What is a pledge drive? Each year we ask members and friends to commit financial support to the UUFWC for next fiscal year. It allows the finance committee to finalize a budget, which is approved by the Board and voted upon by members at the Annual Meeting in May.

Why should I pledge? This church belongs to each of us. We pledge to fund the daily operations and to ensure that the church and its resources are here for us and for others now and in the future. Pledge dollars provide about 92% of the funds needed.

What is the money used for? It supports our worship and music programs, our religious education program, programs for members and friends, community outreach, and keeping the lights on and grass cut. Our budget reflects our mission and vision.

Who determines the budget? The finance committee sets the budget based on known expenses, such as the mortgage and salaries. Programs and committees provide input on their expected needs for the coming year. The finance committee’s proposed budget, which sets the goal for the pledge drive, reflects these needs as well as realistic expectations for the fund drive.

Is pledging a requirement of membership? We expect that those who benefit from the church and participate in activities will share in its financial upkeep. Some members are able to pledge more, others less, but we can all share in supporting our church.

How much should I pledge? Consider contributing a percentage of your annual income. We value on diversity in our congregation—from views to backgrounds and experiences to economic circumstances. Each of us supports the UUFWC at individual financial levels. In February, you will receive a letter about this year’s pledge drive and giving guidelines that can help in your decision.

What about the money I put in the collection plate? Some people use the Sunday offering to make their pledge payments. As long as the offering can be associated with you (e.g. a personal check or cash in an envelope with your name) whatever you put in the offering will be counted toward your pledge.

What if my financial circumstances change during the year? Lives are not static. Contact the UUFWC administrator, Anne Wilson, if you need to adjust your pledge. All pledges are confidential and known only to the administrator.

How do I make my pledge? You will receive a form to complete. You may ask to receive it in person or with your pledge letter, or complete it online via a web link that will be e-mailed to you. Pledges may be paid annually, quarterly, monthly or weekly.

More questions? Contact Mary Wicks (wicksfam@sssnet.com; 330.317.4681)