



October 15, 2018

Every fall at the Oakland Center we look ahead to the coming year, to plan, to budget, and to craft and nurture a mental equivalent of greater good. Each year builds on the last, so it serves us to pause and look. What was accomplished this year? What is our financial condition? Where do we stand now?

Essayist James Baldwin wrote, "If you know from whence you came, there are absolutely no limitations to where you can go."

2018 has been a year of wonderful accomplishments, not the least of which have been the improvements to our facilities. These enhancements include new roofs on both of our buildings, new exterior paint for both buildings, and a resurfacing and completion of our parking lots. Exterior beautification continues to unfold in the form of beautiful gardens, new exterior lighting, and we are excited that funding has been secured for a new street entrance to our parking lot - thanks to everyone who participated in Buy-a-Brick and our parking lot sale/bazaar. The funding for most of these improvements came from proceeds from the land sale a few years ago that was earmarked for these purposes.

Regarding regular operating cash flow, while it is hard in September to accurately project 2018 year-end numbers, if trends continue it looks like we will end this year with our income meeting our expenses, at least breaking even, with all bills paid and no debt accrued. Big thanks to all who have given of their time, talent and treasure to make that happen. It really does take a village.

We are poised now to expand our programs even further. A 10% increase in revenue in 2019 will allow us to begin to do just that. It's a reasonable, doable, and sustainable goal for 2019. To that end, we ask you to prayerfully consider your 2019 contribution. Whatever you give, know that we are grateful, honored, and do not take it for granted. Our ministers, Board of Trustees and volunteer coordinators are devoted to the highest stewardship of your contributions. If you are in a position to increase your giving 10% or more in 2019, please do consider it. There is more for us to do, and it's up to the village to make that possible.

Finally, we invite and encourage you to auto-tithe in the coming year. This makes it exponentially easier for us to plan and steward our resources and expenses.

Thank you for your generosity, for your amazing hearts and for all that you contribute to the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living. All is well, and the best is yet to come!

With Love and Great Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anderson".

Reverend Jeffrey Anderson  
Senior Minister  
Oakland Center for Spiritual Living

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leeds".

Robert Leeds  
President  
Oakland Center Board of Trustees



### **2018 Contribution Information**

Your 2018 first quarter financial contribution(s) made to the Oakland Center for Spiritual Living between **July 1, 2018** and **September 30, 2018, totaled: \$ 0.00.** We've provided an itemized breakdown of all your contributions made toward the General Tithe Fund through the first quarter of 2018, followed by your 2018 pledge summary (if applicable):

**Itemized Statement:** No contribution(s) received during the 3rd Quarter of 2018.

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**Pledge Summary:** No pledge card received for 2018.

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The **Oakland Center for Spiritual Living** is a registered 501c-3 non-profit organization under Charter of the United Church of Religious Science.

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