

VUUPoint
Board Highlights
November 29, 2017

Dear friends of VUU,

We had an eventful November at VUU. We had a Congregational Conversation in which we discussed board goals for the year, our overall good financial condition, our initial reactions to changes in the UUA dues process coming in 2020, initial VUU Member Survey results, and stewardship campaign planning. During Vision Sunday, the Stewardship Committee held an amazing catered event in which there were 125 households in attendance. The results of this campaign show an increase of 7% (almost \$30k!). Thank you to all of you that contributed to this effort as we “take the next step” in achieving our vision.

On the capital campaign front, our first board goal, a subcommittee has been scheduling meetings with a half-dozen commercial architects to determine the feasibility of adding buildings to our campus. We had our first meeting last week and are excited to see what is possible. As mentioned during the congregational conversation, we plan to present our recommendation at the mid-year meeting on February 4th to move forward with the overall planning process.

During our board meeting this week, we completed our 3rd board goal of creating a board document repository. We finally have a single place to manage board documentation, schedules, and resources. Now we can put all our efforts toward capital campaign and end statement measures.

Speaking of measures, Dr. Rev. Andy is leading the board through a book study on just that. It’s not just numbers and figures, but it is also the stories within the congregation and the wider community that help us measure our progress. This will be good to keep in mind as we begin to look at putting specific measures in place over the rest of this year.

We also appointed Musette Steger as our new secretary. Thank you, Musette, for accepting! She will be taking over the new role after she completes the final report on the VUU Member Survey by the end of the year. The survey report will be made available to the congregation as well.

Finally, as mentioned at the congregational conversation, the UUA is changing the way dues are calculated for congregations. As proposed, this will be a significant increase in how much we would contribute to the UUA on a yearly basis. Although we have until 2019 for this to take effect, the finance team and board have already started a dialogue with the UUA to review concerns and suggestions. We are also taking actions to reach out to other AZ congregations and develop an appropriate response for VUU to ensure financial stability. Expect more to come on this in future congregational meetings.

Warm regards,
Paul Schneider
President
VUU Board of Trustees