Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara
2019-2020 Program Budget

Our USSB Ends

Living with Integrity, We:
• Support each other in life and life’s transitions with loving care, joy, celebration and gratitude.
• Care for the earth and its rich web of life for current and future generations.

Nurturing Wonder, We:
• Experience the transcendent that opens us to deep connection and life’s mystery.
• Cultivate spiritual practices and engage in lifelong learning, utilizing our hearts and minds.

Inspiring Action, We:
• Shift the larger culture toward justice and compassion through bold individual and congregational endeavors.
• Welcome and connect with people across differences of ethnicity, class, sexual identity, religion, politics and education.

How We Allocate Funds
Our work at USSB is split into five main areas: Worship, Creating Community, Faith Development, Outreach & Justice, and UU Connections.

What is a Program Budget?
At the Unitarian Society, we have a mission: to live with integrity, nurture wonder, and inspire action. How we hope to fulfill that mission is articulated in six statements, called our “Ends”. Our budget – which includes all the money we raise – is used to bring these goals to life.

We create an operational budget that is approved by the congregation at our annual meeting. However, this operational budget does not include everything – there are also special fundraisers, income from classes and programs, and social justice outreach projects.

Our Program Budget gives a clearer picture of how all of the money raised by the congregation is used during the year to fund our shared vision.

Expenses like staff salaries and building maintenance support our work across multiple areas. We have divided these shared expenses among all five areas. Periodically we analyze how staff spend their time to update our program budget.
WORSHIP

- Sunday Morning Services
- Music Ministry
- Guest speakers
- Member Memorials & Weddings
- Mid-week Services & Special Events

Major Costs $197k

Funds allocated to Worship support a rich and meaningful experience on Sunday mornings, with music that brings us to life, sermons that inspire and challenge, rituals that honor the seasons of the year and of our lives, and connections with one another that grow deeper over time.

But it doesn’t stop on Sundays! We host intimate mid-week services that involve music, meditation, and other opportunities for spiritual reflection and depth.

YOUR FUNDS INSPIRE SUNDAY MORNINGS AND MORE

CREATING COMMUNITY

- Small Groups
- Pastoral Care
- Membership Support & Congregational Events

Major costs $211K

Our congregation is a vibrant and active place! Funds allocated to Creating Community support all the opportunities we offer for growth, learning, connection and service. We invest in the connections that sustain us.

Every week, we have visitors to our congregation. Our Membership Team welcomes newcomers and invites them to get connected to the life of the community.

Small groups and gatherings, like our Connection Circles, allow people to get to know each other, support each other in their individual spiritual journeys, and have fun along the way!

The Care Team reaches out to members who are going through a tough time or big life transition, and provides resources to the congregation for pastoral care issues like grief, loss, mental health, and end of life care.

YOUR PLEDGE GIFTS CONNECT AND SUPPORT THE CONGREGATION
FAITH DEVELOPMENT

- Adult Education & Programming
- Religious Education for Children & Youth
- Multigenerational Events

Major costs $260K

The journey of a lifetime starts here! Unitarian Universalists are lifelong learners, and funds allocated to Faith Development support a wide range of programs and classes.

Our children and youth programming includes everything from social justice to global religious traditions to wrestling with the big questions of life. Our acclaimed “Our Whole Lives” sexuality education program provides an inclusive, positive, and science-based framework for understanding yourself and others.

Adults in our congregation participate in a wide range of classes, discussion groups, film nights, and programs. We study our own Unitarian Universalist history and theology as well as global religions, science and nature, and current events.

A multigenerational community is a gift. We nurture intergenerational connections by providing opportunities for adults and kids to get to know each other, volunteer and learn together, and work for a better world!

Your pledge inspires Religious education and enrichment

UU CONNECTIONS

- Membership in the national Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA)
- Support for our Pacific Western Region (PWR)
- Other Unitarian Universalist connections

Major Costs $85k

Our congregation is stronger when we are connected to the wider world of Unitarian Universalism.

Funds allocated to UU Connections support the organizations that support us. The UUA and the PWR provide ministerial, programmatic, and administrative support to our congregation and allow us to have a bigger impact in the world.

Networks like the UU Justice Ministry of California and the UU Service Committee allow us to have a voice on social justice issues at a statewide, national, and global scale.

Professional organizations like the UU Minister’s Association, the UU Musician’s Network, and the Association of UU Administrators connect staff to the resources and support they need to thrive in their work.

When we pay our fair share to support these organizations, we keep Unitarian Universalism alive and healthy.

Your pledge connects us to our denominational faith
OUTREACH & JUSTICE

- Social and Environmental Justice
- Interfaith work
- Freedom Warming Centers

Major costs $213K

The Unitarian Society is known as a place where people work to make the world a better place. Funds allocated here reflect our commitment to living our values. Whether working on immigrant justice, LGBTQ+ rights, anti-racism, or the climate crisis, we are a visible and respected presence in Santa Barbara. Our Outreach Offerings provide support to a wide variety of local programs.

Our interfaith work builds bridges between people and celebrates the gifts of a diverse Santa Barbara community. We participate in numerous multi-faith worship services and panels every year, our music program reaches out beyond our walls, and we are members of CLUE: Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice. We are stronger together.

One of our most profound commitments is to the Freedom Warming Centers. We are the fiscal agent and lead congregation for this countywide emergency shelter for our neighbors without homes. We partner with other faith communities, civic organizations, non-profits, and city and county governments to serve over 1200 guests every winter.

Your pledge: Where spirit meets action

Your pledges are what sustains us!
To find out more about pledging and giving at USSB please visit www.ussb.org/pledge

Thank you for being part of this community. Your time, talent, and treasure is what keeps us thriving.

MAJOR CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS:
September 8 – Ingathering, RE Kickoff Carnival
October 26 – USSB Annual Fundraising Auction
November 17 - Gratitude & Generosity Sunday
December 24 - Christmas Eve Services
January 5 & 12 – Burning Bowl Ceremony & FWC 10th Anniversary
March 1 & 15 – Heritage Sunday & USSB Program Fair
April 12 – Egg Hunt for Justice
May 17 – Youth Bridging Service
June 7 – Flower Communion & Annual Meeting of the Membership

For more detail on these events, and many, many more visit our upcoming events page at ussb.org/community-life/upcoming-events