

MISSION: WILDFLOWER

www.wildflowerchurch.org

One year ago this September, ninety members and friends of Wildflower Church gathered together to collaboratively create a new mission statement for our congregation. That statement reads:

Wildflower Church is a deliberately inclusive, open-minded religious community in the Unitarian Universalist tradition. We joyfully nurture one another in our lifelong spiritual journeys, and we commit to transforming ourselves and the world around us through acts of compassion, love, and social justice.

The power and the poetry of this mission statement inspire me to explore the meaning of each word and to ask myself how I can continue to deepen my commitment to serving as your minister in a way that reflects and strengthens our mission. I hope the statement does the same for you, in your role at Wildflower Church. Yes, it may seem nearly impossible to do it all, all the time. But ours is not an impossible mission. It is the Wildflower mission, and it stretches us, guides us, invites us to live the best, most meaningful, and most deeply just, loving, and spiritual lives that we can.

And one way we can, and indeed must, answer our mission's call is to give to our annual stewardship campaign as generously as we are each able. We are all we have, and it is us who keep our mission alive and running. Once again, I will be choosing to accept the assignment of pledging in ample measure to Wildflower Church, and I ask you to join me in doing the same, because *you* are what makes the Wildflower mission *possible*!

Peace and thanks, Eliza



2010 BUDGETED EXPENSES

The mission statement of a church says much about its congregation. It reveals the spirit and soul of its members and friends, how we interact with each other as well as the world around us. The church's annual budget provides the blueprint on how we live out the mission for the coming year. We facilitate our lifelong spiritual journeys, as well as those of our children, through our religious education programming. We nurture one another in good times and bad through our pastoral care programs and fellowship events. We transform ourselves, and the world around us, through a wide variety of social action activities.

One very important way you support the mission of Wildflower Church is through your annual financial pledge. Your generous gift takes the words of our mission statement and transforms them into a living, breathing representation of our spiritual values. A breakdown of the proposed 2010 Wildflower Church budget is presented here to show you how the various programs of our church relate to our shared values. Expenses are grouped to correspond to our major areas of focus: Facilities, Fellowship, Pastoral Care, Religious Education, Social Action, and Worship. Administrative expenses support the overall work of Wildflower Church and are allocated proportionally to these focus areas.

Religious Education	36 %	
Adult Programming		\$275
Children's RE		\$23,080
Youth RE		\$6,701
Worship	25 %	
Aesthetics		\$100
Music		\$7,180
Worship		\$2,580
Social Action	13 %	
Social Action		\$700
Pastoral Care	12 %	
Caring		\$2,290
Facilities	10 %	
Facilities		\$30,750
Fellowship	4 %	
Fun and Fellowship		\$610
Hospitality		\$460
Administrative*	-	
Building		\$4,300
Child Care		\$3,700
Committee on Ministry		\$1,780
Communications		\$1,750
Leadership & Organization		\$31,665
Membership		\$1,315
Office & Administration		\$21,187
Stewardship		\$1,050
Ministerial**	-	
Ministerial		\$68,842
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES		\$210,315

* Some congregational costs are not directly attributable to the major program categories. These costs include childcare, communications, finance, leadership and organization, long-range planning, office and administration and stewardship. These costs have been allocated across the program categories listed above.

** Rev. Galaher's work time is divided roughly as follows: worship, 25% (preparation, writing, meetings, Sunday service, etc.); Religious Education, 12% (teaching, meetings with DRE, etc.); social action, 20% (actions, Austin Interfaith, service trips, etc.); pastoral care, 16% (visits, phone calls, meetings, etc.); denominational connections, 23% (General Assembly, minister meetings, SWUUSI, SWUUC youth camp, conferences, etc.); fellowship, 4% (having fun with the congregation!). Her compensation has been allocated to the program categories based on those percentages. Percentages in each category represent direct expenses + ministerial allocation.