



Preserving the Past, Stepping into the Future

Dear Friends,

Nearly a century ago, members of this congregation built our church home with faith, generosity, and hope for the future. Because of their vision, we gather today in a place that has nurtured faith, fostered community, inspired service, and enriched countless lives. Today, we have the opportunity and the privilege to carry their legacy forward so that future generations will experience that same welcome, faith, and community.

That opportunity is before us now. Our congregation has received an extraordinary combination of preservation grants and generous gifts totaling \$800,000 to restore the south façade and complete other critical preservation work on our historic church home. These remarkable investments recognize not only the architectural and historical significance of our building, but also the vibrant ministry it continues to support as a place of worship, music, justice, learning, service, and community.

To unlock the full grant award, we must raise the remaining \$200,000 in matching funds. Thanks to the generosity of our grant partners, every dollar we give unlocks four additional dollars in funding—a rare opportunity to multiply the impact of every gift.

We hope you will take time to thoughtfully and prayerfully discern the gift that is right for you. Based on the amount we seek to raise, the average campaign gift is approximately \$1,500. While that amount may serve as a helpful guide, we recognize and honor that every household's circumstances are different. We therefore ask every household to participate with a gift that reflects your discernment, your generosity, and your circumstances. Every gift strengthens this effort, and together we will carry forward the legacy entrusted to us.

If it is helpful, you may fulfill your pledge over time, including into the coming year. We hope you will make your gift with joy, knowing that you are investing not only in our historic church home, but also in the ministry, mission, and community that flourish within it.

As our Congregation undertakes this campaign, we also continue our search for a new settled minister. The commitment we demonstrate to caring for our church home reflects the strength, generosity, and vitality of our congregation. Candidates look for these qualities when discerning a call. Every gift, regardless of amount, moves us closer to our goal, and every participating household tells the story of a congregation deeply rooted in our history and confidently investing in our future.

Please return your enclosed pledge form by September 30 so we can fulfill the matching requirement and unlock the full grant award. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to preserve our church home for generations to come. If you are unable to make a financial pledge at this time, we invite you to support the campaign by sharing your time and talents through volunteer service.

Thank you for your faithful support of First Congregational Church, UCC and for the many ways you strengthen our shared ministry. We are deeply grateful for your partnership in this extraordinary opportunity. Together, we can honor the vision of those who came before us while creating a lasting legacy for those who will follow.

With gratitude, hope, and confidence in our shared future,
Tom Worley and Allison Lowery, Co-Chairs of the Preservation Grant Campaign