

**First Unitarian Church Of Alton
Board Policy on Designated Contributions**

Purpose: To provide direction in acceptance or rejection of designated contributions by members or other friends of the church.

Reference: Article VI - Trustees of ByLaws approved 1/09

Section 3: All of the affairs of the church shall be under the control and jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees, except the matters which are by law or herein reserved to the congregation. The Board of Trustees shall provide for the raising and disbursing of the funds of the church and auditing the books. The Board of Trustees shall have general care and control of the real and personal of the real and personal property of the church and shall receive and appropriate all sums, gifts, contributions, and donations for the purpose of the church as they see fit, subject however to any limitations, if any, of such gift. The Board of Trustees shall not, however, create any debt beyond the current budget expenses, unless authorized by a 2/3 vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the members of which notice of the proposed expenditure and its purpose was contained in the call of the meeting.

Definitions:

A designated contribution is an offer of money or actual cash provided to the church with the intention of funding a specific activity or purchase and is over and above any pledge amount from the donor.

Presented and discussed at: 4/1/13 and 5/6/13 Board Meetings

Action taken: Approved at 5/6/13 Board Meeting

Policy:

It is the policy of the Board of Trustees to solicit and accept pledges and unrestricted donations to fund the Church budget which is presented to and approved by the Congregation. Other donations may be solicited and accepted for designated purposes not included in the normal budget, e.g. special building amenities, new software, etc. In general, funds donated for designated purposes or in the name of individuals should be used on long-lasting or permanent purchases such as exterior signage, musical instruments, new appliances, computer equipment. At the same time the Board rejects designated contributions for support of budget line items since to do so would encourage preferential funding of some line items and potential defunding of other line items, both actions which would damage the Church's ability to plan and implement an overall budget.

Any request for an exception to this policy requires approval by a majority of the Board.