Since our last Board meeting January 18th, a lot has happened:

* On Feb. 1 we co-sponsored a young-adult potluck and viewing of “Bidder70,” the documentary about Tim DeChristopher, at All Souls. It was a great success and promises more for the future.
* On Feb. 6 I testified on our behalf at the EPA hearing in DC about regulating CO2 emissions at new power plants. I was particularly gratified to see a strong turnout from many religious traditions - the first such I’ve seen.
* On Feb. 22 the rejuvenated immigration task force met with great enthusiasm, turnout, and productivity.
* On Feb. 23 I spoke at the UU Congregation of the Chesapeake about the moral dimensions of the proposed Cove Point facility and fracking in general.
* On Feb. 27 we had our first Capitol Hill visit with about a dozen well-prepped people. Three staff members were seen. The ask was specifically for Senatorial letters asking for a full Environmental Impact Statement for Cove Point. But in addition the Advocacy Corp members met also about humane immigration policy and strong environmental action.
* On Feb. 27 I was peacefully arrested at the court house in Cumberland, MD, calling attention to the public health and other environmental issues involved in the proposed Cove Point facility, gas lines to it, and its ties to fracking in MD.
* Also on Feb. 27 UUSJ hosted five watch parties showing the Robert Reich film “Inequality for All”. This was in conjunction with nationwide watch parties organized by Democracy for America and included a conference call with Robert Reich. Another watch party is scheduled for May 2.
* We have awarded a UUSJ Social Justice Grant to the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions group, recently organized by UU Congregation of Fairfax. This is an interfaith group in Fairfax County, Virginia organized for climate change solutions.

Planning is underway for upcoming events:

* On March 22 we are co-sponsoring, with the All Souls Church Green Souls / 7th Principle Committee, a UU Green Leaders & Environmental Justice Collaboration Gathering. This all-day event will feature speakers from the UU United Nations Office and from Citizens Climate Lobby, and will include strategy and working group sessions.
* On March 23 I’ll preach at Towson UU on behalf of their Green Sanctuary group.
* On March 30 I’ll speak at a UUSJ collection at Paint Branch UU.
* On May 4 I’ll take part in First Baltimore’s Union Sunday service, whose collection goes to UUSJ.
* Planning is underway for a May 15 event at the UU Church of Arlington on Economic Inequality Matters: Moving Toward Fairness.
* We’re working with Jose Aguto of Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) on a possible new Capitol Hill initiative (as well as looking at support for the upcoming Senatorial all-night event around climate change.)