

As we emerge from the pandemic, we joyfully begin reconnecting with each other and our church. We remind ourselves of how much we share – commitment, pride, goals -- and we're eager to move forward, envisioning all kinds of possibilities.

We want to support current programs and traditions that we love and treasure, and we dream about what could be. We're reinvigorated now that three difficult years are behind us. Now is the time!

This year's successful budget drive will enable us to:

- increase UUBN's role from our own church community to the wider world
- compensate our talented staff fairly
- continue to improve the technology we need today
- be an even more desirable liberal religious voice and home
- increase our social justice activities
- offer well-rounded religious exploration for us all

In other words, we'll be a stronger voice of liberal thought and practice.

88% of our projected income for 2024 is from annual financial commitments.

Why me? What difference will my contribution make? In answer, your contribution, whatever the amount, will be combined with others, and together we can work:

*To make a difference in someone's life.*

*To help build and create healthy community.*

*To share our gifts and talents with the world around us.*

*To be the best we can be, and bring out the best in others.*

*--Manish Mishra-Marzetti*

It feels good to give, especially when it's to something larger than ourselves!

## Mission Statement

We affirm the fullness of the human experience;  
We seek spiritual, ethical, and religious truth and meaning in our lives;  
We act to dismantle systems of oppression;  
We connect in celebration and service; and  
We care for each other, our community, and our earth.

## Stewardship Team

Emile Garneau, Team Leader  
Linda Johnston  
Jack Pace  
Chuck Rohrbaugh  
Nancy Armstrong, Treasurer  
Rev. Rebecca Gant, ex officio

## Contact Information:

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## Reconnecting for the Future 2024 Annual Pledge Drive

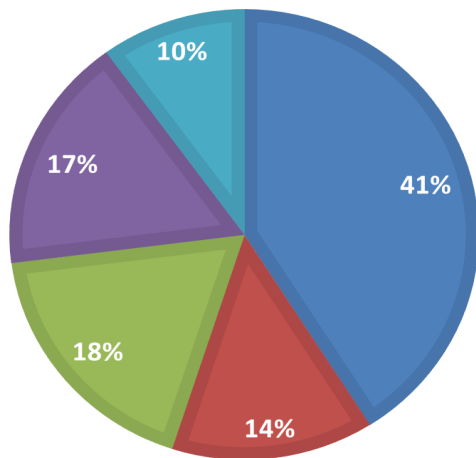
UUBN is an important part of our lives and community. We give our time and money, as generously as we can, because we value being part of a liberal, spiritual church. We respect the individuals that make up our congregation and support the programs we create together like our Social Justice Team and Religious Exploration. UUBN offers us happiness, fulfillment, and engagement in our lives.

Claire Hedden, President  
Emile Garneau, Stewardship



# UUBN Program Budget

- Worship & Celebration
- Outreach
- Enriching Our Shared Lives
- Lifelong Religious Exploration
- Supporting Our UU Movement



## Our Church Programs

### encompass these works:

**\*Worship & Celebration:** Rites of passage, worship services & spiritual development.

**\*Outreach:** Social media presence, social justice projects (prison ministry, partnership with Prairie Pride...) and promoting our mission in the larger community by supporting community organizations.

**\*Enriching Our Shared Lives:** Helping Hands, Pastoral Care Associates, Green Sanctuary & fellowship events (coffee hour, Lunch Bunch, potlucks, TNT Auction...).

**\*Lifelong Religious Exploration:** Infant-to-adult classes and discussion groups, including OWL programming, book groups and covenant groups. Support for the Stevenson (adult) & Gnagey (youth) Libraries.

**\*Supporting Our UU Movement:** Stewardship of our history, traditions and other faith assets which includes the History Committee & UUA denominational financial support.

## History of UUBN

**1859** The Free Congregational Society of the City of Bloomington was organized

**1868** the first building was completed and stood in downtown Bloomington for 90 years

**1885** our name officially changed to the Unitarian Church of Bloomington

**1945** UUBN Trust established

**1960** our present building was built, with the RE wing added in 1968

**1965** Adlai Stevenson Memorial Service held at UUBN. Pres Johnson & VP Humphrey were in attendance

**1997** UUBN recognized by the UUA as a *Welcoming Congregation*

**2002** congregation voted to change name to Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington Normal.

**2009** 150th anniversary celebration

**2012** new addition added a larger narthex, church office and classroom

**2019** congregational vote to add *Black Lives Matter* to our sign and RE added more anti-racism education

**2020** Rev. Rebecca Gant called to be our minister

**2021** UUBN partnered with Prairie Pride Coalition to offer the Gender Expansive Resource Center