Happy new year, friends!

Our Board President, Paul Schneider, is on a business trip to China, so I am providing his monthly update for the congregation.

The Board has been busy working on supporting the actualization of the vision, mission, and ends that you have established for the congregation, and specifically on our Board priorities. Toward those ends, we are excited to present a comprehensive update at the **February 4 semi-annual congregational meeting**, immediately after the service. To ensure we can make the most of our time together, we will be providing pizza for all who can attend. The meeting, as always, is open to everyone, and we look forward to engaging conversation.

We will provide an update on the congregation's finances (spoiler alert: all is well!); the 2018 operating budget pledge drive (spoiler alert: all went well, but there is follow up to be completed before we can finalize a budget for the upcoming fiscal year – if you have not made a pledge yet, please help us get there by visiting GIVE on the <u>vuu.org</u> webpage); the UUA dues changes update; and our path toward providing more and better space for this congregation to grow and thrive.

With our vision and mission in mind, The Board has been discussing possibilities for the future by reviewing the current valuation of our campus and opportunities for buying/selling to relocate to a larger space, by discussing opportunities for seeding or creating a second congregation in the east valley, by meeting with congregational leadership for input on these ideas, and by engaging architects to open discussion on improving our current campus and/or building additional facilities on our property. These are big decisions, and the Board would like your individual and collective input on February 4, and as we walk the path between then and our Annual Meeting in June to present to you a preliminary plan for our future.

If this all seems important to you, and/or you'd like to break bread (pizza) with your friends, please join us Sunday, February 4, at 11:45 in the sanctuary for lunch and open discussion.

Yours in service, DeeAnne McClenahan, Vice President