



Dear UUCBV Member or Friend,

These are tough times we're living in, with many challenges and few reassurances, but we at the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Brazos Valley are choosing to respond with a positive attitude that is supported by our faith and by our history of being strong in the face of adversity. The theme for our Stewardship Drive this year is **MISSION POSSIBLE!!** We are a growing church, an activist church, a church that does more and more things to enrich our lives and to benefit our community. We are so fortunate to have a creative and dedicated staff in Rev. Kiya Heartwood, our Settled Minister, and Allison Faber, our Director of Religious Education, Membership, and Outreach. We are financially stable and

we are the biggest we've ever been in our seventy-year history—

with 125 members and 50 children. And we are continuing to grow! To support ourselves we have set our Stewardship goal for 2026-2027 at **\$250,000**, which represents the actual cost of running our church in addition to what we will need to move confidently into the future.

Though they rarely show it, our staff, Rev. Kiya and Allison, are overworked and underpaid; we need to raise both of their salaries. The [UUA provides guidelines for fair compensation](#) and their current salaries are both below the median that the UUA recommends. Let's compensate our Minister and staff fairly and deservedly. We plan to hire an administrator for 10 hours per week to help with the work they are already doing. These are essential challenges we face, but we know our congregation is deeply committed to our church. We have a history of generously sharing our time and treasure to keep our church moving forward. We believe that as a congregation we will rise to these challenges.

To make your financial commitment to our church for the coming year, please fill out the commitment form here: <https://uucbv.breezechms.com/form/59853c97> For a printable form visit our Stewardship Drive page at <https://www.brazos-uu.org/stewardship>. There you will also find the UUA's guide for giving and UUCBV budget information. If you have any questions, please contact Liz or Carolyn at elbrackeen@gmail.com and cclark@tamu.edu.

We ask you to keep two dates in mind. On **April 12th** we will have a catered Stewardship Lunch immediately following the Sunday service. Please save the date and join us to spearhead this campaign. Our deadline for pledges is **April 19th**. This will give our Board of Trustees sufficient time to finalize the budget and send us materials for our Congregational Meeting on May 17th.

We want to thank you for your generous financial support, both in the past and in advance for the commitment you will make for the coming year, as well as for all you do to support this church. As we say at our Sunday services, may your generosity return to you tenfold!

In faith—

Liz Brackeen & Carolyn Clark

Stewardship Co-Chairs

Rev. Kiya Heartwood

Minister

Nicole Rowlette

UUCBV Board President