# FROM THE MINISTER & BOARD PRESIDENT

This congregation plays a vital role in the lives of members, supporting friends, and newcomers. Through the shared ministry of congregants and staff, we are a veritable garden of love that feeds the growth of our spirits, personal connections, and community involvement.

With so many competing demands on our time, we rely ever more on the support of professional staff. This year our goal is to offer modest cost of living increases to UUCT's four wonderful staff members.

Our Music Director, Angel de Armendi, brings us quality music every Sunday. While leading our choir and presenting virtuoso piano pieces, he somehow also finds time to fashion original arrangements and compositions.

Our Office Administrator, Suzanne Ripka, brings a sunshine personality, peerless communications skills, multitasking organizational excellence, and brilliant graphic design to our congregation.

Our new Director of Religious Exploration, Helen Rose, diligently supports our RE volunteers in providing a rich learning environment for children and youth as they grow in their UU faith.

Our able Sexton, Les Campbell, helps keep our church grounds wellmaintained and beautiful for all to enjoy.

In the past two years you have increased your pledging by over 15%. That's amazing! We hope you will continue to support this congregation with a generous financial pledge so that we can continue to Grow Our Love.

In UU Community, Reverend William Levwood Annette Pearce, President







# Unitarian Universalist Church of Tallahassee

### 2020 - 2021 CANVASS



#### **Our Mission**

Inspiring all to seek freely, to live ethically, to nurture each other and the Earth.

#### This year's canvass celebrates growing our love in all its marvelous aspects!

## LOVE OURSELVES



Self-respect and self-love are foundational to a well-lived life — and to loving others. Our first UU principle celebrates "the inherent dignity and worth of every person," regardless of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, or personal belief. We nurture this self-love through our Sunday services and our weekly spirituality groups: Mindfulness Meditation, Freethinkers' Forum, Christian Spirituality, and Singing Meditation.

# LOVE OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS



A loving family and wide network of supportive friends contribute to physical, emotional, and spiritual health. We nurture connections with one another through our Adult RE programs such as Revitalizing Elderhood, Building the World We Dream About's antiracism curriculum, and UU Explorations for new members. We also enjoy vibrant Children's RE, Music Programs, coffee hour, and other social events. Our Covenant of Right Relations helps maintain empathy and respect within our beloved church community.

#### **LOVE OUR CHURCH**



Gifts of time, talent and treasure are all critical to "loving our church." The annual canvass, or pledge drive, is vital to our church's financial health.

After two years of budget increases supported by our generous congregation, this year we are "holding the line" on most church spending. Any pledges above those in the current year's budget will be devoted entirely to cost-of-living adjustments and raises in line with UUA guidelines for our talented and highly valued staff.

As usual, each church member and supporting friend is part of a team whose goal will be 100% pledge participation.

To celebrate the end of our canvass, we will enjoy a fulfilling communal meal along with our full pledge coffers. So each team is named after a garden item grown with loving hands.



#### LOVE OUR COMMUNITY



We love Tallahassee! We support our community through Social Justice Outreach gifts of time and share-the-plate treasure to local and international non-profits that support our values. We work in the public square for voting rights, education for all, violence prevention, immigration justice, LGBTQ rights, and climate justice.

## LOVE OUR EARTH



We live out our seventh UU principle by maintaining a green sanctuary with solar panels and an ADA-compliant campus, watching our energy usage, and (for many) driving e-cars. We also support our hardworking sexton, encourage climate change legislation, compost our waste, and make ethical choices in how we eat.

