge).*

The Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs.

**WE INSPIRE** and support individual spiritual growth.

**WE CONNECT** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries.

**WE ACT** in the service of peace and justice.