BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Dear friends,

I really enjoyed the month of November and our focus on gratitude. Each sermon, each discussion, and on into each week, I was able to reflect on how grateful I am for this space we have created at VUU. The physical space, for sure, but the energy and enthusiasm, and caring that fills it is what makes it so important and so special in and for our community.

There is gratitude also for the space we continue to create, in alignment with our mission -- more space to serve each other and the many new and curious people who come into our space each week. The two-services experiment has been a huge success. About 100 adults stay late or come early each Sunday for adult faith formation classes. Some classes have standing room only. And even though there were a few empty chairs before we went to two services, the magic of making room (more chairs, and different time options) has brought even more (about 300) each Sunday to our space. Having all ages with us for the hour we share in worship is one of the ways we are able to prioritize inter-generational experience, one of our strong values.

This was a month of progress on our capital campaign - our new committees (one for fundraising, one for planning/building) are well into their work, and we look forward to a live congregational update on February 10 at our mid-year meeting. In the meantime, watch for communications in the newsletter, bulletins, and a table outside where you can see visuals and ask questions. Did you catch the stakes and string around the new building? What a great way to start visualizing the future, where we can expand faith formation on Sundays to include everyone who wants to be there. <u>Click here for more information, which will continue to be updated.</u> We will build it, and they will continue to come.

Until then, let's keep building our new ways of being together, and practicing the radical hospitality that is becoming our way of being.

Peace,

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