



Covenant Renewal

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ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist



BOSTON'S SANCTUARY SINCE 1729

Dear ASC Members and Friends,

Welcome to Covenant Renewal for the Arlington Street Church year of July 2007 to June 2008. Thank you for your support and commitment to the life and work of our congregation.

We covenant with one another each year, renewing our relationships with Arlington Street Church with pledges of financial support and volunteer service to build a strong and vibrant church year ahead of us.

Please explore this brochure as you consider what will be your own meaningful level of commitment and support to Arlington Street Church for 2007 – 2008. The back pages detail abundant volunteer opportunities that help make Arlington Street Church happen and help form positive connections among those of us who volunteer. The front pages describe the importance of pledging for all of us—members; prospective members; and occasional Sunday worshippers who are invited to join Arlington Street Church as pledging friends. And in the middle, please find the Pledge Sheet where it all happens.

On behalf of the Arlington Street leadership and staff, many thanks for your steadfast generosity to our beloved congregation!

**It was the first
time I actually
felt spiritual in
a church. I was
hooked.**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Covenant Renewal?

Covenant Renewal is Arlington Street Church’s annual Springtime process in which all members and friends make our financial and volunteer-service pledges for the coming year (July – June). In pledging, Arlington Street Church members renew our membership annually.

I attend Arlington Street Church fairly often but I’m not a member. Does Covenant Renewal apply to me?

Yes! Non-member friends are one of Arlington Street Church’s essential sources of support each year. All regular visitors and friends of Arlington Street are asked to take part in Covenant Renewal. Thank you!

I’m an Arlington Street Church member. Do I need to renew and pledge this Spring in order to maintain my membership?

Yes! Membership is based on annual renewal through Covenant pledges. We covenant with one another to care and provide for this congregation together.

My membership has lapsed; will pledging restore my membership?

Yes, by pledging, your membership reactivates unless you request otherwise.

I don’t know what to volunteer for; what should I do?

Check out pages 5 through 7 of this brochure! Then, on the pledge sheet you will find a menu of volunteer areas at Arlington Street, plus a fill-in line for any volunteerism you’d like to offer that isn’t listed.

How much should I pledge?

Please look over the following charts and consider what feels possible and meaningful for you. The UUA often suggests a quarter-tithe (2.5% of income). A small but growing number of church members are stretching toward pledges of a half-tithe (5% of income) and full tithe (10%)! From a spiritual perspective, your pledge should matter—to both you and the congregation. Our pledges are the fiscal foundation of our next year at Arlington Street Church: thus commitment to full payment of our pledges is as important as the pledge itself.

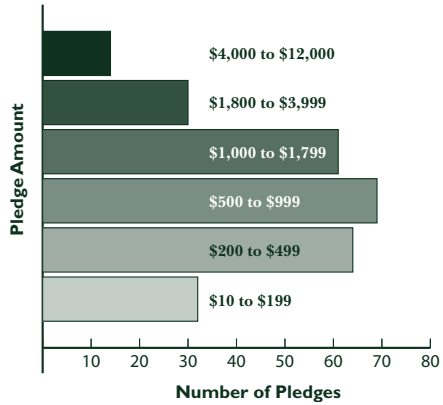
Find Yourself!			
INCOME	2.5%	5%	10%
\$10,000	\$250	\$500	\$1,000
\$20,000	\$500	\$1,000	\$2,000
\$30,000	\$750	\$1,500	\$3,000
\$40,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
\$50,000	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$5,000
\$60,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$6,000
\$70,000	\$1,750	\$3,500	\$7,000
\$80,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
\$90,000	\$2,250	\$4,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$10,000

Note: The UUA often suggests that congregants consider a quarter-tithe (2.5%) pledge. Some ASC members are stretching toward a half-tithe (5%) and even a full tithe (10%)!

What is the average pledge in the congregation?

The average pledge at Arlington Street Church for Fiscal Year 2007 is \$1,048. The upper 50% of our pledging ranges in size from \$720 to \$11,000. The Senior Minister’s family’s pledge is among the top 10% of the pledges received.

FY2007 Pledge Amount Distribution



When does my pledge need to be paid?

By June 30th, 2008. Earlier is extremely helpful, as is consistent monthly payment. Our pledges support all operating expenses of the 2008 church year (July 2007 to June 2008).

Can I pay by credit card?

Yes. Arlington Street Church accepts one-time gifts as well as regular pledge payments by credit card. We accept both MasterCard and Visa. To enroll, complete the credit card section on the covenant pledge sheet.

I give cash for the Offering on Sunday. How will Arlington Street know that I am paying my pledge?

Envelopes! Place your cash offering in an envelope (found in pew racks) bearing your name. Arlington Street Church is then able to credit your cash donation toward your pledge. Arlington Street will also then send you an end-of-year summary of your giving, to assist you for tax purposes.

