

Endowment Fund Campaign Testimonial 09/20/24

I am a member of this church, not a member of the Endowment Fund Campaign Committee. I have decided how I will make my donation to the Endowment Fund Campaign.

This church was incorporated in 1844, 180 years ago. This historic Meeting House, its fourth church home, was dedicated 60 years ago in December 1964. At that time, I was a senior at the Hartford Hospital School of Nursing; an active Congregationalist; had no clue what Unitarian Universalism was; no idea that the Unitarian Society of Hartford or this unique Meeting House existed.

So many of us have our own "discovery stories", don't we?...how we found Unitarian Universalism and this congregation. For me, it started one cold winter evening in the Payson Miller Chapel at a Memorial Service led by Reverend Nat Lauriat. Greatly moved by the service and wondered what the Sunday services were like. I would sign the Membership Book in 1981.

Who knows, maybe there are visitors online or in the sanctuary this morning who are experiencing the first day of their "discovery story".

Well, we all know an equal-opportunity-invitation to donate to our Endowment Fund has gone forth---verbally, electronically, and on paper. We all have been invited to join with our USH ancestors who so wisely planned ahead, created, contributed to an Endowment Fund, and managed it well---just as we do today.

For me, frankly, deciding to support the Endowment Fund at this point in my life answers the question (and we UUs do love questions)---"If not NOW, Sue, good lord, when?!".

My hope is that each of us with discretionary funds, who has "found" the Unitarian Society of Hartford, considers it their church home and this congregation their church family, and who has undoubtedly been changed in positive ways and continues to evolve and grow by being an active member WILL contribute to the Endowment Fund Campaign.

Financial pockets come in many depths and nest eggs come in varying sizes.

Answer the question.

Join me as we "Live Into Possibility", together, to sustain our beloved faith, congregation, and meeting place well into the Future.

Sue Smolski
September 29, 2024