White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church
328 Maple Street, Mahtomedi, Minnesota, 55115
www.wbuuc.org | 651.426.2369

SPECIAL GIFTS

Honor an occasion.
Remember someone special.
Contribute to the church you treasure.

White Bear Unitarian Universalist Church maintains a special wish list of items that will help our church as you commemorate someone or something meaningful to you. Your individual gift need not fully fund an item; rather, gifts will be held until the funding goal is achieved and the purchase is made. These special donations are not intended to take the place of annual pledges or special Sunday collections, but instead, to be used to enhance the church we love. If you already know the item on the list for which you want to make a contribution, simply write a check made out to “WBUUC Special Gifts Fund” and send to the church office. Write in the memo line of your check the item to which you would like your gift directed.

For more information or guidance, please contact our church office at 651.426.2369.
Thank you for supporting WBUUC.

BUILDING AND LAND STEWARDSHIP

Maintaining Our Home
We are proud of our church building and know it is a sanctuary for many. It takes a lot to maintain the building and its systems. We are always in need of making repairs, updating, and replacing. All contributions toward maintaining our home are appreciated and will be used wisely by the Building Committee.

Underplanting the Grove
One way to do this would be to underplant the grove of trees directly west of the office, by replacing ailing Mountain Ash with an American Mountain Ash ($170–$180), planting an understory of native trees, such as serviceberry ($160); ironwood ($140); blue beech ($150); or pagoda dogwood ($50–$180); and planting shrubs like native viburnum ($30). Two sturdy teak benches at creek side are also requested ($1,045.00 each).

Plantings for Large Island in Parking Lot
As part of the original landscape design, we intended for the large island in the middle of the parking lot which contains a single majestic Bur Oak to have an underplanting of native plants. The plantings would consist of native shrubs and grasses or sedges that are pollinator friendly, sustainable, and would make a dramatic and lovely entry for our church members and visitors. The design would complement the flow of the existing plantings in the smaller medians in the parking lot and would decrease the amount of maintenance required to keep the site looking tidy and weed free. The plants would be installed by volunteers. We estimate the cost of plants and soil amendments would be $1,350.

ESSENTIAL TOOLS

Walkway
Land Stewardship Committee requests the installation of a walkway on the Creekside trail with a complete professional installation ($9000).

iPads and tablets
To make registration for our programs more accessible to busy visitors and members on Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights, we would like to install several iPads or tablets in the Atrium Welcome Center, with easy access to our website. These tablets may also be employed to simplify donations: equipped with “Squares,” they can receive credit card payment instantly for special collections on Sunday, ticket sales, Auction purchases, etc.
**SUNDAY SERVICES**

**Special Guest Speakers**
Our congregation has a long tradition of inviting distinguished guests to our pulpit on occasional Sunday mornings to widen the range of thoughtful, inspiring voices we hear. Some guests are ministers, both Unitarian Universalist and others; some are artists, writers, activists, or leaders from the wider community. Speakers are selected by the Worship Committee in collaboration with the Senior Minister. $300 provides honorarium for one Sunday. $1500 can bring a major speaker who travels from a distance.

**Special Guest Musicians**
Music and the arts deeply inspire our community. We welcome gifts to underwrite stipends for Sunday morning guest musicians (typically $150 - $250) and for concert performers in our Joyful Noise fundraising concert series ($2000+).

**Music Program**
The following items would enhance our music program:
- Chromatic hand chimes ($2,000)
- Drums for the youth choir ($120 each)
- 2 sound monitors ($300 - $150 each)
- An audio mixer ($1,500)
- Reverie harps ($550 each)
- Singing bowls ($100 - $500 each)
- A long multiple plug cord ($150)
- Choir music for Adult Choir
- Choir music for Youth Choir

**Spanish Language Hymnal Las Voces del Camino**
Owning the UUA’s Spanish language hymnal Las Voces del Camino would further our awareness of a language other than English and add new music to the choir’s pool ($18 per hymnal-goal 6 hymals).

**Projection System/Worship**
We are often in a situation when a projection system is requested for services and other events in the sanctuary. The existing system is inadequate for the space. The purchase of a high-lumen projector and a new retractable screen would correct this problem and expand presentation options ($3,000 - 6,000).

**THE ARTS**

**Sanctuary Art**
The ambiance of our beautiful sanctuary has been enhanced by carefully chosen pieces of art such as the bronze chalice, the stoneware chalice, large hanging fabric sculptures, textiles, vases, and bowls. Many pieces have been created by our own members. Gifts of any size are welcome as we consider new pieces. Sanctuary art is selected or commissioned by the Worship Advisory Council.

**MINISTRIES AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**Bob and Janet Hanson Ministry Internship**
We are known within our denomination as an exemplary teaching congregation. Candidates for our ministry are required to serve a 10-month full-time internship in a parish setting; the stipend for this is approximately $15,000. We have also served as a fieldwork site for UU students enrolled at United Theological Seminary; the stipend for this 10-month, 12 hour/week internship is approximately $3000.

**Scholarships for the MidAmerica Regional Assembly and UUA General Assembly**
Scholarships and/or travel support for WBUUC Delegates to the MidAmerica Regional Assembly and UUA General Assembly would remove money concerns as a deterrent for members to participate in UUA gatherings. Lessening the impact of economic inequalities would connect WBUUC intentionally as well as provide a more representative delegation.

**Social Justice Fund**
The role of our church is to grow our souls and serve the world. When members engage in justice work, they do both. The Social Justice Fund provides financial resources to support programs and activities that serve the broader community and the world. The Fund might offer scholarships to help our members engage justice work in transformational ways thereby helping us enlarge our circle of justice leaders. This includes deepening connections with others and developing leadership abilities through conferences, trainings, and service trips. This Fund can also support social and environmental action and witness, and allow our church to respond to critical justice issues that may arise suddenly. Gifts of any size are welcome.

**Sabbatical Fund**
Professional development is important for our ministers and lay leaders, but due to budget cuts, there is not enough funding to support a sabbatical or professional courses. Such a fund could be used to grow our leadership base and serve our congregation even more.