What are the goals of next year’s budget?

To maintain Arlington Street Church’s current level and quality of services, programming, and staffing into next year—including a continued commitment to 100% fair compensation for all staff—we must (and will!) raise a total of \$250K in pledged commitments by June 2007.

If we are able to meet and surpass \$250K in total pledges by June, then many possibilities open up, including fuller program funding and a stronger roll-out of Jubilee, which brings Arlington Street’s values into the world around us through a philanthropic commitment of our congregation’s time, energy, love – and financial support—to selected initiatives that inspire us as a congregation and speak to our most cherished values.

For more information about Covenant Renewal

Please email Covenant Chair Paul Dakin at Covenant@ASCBoston.org or contact any member of the Staff, including Alison Green Will (for questions on volunteering); Ed Thomas (for questions on financial pledges); or senior minister Kim K. Crawford Harvie.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following volunteer areas correspond to page two of the Pledge Sheet. At Arlington Street Church we hold volunteer service and financial support in equally high regard. Volunteer service is the very foundation of congregational life, connecting us to one another and engaging us to our mission.

Social Action/Justice Initiatives

There are many ways to actively seek social justice through the Arlington Street Church community. The Social Action Committee coordinates a Letter Writing Table at coffee hour; consciousness-raising films and guest speakers; active work on voter registration; and much more.

Friday Night Supper Program

Volunteer to help serve hot meals to the homeless and hungry in our community. A 45-minute orientation is required. Arlington Street Church has hosted Friday Night Supper for over 15 years!

Choir/Music@ASC

Everyone is welcome to participate in the Choir! There are no auditions. Rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. If you play an instrument or sing and would like to contribute your talents in any way, please check off “Choir/Music@ASC” on your Covenant sheet.

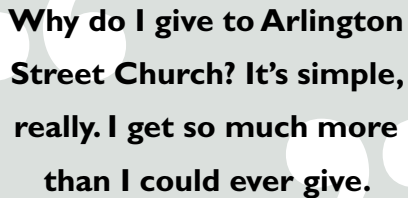
Ushering

Here’s an easy and fun way to volunteer. Ushers and Greeters welcome us at the doorway of Arlington Street Church each Sunday morning, and help collect the offering. Join our ‘Usher Pool’ call list; you can always say YES or NO based on your availability.

ASWelcome

Members of this new welcome team will be asked to sign up for a few Sundays a year to greet newcomers and help them feel comfortable. Training will be available for guidance on starting the conversation.

New members and long-timers alike are encouraged to participate – all that is required is a friendly attitude and a willingness to share our spiritual home with our guests.



Why do I give to Arlington Street Church? It's simple, really. I get so much more than I could ever give.

Help Staff Welcome Table

The Welcome Table at Coffee Hour encourages visitors and friends to consider joining Arlington Street Church as members, and provides a friendly face to answer questions about getting oriented and involved at Arlington Street Church. If you would enjoy helping new members and friends in this way, please join our pool of Welcome Table volunteers!

Help with Membership Classes

Membership classes are held several times a year and are co-led in teamwork by member volunteers and Arlington Street Church staff (Kim and others). Would you like to help as a guest visitor and share your story and experiences with potential new Arlington Street Church members? All that's required are a welcoming presence, a love of Arlington Street, and a desire to help new members join and connect.



Connections (Small Group Ministry) Facilitators

Facilitators are needed to lead or co-lead our growing small group ministry at Arlington Street Church. Connections allows participants to share our lives and experiences around spiritual or religious topics in a safe space. Most groups meet twice a month and follow a prescribed format and curriculum, so little advance planning is involved.

Participate in Worship Services

As worship coordinators, volunteers help deliver a smooth and meaningful Worship experience on Sunday morning. The Coordinators speak from the pulpit during chalice lightings and readings, and facilitate Candles of Joy and Sorrow. Volunteers for this role meet with the Worship Committee monthly to help plan upcoming services.

Arlington Street gives to me constantly—hourly—in the form of friendships that sustain me, music and sermons that inspire me, and opportunity after opportunity to practice what we preach.

Help Organize Worship Services

Worship volunteers who do not wish to help in the pulpit can enhance the Arlington Street worship experience in many other ways: congregation outreach, worship planning, and helping the minister, ministerial intern, and lay-preachers with any special needs for particular services. Volunteers for this role also meet with the Worship Committee monthly.

Help Staff the Arlington Street Sandwich Board

We ASCers need nourishment in order to stick around for all those afternoon activities! A rotating pool of Sandwich Board volunteers sets up the food table and sells sandwiches, drinks and chips for about 30 – 45 minutes after services every Sunday. Please join us!

