



Date: March 12, 2021
To: UUSJ Board of Trustees
From: John Peterson, Chair, UUSJ Membership Committee
Subject: Motion to establish a new Fair Share funding formula, as part of the criteria for congregational membership

Motion:

Move to approve and become effective on July 1, 2021, a new annual baseline monetary contribution (Fair Share) for UUSJ member congregations. Such annual contributions are to be based as a percentage of the congregation's operating budget.

Dissemination Date:

March 12, 2021

Background:

- Current contributions from UUSJ member congregations are based on a funding formula of \$4.75 times the number of members in their congregation as certified to the UUA each February.
- There is no recent criteria or policy by the UUSJ Board of Trustees that authorizes this per member of a congregation funding formula. Inflation has eroded the worth of \$4.75.
- The Membership Committee finds that a Fair Share funding formula based on a percentage of the member congregation's annual budget is more equitable, fairer, and justified with respect to the congregation's ability to pay its annual monetary contribution to the UUSJ.
- UUSJ member congregation contributions generally amount to 26 percent of the UUSJ annual budget revenue.
- Two or more levels of UUSJ congregational membership annual contribution levels are proposed to provide flexibility regarding UUSJ and member congregation agreements.
- The proposed 0.25 percent of a member congregation's operating budget slightly increases in most cases the annual current Fair Share amount by UUSJ member congregations. Both the 0.25 and the 0.125 aspirational level are draft and may change.