

Suggested Fair Share Giving Guide

The Office of Congregational Stewardship Services has developed a new suggested fair-share giving guide. The new guide is an adaptation and expansion of a model used at the Henry David Thoreau Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Stafford, TX. The new guide replaces the 1997 version found in *Fundraising with a Vision*. As in the old guide, the financial commitment levels are still suggestions, but the new guide is different in several respects.

There are four suggested fair share giving levels.

Supporter: The congregation is a significant part of your life and it promotes your spiritual growth. For example, if your income is \$50,000, then your fair share financial commitment is \$125 per month, \$1,500 per year, representing 3 percent of your income.

Sustainer: The congregation is central to your identity, and you are committed to sustaining the programs and ministries of the church. Your fair-share financial commitment is \$167 per month, \$2,000 per year, representing 4 percent of your income.

Visionary: You are committed to both the present and future growth of the congregation. Your fair-share financial commitment is \$208 per month, \$2,500 per year, representing 5 percent of your income.

Full Tither: You designate 10 percent of your \$50,000 income as a way of living out your spiritual principles. Your fair-share financial commitment is \$417 per month, or \$5,000 per year.

Just to be clear: We are not suggesting that we locate our income on the guide and dramatically increase our annual financial commitment during the next annual budget drive. We are suggesting that we make a commitment to *move toward* our suggested financial fair share. It might be a three-year process or even a five-year process for some of us, but we advocate moving toward a fair-share financial commitment in a steady, intentional way.

Suggested Fair-Share Giving Guide

Adjusted Annual Income	Supporter The church is a significant part of my life and promotes my spiritual growth.			Sustainer The church is central to my identity, and I am committed to sustaining our programs.			Visionary I am committed to both the present and future growth of my church.			Full Tithe I designate 10% of my income to the church as a way to live out my spiritual principles		
	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment	Suggested % of Income	Monthly Payment	Annual Payment
\$10,000	2%	\$16	\$200	3%	\$25	\$300	5%	\$42	\$500	10%	\$83	\$1,000
\$25,000	2%	\$42	\$500	3%	\$63	\$750	5%	\$104	\$1,250	10%	\$208	\$2,500
\$50,000	3%	\$125	\$1,500	4%	\$167	\$2,000	5%	\$208	\$2,500	10%	\$417	\$5,000
\$75,000	3%	\$188	\$2,250	4.5%	\$281	\$3,375	6%	\$375	\$4,500	10%	\$625	\$7,500
\$100,000	3.5%	\$292	\$3,500	5%	\$417	\$5,000	6.5%	\$542	\$6,500	10%	\$833	\$10,000
\$150,000	3.5%	\$438	\$5,250	5%	\$625	\$7,500	6.5%	\$813	\$9,750	10%	\$1,250	\$15,000
\$200,000	4%	\$667	\$8,000	5.5%	\$917	\$11,000	7%	\$1,167	\$14,000	10%	\$1,667	\$20,000
\$300,000	5%	\$1,250	\$15,000	6%	\$1,500	\$18,000	8%	\$2,000	\$24,000	10%	\$2,500	\$30,000
\$400,000	6%	\$2,000	\$24,000	7%	\$2,333	\$28,000	8.5%	\$2,833	\$34,000	10%	\$3,333	\$40,000
\$500,000	7%	\$2,917	\$35,000	8%	\$3,333	\$40,000	9%	\$3,750	\$45,000	10%	\$4,167	\$50,000

Determining Your Income

Start with Adjusted Gross Income (from IRS form 1040) _____

Add

- Tax-exempt pensions and annuities _____
 - Tax-free income _____
 - Depreciation on rental property _____
 - Other _____
- Total Additions _____

Deduct:

- Non-reimbursed major medical expenses _____
 - Care of parent(s) _____
 - Costs of higher education _____
 - Costs of child care _____
- Total Deductions _____

Income to determine financial commitment _____