



ETHICAL ENERGY

The newsletter of
Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light

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March-April 2013

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Earth Month Resources for Worshipping Communities

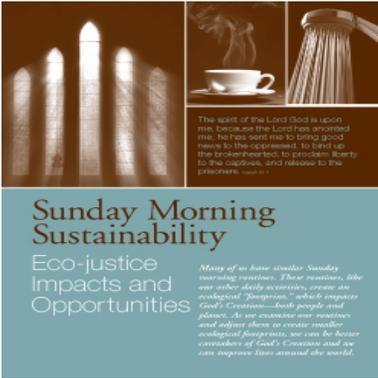
National Preach-In on Global Warming: Good for Earth Day, Too!

[Preach-In materials still available](#) -- Download yours, or order a climate DVD

The kit includes activity ideas, a set of 50 bulletin inserts/postcards to send to President Obama, a table tent global warming fact sheet, pre-addressed envelope for postcards to the President, and a return survey form so you can let us know how many postcards your congregation sent to President Obama. You also have the option of ordering more postcards and a discounted DVD. *The Hungry Tide* is a 53-minute film about the island nation of Kiribati, which is disappearing due to sea rise.

If you or your faith leader is planning/organizing an event on Climate Change, please let us know so we can add it to our list. E-mail us at info@WisconsinIPL.org





"Sunday Morning Sustainability: Eco-Justice Impacts and Opportunities"

This year, the National Council of Churches 2013 Earth Day Sunday resource examines the environmental impacts of our regular Sunday morning routines. As we begin each Sunday we often turn on lights, take a shower, and drink coffee without thinking much about what we are doing. Yet, these routine actions impact people and places around the world, often contributing to environmental degradation, hunger, poverty, and chronic illness. We can help bring healing to God's people and God's Earth by

examining our routines and changing our habits to live more simply and sustainably. In doing so, we respond to Jesus' call to feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, and care for the sick (Matt 25:34-45).

Download from: http://salsa.democracyinaction.org/o/1845/signup_page/earth-day-2013

Upcoming Climate and Environment Events

Webinar: Hindu Teachings on the Environment

Thursday, April 4, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Central Time

GreenFaith is offering a webinar on Hindu Teachings on the Environment with Dr. Pankaj Jain – GreenFaith's Hindu Scholar in Residence and Assistant Professor of Indian Religions and Ecology at the University of North Texas. [Register now](#). Dr. Jain will describe key Hindu teachings on the environment, providing examples of how diverse Hindu communities have put these teachings into action. See also Dr. Jain's [Ten Key Hindu Teachings on the Environment](#).

Seventh Annual Nelson Institute Earth Day conference

Monday, April 15, Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center, Madison, Wisconsin

http://www.nelson.wisc.edu/events/earth_day/2013/index.php

Conservation Everywhere: Sustaining Natural and Cultural Diversity will explore connections between biological diversity and human cultures and examine preservation across the whole range of environmental contexts: from forests and oceans to cities and farms. With Jane Goodall, Céline Cousteau, and more. **WIPL is a sponsor of this conference,**

http://www.nelson.wisc.edu/events/earth_day/2013/sponsors.php

Innovators Showcase: Wisconsin's Climate and Energy Leaders

A public forum, hosted by the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters

Monday, April 29, 2013 - 9:30am to 3:00pm

Discovery World, 500 N Harbor Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Early bird registration rates through April 15 <http://www.wisconsinacademy.org/MKEforum>

Wisconsin leaders are developing breakthroughs and forging creative and practical solutions that will make our climate, water and energy future brighter and cleaner. Learn from the leaders themselves about innovations ranging from corporate campus design and retrofitting vintage ranch houses, to greener ways to bring home the beef and butter and more at the Wisconsin Academy's Innovators Showcase: Wisconsin Climate and Energy Leaders. **The event will include a lunch table conversation on faith community initiatives with Wisconsin IPL Director, Peter Bakken.**

Barriers to Addressing Our Climate and Energy Challenges

A special Wisconsin Academy Evening panel discussion

Thursday, May 9, 2013 - 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art lecture hall, 227 State St. Madison, WI 53703

Register at: <http://www.wisconsinacademy.org/evenings/barriers-addressing-our-climate-and-energy-challenges>

Why is it so difficult for Americans to act on our climate and energy challenges? Expert panelists Sharon Dunwoody and Dietram Scheufele of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and Kathy Kuntz of Cool Choices will discuss the latest research on social and informational hurdles to tackling some of the planet's most serious problems.

