**Carbon Footprint preparations:** December – publicity; January – home energy; February – food; March – transportation; April – stuff we buy, recycling.

1. *December preparations*:
   * 1. After every service, we need to have coverage of the table in the Commons.
     2. We have new signs, hand-outs, and promotional materials. New materials for table. We developed blurbs for inclusion in the weekly electronic newsletter and Sunday bulletin – leads for each month should be thinking of engaging announcements.
     3. Religious Education – Meet with teens. Continuing work with RE. Made smaller footprints (2’ X 1’) for each RE classroom.
     4. Labels – each group should forward label topics. We have sheets of blank labels from Office Depot.
2. *January – Energy* –
   * 1. At the table after services: Thermal guns demonstrate detecting and patching air leaks; maybe thermal imaging camera, bring LEDs of various sizes; stickers, petitions
     2. STICKERS – we have stickers to share after each service in January: wash clothes in cold water; full dishwasher; use window blinds; turn off lights; check drafts and insulate; use solar or wind electricity; don’t heat unoccupied rooms; get a home energy audit; program thermostat; caulk windows and doors; stop power vampires; insulate attic; turn off lights; shower use less water; install LED lights; clean refrigerator coils; energy star appliances; turn down thermostat; unplug chargers; laundry on cold; fans not AC; full laundry loads; green appliances; solar hot water; seal air leaks; hot water at 120 degrees; clothes line; newer HVAC; heat pump; florescent bulbs; community solar; change air filters; air dry dishes; heat pump; new windows; get solar panels;
     3. Possible auction item: Home energy audits
     4. Social Justice Action: Petition in support of Clean Power Plan, letters to Supervisors supporting county energy reduction
     5. Kick-off: RE will do story for older children, working it into service
     6. Blog to introduce Carbon Footprint game
     7. Website: We need to put up material on the UUCF website about the Carbon Footprint game and things that congregation members can do.
     8. Petition to Governor McAuliffe in support of Virginia voluntarily complying with the Clean Power Plan is the civic action that will be promoted this month, along with support of Fairfax County fulfilling its pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2% each year. Fairfax is 21 ½% behind its commitment!
     9. Interviewing families, developing brief vignettes for posting about what families are doing to reduce energy use – video best, maybe photos for display and for UUCF website. Rita Roth suggested idea and will start interviewing.
     10. Need to cover table every week.
3. *February – Food, Home Water Use*
   * 1. Ideas – plastic bottle ban at church, plastic bottle awareness among congregants and RE, show “Tapped” or “Plastic Paradise” and hand out BPA free water bottles. Make vegan cookies to give out, with recipes.
     2. Presentation and discussion potential topics – Amanda Hitt, whistle blowers on food safety. Show the movie Tapped and move to ban plastic bottles
     3. Sticker ideas: Buy only what you need, Buy from Farmers' Markets and CSAs, Buy Organic, locally grown, seasonal food; avoid processed food, Grow some of your food in your yard or join a community garden, Learn to compost any scraps, Help start a schoolyard garden, Join a Meatless Monday Movement, Buy only pasture-raised meat, egg and dairy products, Go vegetarian/vegan for a day, a week, every-other-day, for life or for as long as you wish, Add low-flow faucets, shower heads and toilets, Turn off running water, Take short showers, Wash full loads of dishes and laundry, Don't hand wash dishes, Plant a butterfly garden with native plants, Use a tub, not the hose, to limit water use when washing the car, Install filters or use filtering pitchers to avoid buying bottled water, Cook with minimum water or use cooking water in soup and stew
     4. Social Justice Action? Ideas of engaging things to draw people to the table and to consider what they can do to reduce food waste, energy waste associated with food and with home water usage:
     5. Bring in a hydroponic gardening display;
     6. MOMs samples, good products that are healthy, food at the table, healthy options, samples. Vegan eating healthy on a budget. Display of environmental impact of food. IPads or multiple laptops to show the environmental impact of food choices – from Nature conservancy.
     7. Vegetarian, vegan cookbook. Need to recruit computer and editing savvy:
     8. Water impact of food production.
     9. Composting, gardening
     10. Water bottle bans, securing BPA free water bottles from water authority
     11. Do a vespers that would include eating “Tapped”
4. March – Transportation --
   * 1. Ideas – meetings by conference call, committee meetings by video chat; push carbon tax at personal and at government level
     2. Sticker ideas: learn about the carbon emissions of air travel, replace a plane trip with car, bus, train or boat travel, learn about the carbon emissions of your car, learn about low emission cars, buy a low emission car, carpool/rideshare, take the bus once a week, take metro once a week, walk, bike, take school bus, combine car trips, Telecommute, teleconference, learn efficient driving techniques, keep car tuned, check car tires, drive 55 mph, don’t idle car
     3. SRR potential or separate presentation – military largest user of fossil fuel for transportation, military security and climate change
     4. Advocacy opportunities – letters to the editor, county budget will be under public review during March
     5. Auction event – bicycle ride on W&OD and lunch at vegetarian restaurant
5. *April – stuff we buy* ––
   * 1. Ideas – recycling, county’s waste water program, tour, yard sale, bike recycling. Jean will connect with Dave Parsons to identify Boy Scouts doing bike recycling.
     2. Sticker ideas: Buy bulk. Avoid over-packaged goods, Avoid disposable goods, Buy durable goods, make two-sided copies, Use electronic mail Remove your name from the mailing lists, Use cloth napkins, Use cloth instead of paper towels, Reuse products, Save paper and plastic bags, repair broken appliances. Avoid buying a new car, Reuse products, garage sales, Use resealable containers, ceramic coffee mug. Reuse grocery bags, bring your own cloth bags, Don't use plastic bags,recycling: metal cans, newspapers & paper products, glass, plastics, Purchase recycled materials recycled paper, Shop in thrift stores Give fewer gifts, make organic food gifts, Avoid fancy gift wrap paper, Learn to free cycle, Buy less stuff, Reuse bags, Reuse bottles, Use simple cleaning products, Recycle more, Buy second hand instead of new, Simplify or do without
     3. End with church-wide yard sale – get Climate Action Group volunteers to work