

Saint John's Unitarian Universalist Church

320 Resor Avenue, Clifton
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220-1616

PHONE: (513) 961-1938

FAX: (513) 961-4008

WEB: www.stjohnsuu.org

E-MAIL: office@stjohnsuu.org

Members and Friends-

Jim McDonough and I thank you for your continuing support of St. John's. Without this support, the programs we know and love – the programs that call us to celebrate our shared values, put them into action, and pass them on to our children and grandchildren – would not exist. Your financial stewardship makes our vibrant community a reality. Truly, we are blessed to be able to offer such variety and vitality of programming to St. John's and the wider community.

Many of you are aware that our annual operating budget has been hit hard by the loss of some leadership givers and the effects of the wider economy. In recent years we have been able to balance our budget and meet the needs of the St. John's community through the use of some one-time funds – now those funds are exhausted. This fall, the settled minister search process was postponed because budget projections suggested that we would not be able to afford to hire a minister.

St. John's is at a crossroads, I have seen a robust, thriving community building in the years that I have been a member. Truly, we are capable of great things. All that remains is your commitment to support the community you love... the community that shares your values... the community that encourages you to put those values into action... the community that shares your commitment to pass on those values.

The annual financial commitments of our members and friends are critical to the day to day operation of the church, indeed this support is the vast majority of St. John's income. I encourage you to consider your level of spiritual commitment to the community and begin to move toward a commensurate financial commitment. You don't need to make the whole leap today (although it would be great if you can!) but if we each take a step this year, and another next year, and the next... this community will journey from scarcity to abundance.

I know gifts of this size are important decisions in each family's financial lives. For Brian and me, our pledge to St. John's is often the single largest spending decision we make each year. I encourage you to reflect together on your family's ability, carefully consider your commitment, and pledge your support.



Kari Olson (co-chair of the 2010-2011 stewardship campaign)