March-April 2014

In This Issue:

- Water, Energy and Climate Stewardship: A Moral Perspective
- Celebrate with Us! WIPL’s 15th Anniversary Conference
- Action Alert: Midwest Faith Leaders Letter to Support Carbon Pollution Rules
- Food and Faith: A Conversation with Vandana Shiva
- Solar Energy for Communities and Congregations

Water, Energy and Climate Stewardship: A Moral Perspective


Water, Energy and Climate Stewardship: A Moral Perspective

Faith communities are increasingly embracing water, energy and climate change as moral issues. This workshop will examine several programs being implemented in various places of worship.

Presenters:
Terri Lowder, Interfaith Earth Network
Huda Alkaff, Program Chair, Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light, and Director, Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin

WIP&L is also an exhibitor and supporter of the Sustainability Summit. Stop by our booth in the North Lobby.

When:
Wednesday & Thursday, March 26 & 27, 2014

Where:
Wisconsin Center, 400 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53204
Climate Stewardship: Sustainability, Eco-Justice and Well-Being

Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light (formerly Wisconsin Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign) invites you to its 15th Anniversary Conference.

Climate Stewardship: Sustainability, Eco-Justice and Well-Being

Sunday, May 18, 2014
2:00 pm-5:30 pm
Doors Open at 1:00 pm

Central United Methodist Church
639 N 25th St, Milwaukee, WI 53233

Admission Fee: $15/individual. Register HERE

Keynote Speaker: Professor Calvin B. Dewitt, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW-Madison.

Dr. Calvin B. DeWitt is a scientist, writer, and conservationist whose work builds bridges among environmental science, ethics and practice. DeWitt is Professor Emeritus of Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, co-founder of the Evangelical Environmental Network, and Director emeritus of the Au Sable Institute. He serves as president of the Academy of Evangelical Scientists and Ethicists, an organization dedicated to responsible stewardship of creation, and lives at the Waubesa Marsh in Wisconsin, were he has created a sanctuary for animals to travel a glacial drumlin island that emerges from the marsh.

In addition, there will be building tour, interfaith prayers, silent auction, exhibits, and workshops on….

Climate Communications + Environmental Justice + Cool Congregations and Green Teams + Wisconsin Climate and Energy Issues + Sustainability, Green Buildings and Green Schools, and much more…

Sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities are available. Contact us at info@WisconsinIPL.org

Celebrating 15 years Working for Energy Stewardship and Climate Justice with the Faith Communities in Wisconsin! Check updates at http://www.wisconsinipl.org/15thanniversary.htm

Action Alert: Midwest Faith Letter to Support Carbon Pollution Rules

The EPA has proposed first-ever standards for carbon pollution from new power plants. There are currently no limits on global warming emissions from these plants. Power plants built today will be in service for decades, so it's critical that we require modern pollution control technology. In addition, the EPA will be issuing draft rules on carbon pollution from existing power plants in June 2014. Controlling our carbon emissions is critical for addressing the issue of climate change, as climate change impacts those who are most vulnerable in our society, including future generations. This is a statement by Religious Leaders in the Midwest in support of the upcoming EPA rules to limit carbon pollution from new and existing power plants. If you are a faith leader in your congregation or religious organization, we urge you to sign on to this statement. If you are not a faith leader, we hope that you will share this statement with the leader in your congregation, and we invite you to send your comments to the EPA using this form provided by the national Interfaith Power and Light campaign. Thank you!
Food and Faith: A Conversation with Dr. Vandana Shiva

How does food access, availability and quality effect our faith and work in the community? What are the root causes of hunger worldwide? You are invited to take part in a unique opportunity for people of faith -- a one-on-one conversation with Dr. Vandana Shiva, “a world-renowned scientist, philosopher, feminist, author & environmentalist,” who is coming for a weeklong residency at Beloit College the first week of April 2014. With this event, Beloit College aims to bring attention to the power of activism and to encourage dialogue and positive social change, with a particular focus on access, availability, and quality of our food as a human right.

The main event for faith leaders and people of faith with Dr. Shiva is the session "Food & Faith" at 1:45 pm on Saturday, April 5, 2014. In addition, you are invited to take part in a series of related presentations by Dr. Shiva, including her Friday night keynote address “The Right to Food” and Saturday panel sessions.

Informational flyer for the weekend's events (seen below) - download here
Solar Energy for Communities and Congregations

On March 12, 2014, WIP&L, RENEW Wisconsin and the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin held a successful teleseminar attended by over 80 participants.

Solar: A Higher Power
A Look at Emerging Models for Bringing Climate-Friendly Energy to Communities and Congregations

Presenter:
Michael Vickerman
Program and Policy Director, RENEW Wisconsin

The cost of solar generating equipment has dropped to the point where it can now compete head-to-head with fossil fuel resources. However, barriers to installation remain. These can be physical (shading on your rooftop), legal (don’t own property), and economic (inability to capture tax credits due to nonprofit status). Fortunately, the market is not standing still. Between development models that engage outside investment dollars and initiatives that encourage participation in community projects, it is becoming easier to sponsor new solar projects close to home. This presentation will delve into some of the emerging development models empowering communities and groups to act on their beliefs and pursue climate-friendly energy sources.

Click HERE for the presentation.

Learn more about Clean Energy Choice

Clean Energy Choice is Wisconsin's branding for educating and passing clarifying legislation to allow third-party owned power purchase agreements for Wisconsin renewable energy installations.

Tell Your Legislator to Support Clean Energy Choice.

>>> 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

The mission of Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light shall be to inform, train, and activate people of all faiths and faith communities to take concrete steps in response to climate change through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy in order to protect Earth's ecosystems, safeguard public health, and ensure just, sufficient and sustainable energy for all.