

Financial support is a key component of membership; we cannot offer the level of ministry and programming we do without everyone making a financial contribution.

WHEN should I pledge?

March 1 to May 1. The sooner you pledge, the more you help shape the plans and priorities for next year. If you can return your pledge card by April 1, you'll also be saving the time of our generous volunteers.

HOW can I pay my pledge?

Payment options include:

- Single payment by check or credit card.
- Biweekly or monthly envelopes for the collection plate.
- Regular automatic deductions from your checking or savings account.
- Monthly or quarterly charges to your credit card.
- Gifts of stock.
- Payment schedule suited to your needs.

We send out a year-end report on the status of your gifts for tax purposes, and we also send periodic reminders if you choose to give in installments.

Go out into the world in peace

Have courage

Hold on to what is good

Return to no person evil for evil

Strengthen the fainthearted

Support the weak

Help the suffering

Honor all beings

First Parish in Concord
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First Parish in Concord



Annual Appeal 2010
Our Community
At Home
In the World
At Home in the World

WHAT is a “pledge”?

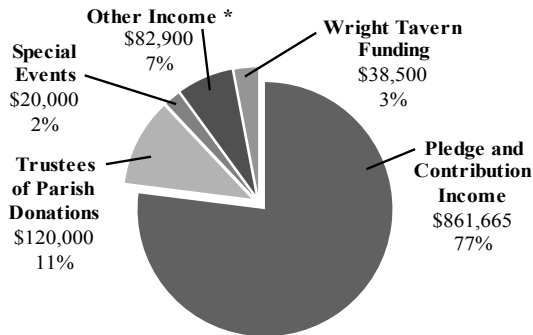
A pledge is a promise to donate a certain amount of money to First Parish in the upcoming church fiscal year, which runs from July 2010 through June 2011.

WHAT are the goals for the 2010 Annual Appeal?

We have two related goals for this year’s Annual Appeal: a financial goal and a community strengthening goal. Our financial goal is to raise \$920,000, which is the minimum amount needed to maintain the level of programming from 2009. Financial support is a key component of membership, and we hope that every member is able to contribute financially this year.

Our goal for community strengthening is also important, as our community continues to grow and evolve. Many of our members contribute generously of their time and skills, gifts that make our Parish rich and diverse in its offerings. We also want to recognize the value of these gifts to our work at home and in the world.

Income Budget July 2009 – June 2010 Total \$1,123,065



* Other Income Includes:
 • Office and interest income
 • Box collections
 • Rentals
 • Religious Education Income
 • Special Events Income

WHY should I pledge? HOW is my pledge used?

Pledges represent over 75% of our budget. Pledge payments are used to support First Parish’s mission, including:

- Worship every Sunday throughout the year;
- Music, including the renowned choir directors of our adult and children’s choirs, our fabulous organist, and special musical events throughout the year;
- Religious education for over 300 children from birth to 18 years of age;
- Social justice projects, including Young Activists, El Salvador, Open Table, Jericho Road Project, and many others;
- Pastoral care, including providing companionship, food, rides, child care, and other services to parishioners in need;
- Community events.

Your pledge pays the salaries of our ministers and staff, and keeps the doors open to our beautiful church. The pledges received during the Annual Appeal provide the information necessary to establish a realistic operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The pie charts included in this brochure show details of exactly how budget dollars were allocated this year.

HOW MUCH should I pledge?

Your pledge should be a thoughtful contribution that expresses the role First Parish plays in your life. The Annual Appeal offers an opportunity for you to think about your values and the values expressed within our community.

An average pledge of \$1840 per family is necessary for us to reach our goal and maintain our basic operations and programs.

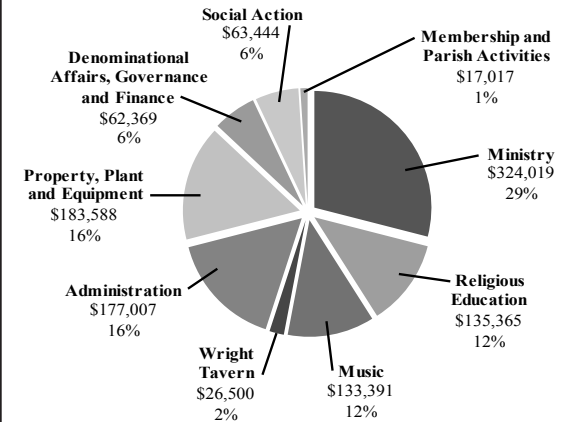
Is it possible to “ earmark” a pledge for a specific purpose?

No. Our annual operating budget is created to support the work of the entire institution. The Executive Team, in consultation with the Standing Committee, establishes a fundraising goal; the budget is built based on the outcome of the annual pledge drive, in addition to other income sources. We welcome your participation and ideas about Parish priorities (please be in touch with any member of the Standing Committee).

WHO can pledge? Do I have to be a member to pledge?

No. Anyone can make a pledge to First Parish; you do not have to be a signed member.

Expense Budget July 2009 – June 2010 Total \$1,126,119



Personnel Costs included in program or function costs.