



## **Building sanctuary against the climate crisis**

**At River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation**  
Community, Spirit and Service

### **Green Sanctuary Activity, December 9, 2020**

The energy team of our Earth Ministry has made significant progress this fall in working toward meeting our Green Sanctuary goals. The team helped us lock in a contract with AEP Energy as the 100% renewable energy provider for our RRUUC buildings; arranged for RRUUC to sign a contract with era Building Solutions for a Pepco-subsidized energy tune-up of the sanctuary in early 2021; and obtained a preliminary analysis from Mission Energy for a solar energy project on our building. Kudos to the hard-working team of Bruce Davis, Holly Elwood, Nick Kamphaus, Jack Lebowitz, Marcie Meditch and Walter Weiss.

Kudos also go to David Ward for forging what is becoming a very active partnership in a food security project with Clifton Park Baptist Church in Silver Spring. A partnership with RRUUC's Engaging Communities, the project addresses Green Sanctuary's commitment to environmental justice by building ongoing relationships with communities outside of RRUUC. David's team is now helping distribute food monthly at Clifton Park to families in need. Plans are underway to start a Clifton Park garden in Spring 2021. In the meantime, online donations to buy baby food and baby wipes for Clifton Park families can be made at <https://onrealm.org/cliftonparkbaptistchurch/-/give/now>, scrolling down to the Outreach tab and adding "baby food" and "wipes" in the comment field.

Kathryn Gargurevich from Earth Ministry is leading efforts to revive RRUUC's recycling program. Along with Charlotte Moser and Leigh Scott, she attended an online workshop organized by the Watershed Stewards Academy of Anne Arundel County about mounting congregational campaigns to reduce single-use plastics. The new water bottle refilling station, sponsored by RRUUC's Animal Ministry, aims to reduce the use of plastic in our building when it reopens.