



**AN INVITATION
TO COVENANT RENEWAL
FOR 2015-2016**

Once a year we renew
our great covenant of love,
service, justice and peace
to one another and
to the larger community
we serve.

*Please join us on
Covenant Renewal Sunday
May 17th at 11 AM.*



HOW YOUR COVENANT PLEDGE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

WORSHIP. The Soul of Sunday. It's Sunday morning. You enter the Great Doors. You are personally greeted and wonderful music is playing as you take your seat in a truly spectacular sanctuary. Once the music pauses, Rev. Kim welcomes you to worship. We sing to the children as they leave for their own, tailored religious education program. We support each other during Candles of Joy and Sorrow. The sermon challenges and inspires us. After service, you make your way downstairs to eat a delicious lunch, see friends, and visit with your spiritual community. Then you might participate in a program, a lecture, or a vigil to complete your spiritual practice. A typical Sunday at Arlington Street costs more than \$3,000 each and every week, throughout the year.

THE MUSIC. Don't we all love the music and the choir on Sunday mornings? Imagine our services without it! The music program costs just over \$1,100 per week, or more than \$57,000 annually. Music for Christmas Eve is an additional \$1,000.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION. The Children's Religious Education Program supports the spiritual formation of over 40 children and youth, and it's growing! Welcoming more children is wonderful, and a sign that our community and faith is growing. It also requires training more volunteer teachers and buying more supplies and curriculum materials. The CRE program costs \$700 per week, or almost \$37,000 annually.

THE STAFF. We owe our thanks to our dedicated church staff, which makes so much possible each week. We ask a very small staff to support day-to-day operations, worship, music, children's religious education, adult programs, and many volunteers. But this does not come free!

THE BUILDING. We are the stewards of a historic treasure in downtown Boston that is registered with the Department of Interior as a National Historic Site. The everyday maintenance of our 150+ year old building is over \$10,000 in a typical year, not including capital projects to preserve and make our worship space beautiful and more accessible. Snow removal costs an additional \$5,000 per winter. Like other historic properties, there will be no end to repairs and renovations to the church. It's called the joy of old house living!

UTILITIES. Not glamorous, but essential, the lights, heat, water, and phones are required to maintain our spiritual home (including our commercial kitchen) at a cost of more than \$45,000 each year. Without these utilities, we would not be able to provide a welcoming space for worship, community, and service.

EVERY PLEDGE MATTERS, ESPECIALLY YOURS!

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Financial covenant pledges from members and friends fund approximately 42% of Arlington Street's annual budget, which is \$569,540 in 2015. Imagine what we could do if we grew our financial base for next year!

Covenant renewal depends on each and every one of us. Please take part and make a pledge!

Every dollar of what you contribute makes a real difference and helps sustain and grow our spiritual community.

ALL IN. Let's be together on Covenant Renewal Sunday on May 17th at 11 AM.

HAVE QUESTIONS? Contact Jeffrey Bouchard in the church office (JBouchard@ASCBoston.org or 617.536.7050.)

Thank you.

Rev. Kim and the 2015 Covenant Renewal team



**ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH**
Unitarian Universalist

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