



First Unitarian Universalist Church of Houston is a thriving beacon for inclusive spiritual development, social justice and liberal religious values. The Museum District (MD) campus is a center for engagement with the Greater Houston community and our Thoreau campus in Fort Bend County is in one of the most diverse and fastest growing areas in the country.

As our faith community enters into a new phase post-pandemic, with a projected re-opening of our two campuses in July 2021, our congregational homes have some immediate repair and accessibility needs. We also have a unique opportunity to “green” our MD campus at this time and we are in ongoing discussions with the Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program to see how a portion of our project might be financed by net-zero PACE financing. Our Thoreau campus also has some important needs that can be completed soon.

Overview of the immediate needs and estimated costs:

- ☪ **Keeping Congregants Cool:** replacement of majority of MD HVAC system; replacement of ceiling fans = \$115,608
- ☪ **Cooking & Hydration for Our Community:** Stove, hood & water fountain replacement at MD = \$6,100
- ☪ **Improving MD Accessibility/Safety:** inspections, tree trimming, handrail repair; contract for surface lot parking = \$10,850
- ☪ **Upgrading Thoreau Accessibility & Plumbing:** plumbing repair, gravel & strip parking lot, tree branch removal, Southwest drainage; exterior paint; nonskid surface on outdoor stairs; printer for service materials = \$15,231
- ☪ **Practical Planning:** Replenish facilities contingency fund; capital cost escalation contingency of 10% = \$36,531
- ☪ **Reimbursement for Pandemic Increased Technology:** We pivoted to online programs, made possible with increased tech equipment and services = \$40,680
- ☪ **Returning Borrowed Program Funds:** The elevator repair for our MD campus was quoted at \$85,000, but required \$150,000 to complete. As a result, we needed to use \$65,000 in program funding to pay for that repair = \$65,000

On March 17, 2021, the First UU Board authorized a small capital campaign for \$290,000 to move forward. Now is the time to fund these immediate needs and be ready to welcome our returning and new members this summer. Your gift is important and very much appreciated!

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Rev. Dr. Colin Bossen: colin@firstuu.org; Ron Cookston: roncookston@sbcglobal.net; or Kay Crider: kaycrider@me.com. Thank you.