Join the Green Sanctuary Committee

This group is on a mission to help make Arlington Street Church's building more energy efficient and environmentally friendly, and to educate the church community on issues of conservation and environmental impact. Go green at Arlington Street Church!

Children's Religious Education (CRE)

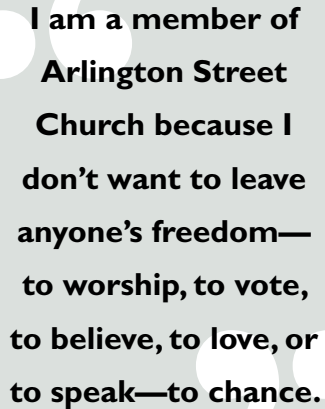
It takes lots of adults to make our Children's Religious Education program happen year 'round. We seek teachers, assistant teachers, storytellers, craftspeople, musicians, snack-makers, and people who just enjoy hanging out with kids.

Help Plan/Lead ASCenter Courses

The ASCenter aims to offer programs that explore our diverse Unitarian Universalist heritage; resources and wisdom from the world's religions; spiritual themes in literature, art, music and drama; vital social issues facing us today; and much more. If you might like to help lead something or help to plan next year's program offerings, let us know!

The UU Affairs Committee

Unitarian Universalist (UU) Affairs Committee makes connections between Arlington Street Church and the greater Unitarian Universalist movement. Each year Arlington Street Church elects delegates to the UUA General Assembly, the Mass Bay District, the UU Urban Ministry, and the Bethany Union. Please check the UU Affairs box to learn more!



**I am a member of
Arlington Street
Church because I
don't want to leave
anyone's freedom—
to worship, to vote,
to believe, to love, or
to speak—to chance.**

For more information... about Volunteering at Arlington Street Church or about Covenant Renewal ...

... about volunteering at Arlington Street Church or about Covenant Renewal, please e-mail Covenant@ASCBoston.org or contact the Church Office. Also, www.ASCBoston.org has constantly evolving wealth of resources to help you get involved.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!



Arlington Street Church
Unitarian Universalist
351 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116-3399

Arlington
Covenant Renewal
Sunday
11:00 AM

After years of
wandering, I found a
place I could call home.
I have found lots of
heroes here... I have
many friends here.

Covenant Renewal
2 0 0 7 — 2 0 0 8

Covenant Renewal

2 0 0 7 — 2 0 0 8

Pledge Sheet

PART I: FOR OUR RECORDS

Please complete the following section to help the church office keep up-to-date records. For couples and families, please use **Party A** and **Party B**. Single people, use **Party A**.

Party A

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Daytime Phone _____ Birthday _____

E-mail Address _____

Party B

Name _____

Daytime Phone _____ Birthday _____

E-mail Address _____

Children In Our Household

Name _____ Birthday _____ Grade _____

Name _____ Birthday _____ Grade _____

- Check here if you *do not* want to receive **Snapshot**, the e-newsletter of Arlington Street Church with bi-weekly highlights of our community.

PART 2: VOLUNTEER PLEDGE

Thanks for Volunteering! Please indicate your interest in any of the following areas of service to Arlington Street Church for 2007 – 2008. If you are pledging as a single person, use the **Party A** column. Couples, please designate a **Party A** and **Party B**. (Brochure pages 5 through 7 give details on each volunteer area listed below.)

New: I'm interested, tell me more
Continuing: I'm already involved

Party A

Party B

Name(s) _____

Name(s) _____

New Cont.

- Social Action/Justice
- Friday Night Supper Program
- Choir/Music@ASC
- Ushering
- ASWelcome (greeting)
- Help Staff our Welcome Table
- Help with Membership Classes
- Facilitate a *Connections* Group
- Help Lead Worship Services
- Help Plan Worship Services
- Help Staff Sandwich Board
- Green Sanctuary Committee
- Children's Religious Education
- Plan/Lead ASCenter Courses
- UU Affairs & Related Org's
- Other Committee(s) as below

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- Other Committee(s) as below

Are there specific volunteer skills or interests you'd like to share?

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PART 3: FINANCIAL PLEDGE

Single people and couples pledging jointly, please use the top box (**Party A**).
Couples pledging separately, please use both boxes (**Party A** and **Party B**).
Thank you!

Party A

Name _____

My/Our financial contribution to the
work of our congregation in 2007 – 2008 will be:

Amount \$ _____

Signed _____

Party B

Name _____

My/Our financial contribution to the
work of our congregation in 2007 – 2008 will be:

Amount \$ _____

Signed _____

Optional Credit Card Information

MasterCard Visa

CC#: Exp:

Please charge one time or \$_____ monthly.



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STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*
351 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116-3399

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