

Following the very successful event at Arlington on effective advocacy last Nov. 23 just before our Board meeting, we've been working on our planning in several areas:

- An all-day Jan. 4 second gathering of our UU environmental group, this time at All Souls, with Paula Cole Jones and the Fairfax environmental group, among others, making presentations and with interest area working groups beginning their planning for upcoming initiatives
- A UU young adult event at All Souls Feb. 1 with showing and discussion of "Bidder70," the documentary about Tim DeChristopher
- A Spring environmental justice retreat with a Patuxent River-keeper

All of these have been in collaboration with other UU groups - as also, of course, is our new effort to turn out UUs at the Feb. 8 rally in Raleigh, North Carolina in support of Moral Mondays and our ministers and congregations there fighting the strictest voter identification laws in the nation and other initiatives targeting the poor and communities of color. We're joining Rev. Peter Morales and Standing on the Side of Love (SOSL) in this.

Regarding trips to the Hill, we're working on a time for a visit to our Senators' offices advocating for a full environmental impact review for the huge proposed liquid natural gas compressing and exporting facility at Cove Point on the Chesapeake. That seems most pressing. Of course, a trip re. an humane immigration bill is in the wings when Congress finally turns its attention to that. If you have ideas for other advocacy issues, please bring them up.

UUSJ has also been promoting the divestment resolution campaign. One hundred and seventy UU congregations have gathered their signatures for a business resolution at the upcoming GA in Providence, Rhode Island.

The annual report is almost ready to go, and we're currently planning more ministerial visits.

We're working on identifying co-leaders for the immigration task force to be ready when Congress returns to the issue.

Lastly, I'm working on thank-you letters and tax receipts for those who contributed this last fall.

Toward a just and humane future,

Terry