ETHICAL ENERGY
The newsletter of Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light

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May-June 2013

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Wisconsin IPL Is Two Years Old! Help Us Grow!!

It has been two years since we celebrated our official Launch as Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light on May 15, 2011 at Holy Wisdom Monastery in Middleton! Holy Wisdom Monastery is friend of WIPL. You can be our friend too, by filling and sending us your congregation, partner and/or individual covenants. Go to http://wisconsinipl.org/wiplfriends.htm. Join at http://wisconsinipl.org/join.htm

To help us grow, 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! So far, we have received $2,004 toward our match! 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!

WIPL Sponsors “Rooftop Revolution Event,” June 20, 2013, Milwaukee

On June 20, 2013, 6 pm, join WIPL at the “Rooftop Revolution” event with book author Danny Kennedy at the Urban Ecology Center Menomonee Valley branch, 3700 W. Pierce St., Milwaukee. Meet the Author and Build Solar Momentum in Wisconsin! RSVP: solar@milwaukee.gov or 414-286-5593.
WIPL Representatives in Washington DC as Advocates for Clean Air and Climate Justice!

Huda Alkaff (WIPL’s Board President) and Peter Bakken (WIPL’s Executive Director) represented WIPL at the National Interfaith Power and Light meeting, April 7-10, 2013, Washington DC. April 10, 2013 was Lobby Day, and WIPL’s team went to the Capitol Hill and met with staff of U.S. Senators Tammy Baldwin, Ron Johnson, and U.S. Representatives Ron Kind, and F. James Sensenbrenner, as well as shared materials with the Offices of U.S. Representatives Mark Pocan and Gwen Moore. We advocated for the protection of the Clean Air Act and extending tax incentives for Energy Efficiency.

Katy Walter, WIPL’s Board Member and Clean Air Ambassador, Clean Wisconsin, traveled to the Capitol Hill, Washington DC as part of the Earth Justice Wisconsin Delegation “50 States United for Healthy Air,” May 15, 2013 to call for strong clean air standards.

Also, earlier on February 17, 2013, Trudi Jenny, represented WIPL and 350Madison at the Climate Rally in Washington DC. Nearly 50,000 people participated.

Sustainable Travel to Worship. Please Join!

Rev. Nick Utphall, WIPL’s Vice President invites you to join Sustainable Travel to Worship, he writes, “Sometimes I feel like a nut. In fact, I’ll even have people offer that accusation! Other folks in my congregation will share concern—for my safety or my soundness of mind. I am a year-round bicycle commuter. For me, as a Lutheran pastor, I do it for a variety of reasons. Partially it is the chance to get out for fresh air and enjoy the day around me, to hear the birds singing and smell the lilacs or see the stars. It is a meditative time, a quiet that eases me into a day or lets me unwind and breathe at the end. It is, of course, exercise. And it is certainly a daily rhythm that helps me attend to creation care.

It is beautiful biking weather .. there is so much to see. And it is the perfect mindset for arriving at worship. I am pleased to report that the bike rack at my congregation, St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church (Monona), is a bit more crowded right now. Maybe yours can be, too. Enjoy!”

WIPL at the MREA Energy Fair

On Saturday June 22, 2013, 4:00 pm, Huda Alkaff will represent WIPL and the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin at a workshop “Empowering Grassroots Environmental Activism Panel” in the White Tent, Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) Energy Fair, Custer.
Interview with Sister Janet Weyker, WIPL’s Treasurer

On June 13, 2013, Sister Janet Weyker, Director of the Racine Dominicans Eco-Justice Center and WIPL’s Board Member was interviewed as part of the Power Switch series by WUWM89.7 Lake Effect. See Dominican Nuns Work to Inspire Sustainable Living.

WIPL Exhibits

WIPL will have a display table at the Earthfest, Sheboygan, August 17, 2013.

WIPL had an exhibit at the Wisconsin Conference, United Methodist Church, Middleton, June 7-10, 2013.

On Friday May 31, 2013, WIPL had a display table at the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Country Springs Conference Center, Waukesha.

Reports: Two Conferences and A Workshop

WIPL and the Interfaith Earth Network co-presented a “Faith and Ecology” workshop at the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly, Waukesha, May 31, 2013. Presenters were Terri Lowder, Terry Wiggins and Huda Alkaff. Workshop attendees discussed environmental issues in groups (picture above right).

On June 1, 2013, WIPL co-sponsored the “Standing Against the Sand Storm” Conference, Black River Falls.

Also, on June 1, 2013 WIPL was represented at the Spring Sustainability and Spirituality Conference, Windhorse Retreat Center, Plymouth. Attendees walked the land (picture bottom right). Another conference is planned for the summer/fall.

>>>>>> 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 (WIPL) 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.