

## Stewardship at Westwood

Many Ways to Practice Generosity

### Generous Sensible Contributions

Westwood members and friends contribute to the life of the congregation in many ways, including their vitally important gifts of time and talent. Members and friends also support Westwood financially. This support usually comes in the form of monthly pledges but it also includes Sunday offerings and special donations. In 2010, the option of pre-authorized electronic withdrawals will again be available. We honour and appreciate all forms of contribution and recognize that individual and family circumstances affect the timing and levels of financial support.



### What is Stewardship month?

Stewardship is the annual process whereby all members and friends are asked to review their desired contributions in the coming year. This is an opportunity to identify areas of volunteer interest and financial pledges for the coming year.



### Tax Magic

As a church, Westwood is a registered charity, so all financial contributions to Westwood can provide tax credits (as much as 50%). Please take this into consideration when making your pledge decision.

### Thank You...

for learning about the dollars and cents of Westwood. If you have any questions, please contact our Treasurer or members of the Board. If you would like to help us make greater sense of Westwood's financial picture and stewardship responsibilities, we welcome your input at [stewardship@westwoodunitarian.ca](mailto:stewardship@westwoodunitarian.ca)

### Westwood Unitarian Congregation

11135-65 Ave, Edmonton, AB, T6H 1W3  
(780) 434-5819  
[www.westwoodunitarian.ca](http://www.westwoodunitarian.ca)



### Stewardship at Westwood

## Dollars & Sense

### Making Sense of Westwood's Budget

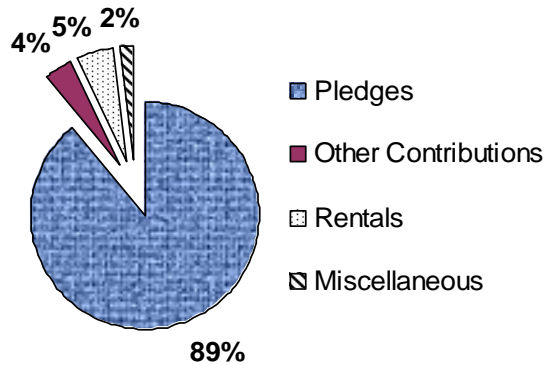
Whether you are a first time visitor, a prospective member, or a long term member, we welcome your interest in our stewardship process. We are all stakeholders in Westwood so it's important to have access to financial information. We hope you will find what you need to know inside. Westwood depends almost entirely on the support, financial and otherwise, of its members and friends. Please take a few minutes to look through this brochure and don't hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

## Stewardship at Westwood

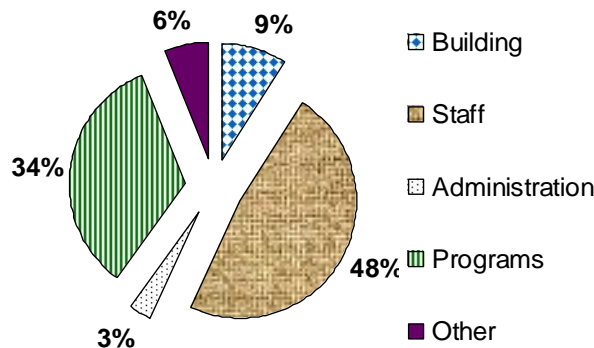
Our financial year runs from July 1 to June 30. In 2010 – 2011, we are proposing a budget of \$143,000.

### \$143,000 Budget

#### Where does our revenue come from?



#### Where do we spend our money?



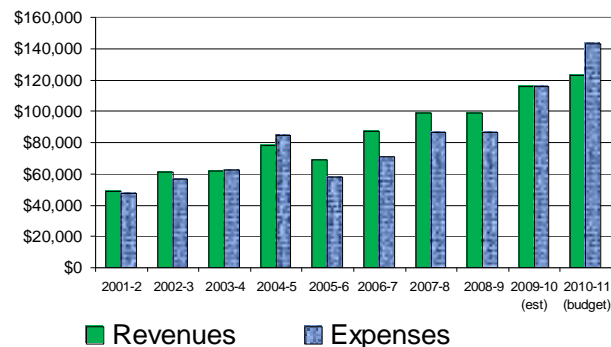
### Where the Money Goes

Staffing is Westwood's largest expense, making up 48% of the total budget. The largest items here are minister's salary 66%, administrator's salary 15% and Children's and Youth Religious Education coordinator 13%. Our next largest expense is programming at 34% (worship services, choir, conferences and leadership development...etc). 9% goes to building-related costs (utilities, janitorial, etc.). 6% goes to "other" expenses such as denominational fees, and 3% goes towards administrative expenses (copying, telephone, etc.).

### Westwood Budget Trends

Westwood's budgets have increased over the years due to increases in programming and professional assistance. Our growing congregation has embraced the paid services of an administrator, children's program coordinator, a choir accompanist and a professional minister. These professional services are vital to fulfilling our vision of a thriving, growing, and enduring community.

### Revenues and Expenses, 2002-11



### Membership & Friendship

Our membership doubled to 80 from 2000 to 2004, and then hovered around there for several years. As of February 2010, we have 95 members, 40 friends, and about 40 children. We continue to gain new members every year, but at the same time, some members move away or become less active. We also have many friends who are active in the church, but for various reasons have not chosen to be members. A friend is anyone who chooses to be listed in our directory but is not a member.

As part of its role as a member congregation in the Canadian Unitarian Council (CUC) Westwood contributes \$91 per member to support CUC national services. We gain strength from a common national voice and benefit from many CUC resources.

### How Much to Contribute?

In the 2010 – 2011 tentative budget, the Westwood board has endorsed new budget requests for important programs, such as Children's and Youth Religious Education and Music. To achieve a balanced budget, the average cost per member would work out to about \$1505. Of course, this is an average amount per member – some give more, some less, depending on circumstances. Remember that tax credits reduce the actual cost to you by as much as 50%. We sincerely value your presence among us and we have no fixed pledge requirements – no contribution is too big or too small.