



Thank you for prayerfully considering how First Church Berkeley has impacted your life, and for your willingness to make a sustaining gift so that our church may continue to be a place where God is alive and at work in the world.

[Here are the ways that you can become a Sustaining Giver to First Church Berkeley](#)

CONTINUE YOUR SUSTAINED ON-LINE GIVING THROUGH REALM OR BECOME A NEW SUSTAINING GIVER THROUGH REALM:

This year, we hope to continue the trend begun in 2018 towards a “sustained giving” model using our church database, REALM at www.onrealm.org. Out of our current 167 “pledgers,” 101 are already using the REALM system to enable automatic withdrawal from their checking account, credit or debit cards for their pledged amount. **Thank you, REALM users!** The use of REALM allows for better cash flow through the year to help pay our staff and bills, and it may also help you avoid end-of-year “oops” moments playing catchup with your pledge. You can make changes at any time to your giving level: increasing your gift as an act of growing faith, gratitude or excitement, decreasing your giving if you leave the church or if your financial circumstances change. We hope to increase the number of pledgers using REALM by 20%, to continue our church’s transition to this form of regular, sustained giving. The advantage to this method for you is that you can choose to give weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or annually.



- **REALM Instructions are included with this letter, tailored for new users as well as existing users. Even if you are an existing user of REALM for on-line giving, we do ask that you update your information for 2020 as outlined in the instructions.**
- **REALM Trainings will be offered after the worship services on September 22nd and 29th in the Hall of Entrance.** Trainers Louise Halsey, Kit Dunbar, and Amy Hiestand will have laptops available and can help you set up your account or trouble-shoot any issues you might be having with the system. For existing users, please bring your log in credentials (user email and password).

PROVIDE YOUR SUSTAINING GIFT THROUGH REGULAR WORSHIP OFFERING AND/OR THROUGH THE MAIL:

We recognize that REALM may not be for everyone, and we don’t want to discourage you from making a financial commitment to First Church Berkeley. You can make your sustaining gift (whether weekly, monthly, or through an annual or one-time gift) by providing a check through either the weekly offering collection or simply by mailing your check to the church office. Giving envelopes will be available in the pews beginning in September 2019.

Mail Checks (with “Sustaining Gift” noted in the memo line) to:

First Church Berkeley
2345 Channing Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
Attn: Business Manager

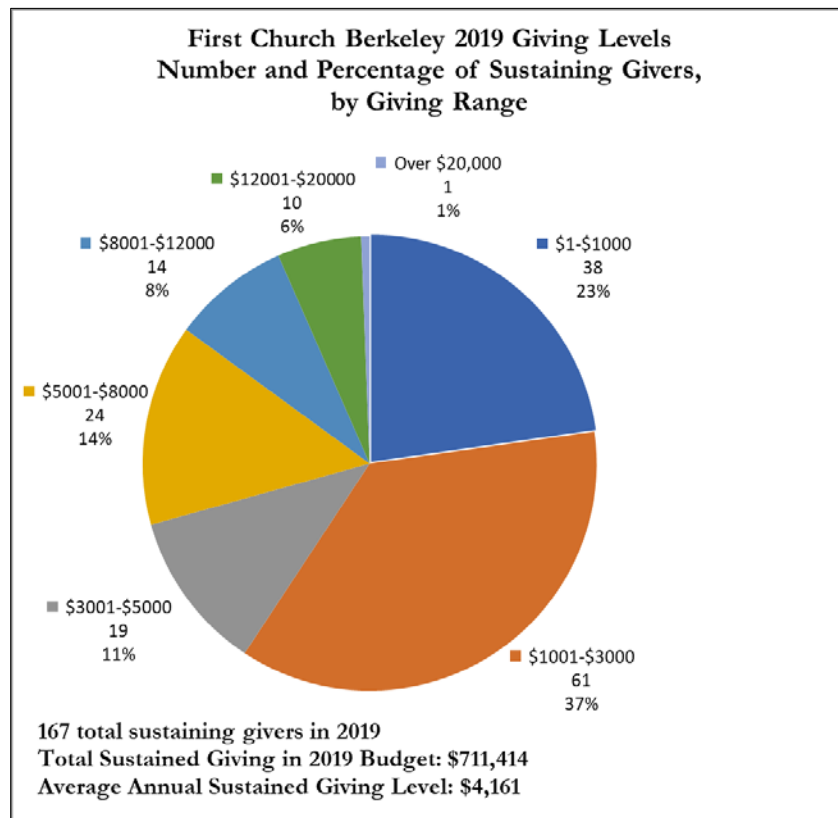
You can also make financial gifts to First Church Berkeley through a gift of stock. Please contact Business Manager Kit Dunbar for more information on this process.

PROVIDE YOUR SUSTAINING GIFT THROUGH PAYPAL:

Another easy way to give to First Church Berkeley is through PayPal. Open your PayPal app on your mobile device or computer at www.paypal.com. Click the “Send” button. Enter giving@fccb.org in the email line. Type “Sustaining Gift” in the note area.

Sustained Giving at First Church Berkeley – By the Numbers:

Sometimes understanding how our sustained giving fits into overall church averages can help in our spiritual giving discernment process! Please know that each and every person’s sustaining gift is an invaluable component of First Church Berkeley’s ability to be a place where God is alive and at work in the world. The chart below shows representative giving level ranges for the 167 sustaining givers who are giving in 2019.



Questions? We’re here to help!

If you have any questions whatsoever about First Church’s stewardship and sustaining giving program and goals, or would like to have a confidential, non-judgmental conversation about money and giving, do not hesitate to contact Reverend Molly Baskette at revenendmolly@gmail.com or (617) 462-7475 or Business Manager Kit Dunbar at kdunbar@fccb.org or (510) 225-6814.