

Stewardship News

Despite not having a Stewardship Trustee this past year, the pledge drive has been successful.

As of June 16, 2024, we have received 69 pledges and expect a few more. The total amount pledged so far is \$154,805. 9 new pledges were received with a total of \$9,640. The breakdown of pledges by amount category is as follows:

\$50 to \$900, 24 pledges, \$10,885

\$1000 to \$1560, 23 pledges, \$28,630

\$1800 to \$4500, 15 pledges, \$47,830

\$4800 and above, 7 pledges, \$67,460

The IRS considers non-profits to have broad public support when contributions from people who each give an amount less than 2% of the budget exceed a third of the income. With a budget of about \$240,000, our pledges below \$4800 account for 36% of our budget. We also get offerings and other small donations so we easily meet the IRS guideline for having broad public support.

Many people contributed to a successful pledge drive. First, our wonderful staff, volunteers, and congregation who create a community that inspires support. Second, everyone who contributes what they are willing and able to. And third, individuals and teams who organized the Stewardship Kick-Off party and who canvassed people who hadn't pledged at the party.

A Decade of Dedication was celebrated on March 23 and many pledges were turned in then or shortly afterward. We didn't have member moments, nor did we have a stewardship brochure, but Reverend Wendy gave a stewardship sermon and we had announcements at services and a table with pledge cards. Hopefully member moments and the brochure will be back next year. On April 4, the stewards from last year got together to decide how to canvass the people who had pledged in the past but not yet for this year. We decided on a fairly minimalist approach. In the future, it might be good to expand the canvass to include more in-person visits and visioning.

My thanks to stewards Dave Collins, Janet Cummings, Elizabeth High, Monte High, Wendy Metzger, Steve Watson, and BarbaraBeth Wolf, and huge thanks to Membership Lead Debbie Buchele who encouraged new members to pledge.

While this stewardship report has focused on treasure, I recognize that time and talent are also needed to keep the community afloat, and I thank all members and friends who contribute time, talent, and/or treasure to UUCGV.

Kitty Tattersall