Action Alert: Urge President Obama to Reject the Keystone Pipeline

The Keystone tar sands pipeline proposal is back, and we need your help to stop it. This pipeline could transport the dirtiest oil on the planet from Canada all the way across America's heartland to Gulf Coast oil refineries.

Last year, thanks to pressure from you and thousands of others, President Obama refused to issue the pipeline permit and directed the State Department to conduct a thorough study on its environmental impacts, including climate change.

Now, that report is out, and, incredibly, the State Department reviewers say Keystone XL will have no significant impact on climate change because Canada will exploit the oil with or without the pipeline. This is a dubious argument. Urge President Obama to reject the pipeline today.

Visit: <http://bit.ly/Yc8p5T>

Thirteen federal government agencies have just released a comprehensive climate assessment that describes disastrous impacts on our ecosystems, infrastructure, and human health if we don't quickly reduce fossil fuel consumption. This is not the future our children deserve, or that President Obama spoke of in his inaugural address when he promised to preserve the planet "commanded to our care by God." Tar sands oil emits three times the carbon of regular oil.

I believe the voice of the faith community can make the difference. We must remind the president of our moral responsibility to leave a habitable climate and a sustainable future for the next generation. Fuel efficiency, alternative fueled vehicles, and investments in transit are the solutions we need to pursue.

Let the president hear from you today. Visit: <http://bit.ly/Yc8p5T>

WIP&L Welcomes Your Support

As mentioned in our last newsletter, Wisconsin IP&L received a matching grant from [The Regeneration Project](#) for donations we receive this year, up to \$7,000. We need your contribution throughout the year! Please mail your check, payable to Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light, to: WIP&L, 750 Windsor Street, Suite 301, Sun Prairie, WI, 53590. See the list of our generous donors at <http://wisconsinipl.org/donate.htm>. Thank You!

Other ways you can help support WIP&L: Go to WIPL's [Facebook](#) page and "Like" us or go to [Twitter](#) and "Follow" us! The Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin will donate \$1 for each NEW FAN of WIPL on [Facebook](#) or each NEW FOLLOWER of WIPL on [Twitter](#). Each \$1 will be matched by another \$1 from Interfaith Power & Light. Please spread the word to your friends and family and "Like" and "Follow" WIPL!

Pope Francis on Being "Protectors of Creation"

"Today amid so much darkness we need to see the light of hope and to be men and women who bring hope to others. . . . To protect creation, to protect every man and every woman, to look upon them with tenderness and love, is to open up a horizon of hope, it is to let a shaft of light break through the heavy clouds.

"I would like to ask all those who have positions of responsibility in economic, political and social life, and all men and women of goodwill: let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment.

"The vocation of being a 'protector', however, is not just something involving us Christians alone; it also has a prior dimension which is simply human, involving everyone. It means protecting all creation, the beauty of the created world, as the Book of Genesis tells us and as Saint Francis of Assisi showed us. It means respecting each of God's creatures and respecting the environment in which we live. It means protecting people, showing loving concern for each and every person, especially children, the elderly, those in need, who are often the last we think about. It means caring for one another in our families: husbands and wives first protect one another, and then, as parents, they care for their children, and children themselves, in time, protect their parents. It means building sincere friendships in which we protect one another in trust, respect, and goodness. In the end, everything has been entrusted to our protection, and all of us are responsible for it. Be protectors of God's gifts!"

--- Pope Francis, Homily, March 19, 2013

>>>>> Forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues! >>>>>

Sign the [WIPL Statement on Global Climate Change](#)

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