

**Investing in a Brighter Future:
Pledge Drive 2023-2024**

After the service, please join us for our Pledge Drive "closing ceremony" and celebration. Everyone is invited. (Yes, since it is a UUSG celebration, there will be cake! [and other goodies])

If you have already sent in your pledge form, *thank you!* And if you haven't yet, there is still time. Our target to close is **midnight tonight** - to wrap up and give our total dollar amount to the committee that starts working on the budget right away.

Building a sustainable future / Investing in a brighter future has been this year's theme. How will we make this happen? With the support -- time, talent and treasure - from every one of us! Deepest thanks to you for pledging your financial support so we can strengthen our ability to "...promote practical goodness in the world and aid each other in our moral and religious improvement!" **THANK YOU!**

From Rev. Scot's letter in the Pledge Drive brochure:

When we give to UUSG, we give to our values. We give to our future. What we give to each other is a gift that is absurdly difficult to find in our modern, distracted, fast-paced world. The gift of place. A place for friendship. A place for spiritual growth. A place for justice. A place for learning. A place for music. A place for fun. A place to dream the big dreams, think the big thoughts, love into a future that we couldn't have imagined alone. UUSG has a venerable past and a vital future. I truly believe that. I see new faces every week! There are so many folks in our region who are looking for a little more light, a little more connection, a little more love. For a place to belong. For a place to be lifted up.

Submit your pledge at uusg.org/pledge-drive, drop off in the pledge box in the Common Room, or mail to UUSG, PO Box 107, Geneva, IL 60134. Thanks again!

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Annual Week of Service Success!

Thank you to everyone who dedicated their time and efforts to our annual Week of Service! We packed food, organized a closet, cleaned up a riverbank, painted rocks, aced a trivia bee, and collected an avalanche of supplies for the Humanitarian Service Project and The Period Collective. Donations for The Period Collective will continue until Sunday, April 23.

During the Week of Service:

- 32 efficient volunteers visited the Northern Illinois Food Bank and packaged more than 9,000 pounds of food (the second highest number the food bank has ever seen)
- 8 environmentally-conscious volunteers cleaned up areas along the Fox River
- 6 caring helpers cleaned and organized Mutual Ground's clothing closet
- 41 volunteers assembled festive birthday party bags and school supply kits
- 3 crafty sewers sewed 78 beautiful bags for The Period Collective
- A room full of creative kids and adults painted peace rocks to share in our community
- Numerous kind shoppers donated paper products and feminine hygiene products

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