

## **Second Unitarian Church of Omaha Share the Plate Policy**

Date of Policy Approval: 01/23/2017

Previous Approval Date: 10/13/2011

Policy Owner: Social Justice Committee and Finance Coordinating Council

In line with Second Unitarian Church of Omaha's commitment to justice and financial stewardship, Second Unitarian will donate one-half (50%) of all moneys posted to Offering each month to a selected outside organization. Moneys posted to Offering will include the following cash and checks dropped into the Offering plates on Sunday morning: loose cash; all cash and checks with the selected organization's name or "Offering/Share the Plate" designated on the cash envelope or on the check memo line; and all cash and checks from non-pledgers with no designation on the cash envelope or memo line.

The Social Justice Committee (SJ) will accept requests from members and committees via the "Share the Plate" Nomination Form. The outside organization will be a 501(c)3 organization and will be approved by SJ. SJ will notify the Board of Trustees of the approved nomination and the designated month.

Preference will be given to local 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. All Offerings from the December 24<sup>th</sup> Service will be designated for the Minister's Discretionary Fund. Two or three months of the year could be reserved for the Minister's Discretionary Fund; denomination support; and special emergency needs, natural disasters or severe tragedies, that may or may not be local to Omaha, NE. Organizations selected should have a strong connection to the mission of Second Unitarian Church of Omaha. Preference will be given to new nominations so that we may partner with many groups.

Each month a representative of the outside organization will be invited to speak during worship (and/or lead a workshop) about their organization. During months where the focus is on a distant organization or emergency, the speaker will be handled by Music and Worship and the Minister.