

PCUUC Pledging FAQ

What is a Pledge and what is a Pledge Unit?

A pledge is a promise to contribute a specific amount of money to PCUUC over a specific period of time (typically a church year, which runs from 1 July to 30 June). Collectively, pledges paid by the PCUUC church community constitute over 80% of the income received by the church to fund salaries, the rent for both the barn and the charter school, speaker honorariums, religious education, insurance, etc. An individual or family who makes a pledge is referred to as a pledge unit. That decision is determined by the family.

Why and when are Pledges solicited?

PCUUC operates under annual budgets, which are prepared in collaboration by church leadership and committee requests and presented and approved by the congregation at the annual meeting in June. To support building the budget, a pledge drive is launched in February to canvass the PCUUC church community to make their pledges for the upcoming church year to begin July 1st. The results of the pledge drive enable church leadership to project the pledge income for the upcoming church year and to set the budget accordingly.

Are church members expected to make pledges?

Voting church members are expected to pledge financially and in volunteer time. If financial constraints preclude doing this, a waiver can be obtained from our treasurer.

Do I need to be a member of the church to make a pledge?

No; anyone who wants to financially support the church can make a pledge. We encourage friends of PCUUC to consider both a financial pledge and time commitment. We understand that membership itself isn't right for everyone for a variety of reasons.

How many people pledge to PCUUC and how much is pledged?

For the 2017/2018 church year, there were 64 pledges, for a total of \$97,805.

Can I set up automatic pledge payments?

Yes; monthly direct debit may be set up from a savings or checking account. New direct debit pledgers and new accounts should complete the form posted online. In 2017/2018, almost 50% of all pledging units chose to set up automatic pledge payments.

Can I pay in cash?

Yes; please make your contribution so it can be applied to your pledge. Envelopes are at the front entrance if needed.

Can I make changes to my pledge?

Yes; to do so you should contact PCUUC's 2017-2018 treasurer, Mike Honegger at Treasurer@PrairieCircleUUC.org.

Does all of the money I give to the church count against my pledge commitment?

No; only pledge payments count against a pledge commitment. Other money given for fundraisers, the auction, other church events, plate donations, share the plate donations, the gift of time, etc. does not. Notes for cash or the check memo line should be used to annotate payments you desire to apply to your pledge. Envelopes are available at the front entrance if needed.

What happens to unpaid pledge commitments at the end of the church year?

Each church year ends on 30 June. By the end of June, the church sends out a pledge status to each pledge unit, conducts follow ups with people who have not fulfilled their pledge, and adjusts pledges per the feedback received.

If no feedback is received, future payments are applied to the unpaid pledge commitment until it is fulfilled.

Who do I contact if I have questions regarding my pledge?

You can either reach out to the PCUUC's treasurer or the office to access your pledge status.