

# Old North Church and the UCC

## Understanding our mutual support

### Current ONC Bylaw

“The Church shall provide benevolence funds at the rate of ten percent (10%) of its annual income net of restricted funds. Half of this amount is for Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM).”

*[This is in the “Miscellaneous Requirements” section]*

### Draft Proposal of New ONC Bylaw

“The Church shall live out its mission by giving at least a tenth of its income to share Christ’s love and justice in the world. Of the church’s annual income (excluding restricted funds):

7% shall be distributed by the Outreach Ministry Board to support nonprofit organizations

4% shall be distributed by the Church Treasurer to the Southern New England Conference of the UCC for Our Church’s Wider Mission.”

Rounding our annual unrestricted income in 2025 to \$500,000, this would mean a donation of \$20,000 to the work of the UCC in New England and beyond.

After soliciting feedback at three listening sessions and several one-on-one conversations, the Leadership Board believes this proposal honors our church’s commitment to support the necessary ministry of the wider UCC, while also allowing our Outreach Ministry Board to have a greater impact on our community and world through organizations that are doing good work.

**We welcome your feedback about this proposal ahead of the Annual Budget Meeting on Feb 2, 2025!**

### What Proportion of Income Are Other Churches Giving?

*Note: The conference doesn’t make available what the average Proportional Giving rate is among churches, so I asked around!*

Small, single clergy church, North Shore MA	2.57%
Large, 2-pastor church Coastal Maine	5.7%
Large, 2-pastor church, MetroWest MA	4.4%
Medium, single clergy church, Metro Boston	5%
Large, 2-pastor church, North Shore MA	2.3%