

## SHANAH TOVAH – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### OPPORTUNITY

#### Lead With Spirit in the New Year

At First Universalist, we minister to each other, learn from one another, support, celebrate, and grow with each other. And in that sense of community, each fall we come together for a full day of exploration and development. This year, it is open to all! On Sat. Nov. 2, 9 am—5 pm we will venture ‘Beyond Categorical Thinking’ in a morning UUA-facilitated workshop as it applies to our ministerial search. The afternoon will include interactive discussions and activities facilitated by Leadership Development. Come together on Nov. 2, for the morning, the afternoon, or the full day! Lunch and snacks will be provided.

### TRANSPARENCY

#### As the Year Turns: How We Meet Our Annual Commitments

This week was the Jewish new year, Rosh Hashanah. We also recently began the 159th year of this church. As we think about the years turning, it’s good to consider our annual commitments.

**Monthly:** About 60 families offer their commitments monthly, ideally each month. About \$7,000 arrives monthly from these families. This is so essential to meeting our payroll - our biggest expense, and we pay our minister and staff every month. Many of us set up ‘bill pay’ with our banks so the payments arrive automatically – so very

### CELEBRATION

#### Starting the New Year Off Right

We did it! Last Saturday, we came together during the Harvest Fundraiser to raise **\$10,000** to fund the ministerial search which is already underway. While enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and drinks, all were inspired to participate in this one-time event hosted by the Board, Search, and Stewardship groups. We fulfilled the promise we made to ourselves last June to hold a special fall fundraiser to raise these funds. *Couldn't be there? It's not too late to contribute to the fund; any funds not spent this year will carry over to next year to defray some of the expected costs in settling our new minister.*

easy! If you have not yet met 25% of your commitment, consider ‘catching up’ before Dec. 31.

**Prepay:** \$18,873 was paid (by 8 families) even before this year began on July 1. This helps greatly to make it through the summer months when church life is quiet, but staff is hard at work – and paid.

**Dec 31:** A few of us pay in full at the mid-point of the year.

*Whatever your choice, your participation is greatly appreciated!*