



2022-2023 Annual Pledge and Affirmation Form

Your pledge of financial support for Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship makes it possible to:

- Conduct 52 Sunday services every year, providing a welcoming worship space for those who share our principles but may feel abandoned by mainstream religion due to their beliefs, sexual orientation, political leanings, etc.
- Host hybrid services most Sundays to reach our members and friends who are out of town or unable to join services in person, maintaining our community despite our distance.
- Provide children’s religious education and intergenerational services building a new generation of loving, thoughtful, open-minded, principled leaders
- Offer educational and thought-provoking events that are open to the community, including the Environmental Justice Film Series, Mindfulness Workshops, Community Conversations, Small Group Ministry and more
- Provide pastoral care for members and friends as they face life’s myriad changes, including marriage, parenting, illness, divorce or separation, financial problems or the passing of loved ones
- Serve over 1000 meals at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen each year
- Provide a meeting space for community organizations such as the Citizens Climate Lobby, All God’s Children Choir, Southwest Michigan Interfaith Action Council, get-out-the-vote efforts, etc.
- Provide space for visionary Green Sanctuary initiatives that others might adopt, including a solar array, organic children’s garden, battery-powered lawn mower and native plantings
- Pay a fair wage to our small, part-time staff who manage the fellowship’s operations
- Bring together a small but passionate community to collectively advocate for a more life-affirming, democratic, sustainable society, achieving more together than we might ever achieve alone

Pledge your Financial and/or In-kind Support

The cost of running our fellowship is approximately \$50,000/year. This includes the cost a part-time minister, RE director, office administrator, music director, and childcare. It also covers utilities, insurance, snow plowing, repairs, office, kitchen and RE supplies, and social justice initiatives. We accomplish a lot on a very thin budget! In the coming year, we are also hoping to host Our Whole Lives programming, fund additional guest speakers, and improve our grounds and facilities.

When we commit to financial support, we affirm our belief in this community, its principles and each other, and we engage in the spiritual art of giving. The UUA recommends that members pledge a “fair-share” contribution of 2 to 10% of income. Those not giving at this level currently may want to consider it a goal to strive for over the coming years. All contributions of any amount are welcomed and appreciated.

Financial Support

I / We will support BUUF with a **financial pledge** of \$ _____ for the year to be fulfilled:
 Weekly Monthly Quarterly Lump sum Other: _____

Note: A signed annual pledge form is required to maintain your active membership

Payment Method:

Check in the Mail Cash or Check at Sunday Services PayPal ([paypal.me/BerrienUU](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?x=1&url=https://www.paypal.com/BerrienUU))*

* Note: PayPal charges BUUF a service fee of \$0.30 plus 1-3% for every transaction

Please return this form to BUUF’s Treasurer. Keep a copy for your records.
Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship | Treasurer@BerrienUU.org
4340 Lincoln Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085



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BUUF recognizes that first time giving, increases in giving, or giving at a fair share level often requires personal sacrifice and extraordinary commitment. Please check the appropriate box(es) below if any of the following situations applies to you.

- First Time Giver:** New voting member pledging for the first time
- Step-Up Giver:** This year’s pledge is at least 5% greater than last year’s pledge
- Fair Share Giver:** Pledging 2% of income or above

In-kind Support

In-kind support is a pledge to provide a good or service that would otherwise be a Fellowship expense (e.g., snow plowing, fair trade coffee, childcare, janitorial services or supplies, etc.)

I / We will support BUUF with an **in-kind donation** of _____

Affirm BUUF’s Mission and Covenant

Your signature below affirms the Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship **Mission and Covenant**—

Mission: For every individual searching for spiritual meaning Berrien UU Fellowship provides a welcoming and caring religious community dedicated to diversity, social justice, and peace for all.

Covenant: We of the Berrien UU Fellowship agree and promise to provide a caring community that nurtures and respects the worth and dignity of each person, recognizes the interdependence of all living things, supports the individual in the search for spirituality and the exploration of the mysteries of life, and extends itself into the world in which we live.

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Birthday (MM/DD) _____

Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Birthday (MM/DD) _____

Address _____

Children: Name/Birthday (MM/DD/YY) _____

Membership benefits include Annual Meeting voting rights which take effect 30 days after signing this form, an annual subscription to UU World, and an annual one-time use of BUUF’s facilities for a private engagement.

Do you want to receive a mailed copy of UU World? (free with your signed pledge form)

- Yes, please sign me up for UU World
- No thanks, I’ll read it online

Thank you for your annual pledge to support and sustain our fellowship!

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