



ETHICAL ENERGY

The newsletter of
Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light

www.WisconsinIPL.org

Like us on [FaceBook!](#)

Become a [Friend](#) of WIPL!

December, 2011

In This Issue:

- Help Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light Meet This Challenge!
 - Looking Back on 2011
 - Looking Ahead to 2012
 - Wisconsin Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights: Children's Artwork Wanted & Event Invitation
 - IP&L Recognizes Wisconsin's 2011 Cool Congregations
-

Help Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light Meet This Challenge!

In these last days before the New Year, please consider a tax-deductible gift to Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light.

This year, your contribution can go farther than ever! We have received challenge grant from the Regeneration Project which will match any amount we receive between \$4000 and \$8000. **That means your gift will be doubled if we are able to meet our fund-raising goal in the coming year!**

And, as an added bonus for you, **if you give \$100 or more, you will receive a free copy of [Love God, Heal Earth](#)**, a collection of statements by religious leaders of many faiths edited by the Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, founder of Interfaith Power and Light (a \$19.95 value)!

You can also generate donations to WIP&L for free by shopping online at [iGive](#).

Checks can be mailed to:

**Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light,
750 Windsor Street -- Suite #301
Sun Prairie, WI 53590**

Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light is a registered 501(c)3 organization.

Looking Back on 2011

This was a milestone year for WIPL! Formerly known as the Wisconsin Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign, we celebrated our official [Launch](#) as Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light at Holy Wisdom Monastery in Middleton on May 15.

Other notable events and achievements included:

Holding our first ["Cool Congregations" training event](#) at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Monona, on October 1 with Sarah Webb, Iowa Interfaith Power and Light, who showed us how congregations can help their members to save energy, save money, and care for creation.

Adding five new members to our [Board of Directors](#) -- Melissa Taylor, the Rev. Nick Utphall, Katy Walter, Justin Yotter, and the Rev. Doug Szper.

Co-sponsoring [educational events](#) including "Water: A Sacred gift of Life: Sustaining it for All," An Interfaith Conversation (Racine, October 16-17) and "Environmental Justice: A Human Rights Issue" (Milwaukee, December 11).

Sharing the ["Energy Star Change The World Pledge Leader" award](#) from the U.S. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Agency with the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin.

Welcoming as [Friends of WIPL](#) 15 "Covenant Congregations," three Partner Organizations, and 15 individuals who have signed covenants to save energy and take steps to counter the threat of climate change.

Advocacy on behalf of funding for Wisconsin's [Focus on Energy](#) Program, which has helped fund renewable energy and energy conservation and efficiency projects in congregations and religious schools -- not to mention homes, businesses, and other private and public schools -- throughout Wisconsin.

Visits with the staff of Senators Herb Kohl and Ron Johnson in Madison and Washington, D.C., urging them to support the EPA's ability to enforce the [Clean Air Act](#) by regulating carbon dioxide emissions, mercury, and other pollutants. A key success was Sen. Kohl's votes in April against four bills that would have undermined the EPA's ability to protect human health and the environment from air pollution.

Looking Ahead to 2012

In the coming year, we will:

Lead ["Cool Congregations" workshops](#) around Wisconsin, bringing members of congregations together to learn and support each other, and celebrate as they reduce their emissions of climate-altering CO2.

Educate persons around the state about the damage to our health, our economy, and our environment as a result of **Wisconsin's heavy dependence on coal** -- damage that is most heavily inflicted on the most vulnerable members of our communities: children, the elderly, the chronically ill, and the poor.

Urge Wisconsin's faith leaders to participate in IPL's annual ["Preach-In on Global Warming"](#) on Valentine's Day weekend.

Present a workshop on **"Faith Communities and Green Energy"** at the ninth annual [Green Energy Summit](#) in Milwaukee in March, with a panel discussion by religious leaders and an introduction to the Cool Congregations program.

Sponsor **"Sustainable Travel to Worship"** in spring, encouraging congregations in a friendly competition to see whose members can rack up the most miles traveled to worship services via walking, biking, ridesharing, or public transportation.

Co-sponsor with Interfaith Earth Network and other organizations ["Ground for Hope,"](#) a two-day interfaith environmental training event for clergy, seminarians, and other religious leaders on October 21-22 in Milwaukee.

Expand, educate, equip, and activate our network of [WIPL Friends](#) -- individuals, congregations, and partner organizations who share our commitment to protecting life on Earth from global warming.

Join us!

Wisconsin Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights Children's Artwork Wanted & Event Invitation - Jan. 5th, 2012

In support of an effort to pass a Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, families and children are invited to create artwork expressing how and why spending time in the outdoors is important to them. Artwork will be displayed at and families are invited to attend a press conference at the state capitol building on January 5th at 10am.

The Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights is a joint assembly proclamation that conveys the value of outdoor learning, exploration and fun by declaring all children in Wisconsin have the right to play in the snow, follow a trail, and camp under the stars among other activities.

If you're interested in submitting artwork, you can drop it off or mail it before the Jan. 5th event to Madison Christian Community, 7118 Old Sauk Rd Madison, WI 53717 - or you can bring it to the event!

For more information, you can contact Betsy Parker at WisconsinCOBOR@gmail.com or find out more at <http://www.EEinWisconsin.org> - search word "bill of rights" - where you can also sign up for updates.

IP&L Recognizes Wisconsin's 2011 Cool Congregations

Congratulations to the following Wisconsin congregations that have been recognized as [2011 Cool Congregations](#) by Interfaith Power & Light!

Energy Efficiency Category

First United Methodist Church, Baraboo, Wisconsin
St. John's United Church of Christ, Random Lake, Wisconsin
Whitewater Baha'i Community, Whitewater, Wisconsin

Sustainable Grounds and Water Conservation

St. Michael Parish, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Renewable Energy

St Paul's United Church of Christ, Colgate, Wisconsin

>>>>>

Forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues!

>>>>>

Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light
750 Windsor Street -- Suite #301, Sun Prairie, WI 53590
PH: (608) 837-3108 / info@WisconsinIPL.org / <http://www.WisconsinIPL.org>
Dr. Peter Bakken, Executive Director

If you no longer wish to receive e-mail from us, please click [here](#).

powered by
capwiz 