



SALTWATER CHURCH, A UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION

Katherine Miller
Office Administrator

The Rev. Kristen Kuriga
Minister

Thomas Burt
Music Director

Dear Saltwater Community,

March 21, 2023

Thank you for all the ways that you help our church thrive!

Over the last year you have given generously of your time, talent and resources to help fulfill our mission. Thank you for making real our collective commitment to Practice Love, Foster Connection, Nurture Spiritual Growth, and Act for Justice.

It is hard to imagine that it has been three years since the COVID lockdowns began. Now, as we emerge from a time of isolation, we turn our energy from surviving to thriving. This year we reopened in-person worship and programming, while maintaining our commitment to online access. Oh, the joy of singing and making music together, breaking bread over potlucks, celebrating flower communion, playing together at game nights, sitting in candlelight on Christmas Eve, and acting for justice with partners like Sound Alliance and the Wrestling with the Truth of Colonization program.

We are overflowing with visitors each Sunday who are now finding Saltwater Church as their spiritual home. We are rebuilding our programs for children and youth. And we welcomed new staff members. All of this work has contributed towards fulfilling the goal of a full and vibrant reopening of the church. There is so much more yet to come!

At Saltwater Church, we want to rise and thrive. To prosper and flourish. To grow vigorously. To blossom. And we can only rise and thrive together!

This is the beginning of our annual pledge drive which runs from March 26 through April 16, 2023. This is a time to celebrate the gifts of community and reflect on what those gifts mean in our lives. We hope you will join us for our upcoming pledge events: a mural project, neighborhood potlucks, the Easter egg hunt, and a celebration feast with a multi-platform concert and sing-a-long! You can find more information about these events in the pledge brochure and in the church newsletter.

We also hope you will consider giving in a way that is generous for you. In order to support our current staff with a commitment to fair compensation, and to continue our programming, we will need to increase our pledges from \$215,000 to \$235,000. This is an increase of 8.5%. If this is possible for you, please consider increasing your pledge so we can keep our church thriving! All pledge cards, including requests for waivers, are due by April 16, and you can complete your pledge by mailing back the enclosed card or filling out an online pledge form here: <https://saltwaterchurch.org/stewardship/pledge/>

To another year of joy, growth, and possibility!

Yours in Faith,
Saltwater Church Pledge Team: Katie Baker, Pat Montgomery, Miriam Wuito, Sharon Crow,
Anjali Lopez, and Rev. Kristen Kuriga

Ways to Pay Your Pledge

If you are looking for different ways to pay for your pledge, we have many options for you outlined in the table below.

Online payments: If you use the Saltwater website, (<https://saltwaterchurch.org/stewardship/donate/>) you can set up payments through PayPal as a one-time payment or a recurring monthly payment. Our online payment form also offers the ability to make a one-time payment directly from your bank account or credit card; however, switching to a paper check (personal or bank checks) will save the church up to \$100/year in credit card processing fees.

Checks: You can send us a personal check with a notation in the memo line that is for your pledge. You may put your check in the basket as it is passed around on Sunday or drop it off/mail it to the church office: 25701 14th Pl S, Des Moines, WA 98198. Many banks now offer paper checks via bill paying services at no cost, however our current system does not allow for the use of other electronic payment services like Zelle for pledges. Both types of checks can be used for any frequency of payment.

Investments: If you are hoping to pay your pledge using retirement funds, stock transfers or investments monies, please speak directly with your financial advisor or investment firm. You can pledge directly from your investment account, use your required minimum distribution from your IRA (for a nontaxable charitable donation) or you can transfer stock. These types of payments can be set up for monthly, quarterly, annual or one-time withdrawals. If you choose to transfer stock, please contact Gaye Greeves directly for more information: gnatfw@aol.com.

Method of Payment	Once	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually
Personal Check	X	X	X	X
Bank Check	X	X	X	X
Paypal	X	X		
Disbursement from Investment Account	X	X	X	X
RMD from IRA	X	X	X	X
Stock Transfer	X		X	X