

University Lutheran Chapel of Berkeley

Advent 2018

[Click here for an online pledge form.](#)

From the sacred waters of baptism to times of transition, 2018 was another year in which ULC members gathered together in prayer and at protests - supporting and accompanying each other across life's varied spectrum. Together, we mourned the loss of several dearly beloved members and welcomed births, weddings, new members and incoming students to our community. As University Lutheran Chapel members, we are truly blessed to be a part of this special intergenerational congregation.

All of us at the Chapel make this shared life possible through our contributions of time and financial resources. Some of the things that we are doing together include: providing meals for the homeless, Worship programs for our families with young children, a new support group for retirees, and supporting many other Koinonia groups, non-profits, and organizations which align with our mission.

It's time for each of us at the chapel to consider our pledge for the coming year. All kinds of people pledge to support our community - members, friends, alumni - anyone who wants to contribute to the work of our ministry. This year, we want to preview some goals for us to think about as we make our pledges, including:

- Maintaining our chapel administer (Logan) as a 12-month, full time position, and providing appropriate increases to all personnel to account for inflation and cost-of-living adjustments.
- Bringing Pastor Jeff's salary closer to the minimum recommended synod guidelines, and
- Creating and maintaining resources for our communities to connect and build solidarity, such as Neighborhood Groups and Small Groups for Retirees, Families with Kids, Students, Etc.

We ask that you pray and consider supporting these goals. The first two bullet points from above could be possible with a 7% increase from last year's budget, through new and adjusted pledges.

We also want to make up for campus ministry grant funds from the Synod, which have declined by 50%.

Your pledge is essential to our ability to plan towards these goals; by pledging and using our automatic deduction program, you ensure that we have the necessary funds for our ministry and shared mission. We continue to encourage you to consider a tithe and to that end, we've included a table to help figure out a percentage pledge based on your annual income.

Together we are committed to the spirit and work of the Chapel, which make it such a remarkable place.

Thank you for your generosity!

Gina Lim, Financial Secretary
Dan Becker, Council Treasurer
Samuel Tia, Council President

Pledge Calculator

Giving is a function of commitment and resources. When thinking about your income and your financial commitment to the congregation, consider the following approaches to determining how much to give. While we want you to do only what is sustainable for you, we would also ask you to consider what a thriving Chapel, with rich liturgy, fairly paid staff, active work in the world, and great community has meant to you. Are you able to commit a little more to the vision shared by our hub leaders who are putting into action our shared commitments to God, each other, our neighbors and the Chapel?

Determine your resources: We want Chapel members to give from the secure base of knowing their own finances. Consider this calculation to help you.

Months income + bonuses/gifts - extraordinary expenses = resources to consider

1. Determine your monthly income or resource level
2. Add (+) any unusual or periodic income such as bonuses, gifts, inheritance, business income, investment income, etc.
3. Subtract (-) any extraordinary expenses such as large medical expenses, care of a parent, or large financial expense, etc.
4. Equals (=) the resources you may have available to consider.

Determine your commitment: There are many different reasons why we each pledge to ULC, there is similarly no single method for determining the amount of your pledge. The following are common approaches that you might consider:

- **Proportional Giving:** Base your gift on your annual income using the table below. That is, start with your expected income next year and pick a percentage that feels right. As you consider your proportion, we ask you to prayerfully consider how it reflects your commitment to your personal spiritual life in Christ and to your community of faith here at the Chapel. We know that many of us give to several worthy causes; this year, please consider prioritizing the Chapel. **If you have calculated your pledge in this way before, consider increasing last year's percentage by 1% or more as you strive to tithe.**
- **A Tithe:** Pledge 10% or more of your gross annual income. Although the tithe has its roots in Jewish tradition, it is also the historical Christian standard for giving. If that is not possible right now, strive to tithe, that is, try starting with Proportional Giving and make it a goal to increase each year.

The following chart shows giving at different proportional amounts based on income.

<i>Adjusted Monthly Income</i>	<i>Suggested % of Income</i>	<i>Monthly Pledge</i>	<i>Suggested % of Income</i>	<i>Monthly Pledge</i>	<i>Suggested % of Income</i>	<i>Monthly Pledge</i>	<i>Suggested % of Income</i>	<i>Monthly Pledge</i>
\$1000	2%	\$20	5%	\$50	7%	\$70	10%	\$100
\$1500	2%	\$30	5%	\$75	7%	\$105	10%	\$150
\$2000	3%	\$60	5%	\$100	7%	\$140	10%	\$200
\$2500	3%	\$75	6%	\$150	8%	\$200	10%	\$250
\$3000	3%	\$90	6%	\$180	8%	\$240	10%	\$300
\$3500	3%	\$140	6%	\$210	8%	\$280	10%	\$350
\$4000	4%	\$200	7%	\$280	9%	\$360	10%	\$400
\$5000	5%	\$250	8%	\$400	9%	\$450	10%	\$500
\$7000	6%	\$420	8%	\$560	9%	\$630	10%	\$700
\$10,000	6%	\$600	8%	\$800	9%	\$900	10%	\$1000
\$15,000	6%	\$900	8%	\$1200	9%	\$1350	10%	\$1500

Wherever you find the right level, re-visit it periodically and re-assess whether it's still the right level for you or if you are ready to move to a deeper level of support.

Thank you for supporting the Chapel's ministry

2019 Chapel Pledge

As a community of faith *at work in the world*, the Chapel is moving forward with its plans for ministry in the coming year.

[\(Click here for an online pledge form.\)](#)

First & Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Pledge Type: Pledge "Sustainer" Pledge

(A sustainer pledger makes a primary pledge to another church community, but still would like to contribute to the work of the Chapel community.)

In 2019, our monthly pledge to the Chapel's general fund will be \$_____ for a total annual pledge of \$_____.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Automate your pledge

The Chapel has an easy and automatic way to make your pledge each month. If you currently participate, we will update your automatic deduction based on the amount of your new 2019 pledge. If you don't participate in our automatic deduction program, please consider it!

- We already participate!
- Yes! Please set this up for us.
- No. We prefer to make our pledge when we come to church on Sunday.

Make your pledge ongoing

Would you like your pledge to continue beyond the 12 months of 2019? You can set up an automatic payment that does not automatically conclude in December of 2019, but continues monthly until you turn it off.

- Yes! Make our monthly pledge ongoing, so it continues on indefinitely.
- No thanks, please contact us at the end of 2019 to discuss pledge renewal.

Designated "At Work in the World" Funds

In addition to your pledge to the Chapel's general fund, you may also choose to give to other organizations; your giving will be reflected as part of the Chapel community's collective benevolence. Included below are several local and national organizations with which the Chapel has an ongoing partnership or historic relationship. You may also give to an organization not listed. Please indicate any planned gifts to designated *At Work in the World* funds below:

\$ _____	FAME & EBIIIC-Faith Alliance & East Bay Interfaith Immigration Coalition
\$ _____	ELM - Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries
\$ _____	SHARE El Salvador
\$ _____	Other

Help retire the Chapel's Mortgage

When we renovated our kitchen, we loaned ourselves the money which we are paying off at the rate of \$9,000/year. The amount of our loan is now about \$66,000

- Please contact us about a pledge to help pay off part of the Chapel's \$66,000 mortgage.

Legacy Circle

Our Endowment Fund has been established to support the Chapel's ministry long into the future. We have established a "Legacy Circle" of members who have considered gifts to the Endowment Fund as a part of their estate planning.

- Please contact us about including the Chapel's Endowment Fund in our estate planning.