ETHICAL ENERGY

The Newsletter of
Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light

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September-October 2013

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**Divestment: A Moral Response to a Disrupted Climate**
Monday, September 9th, 2013, 7-9 pm, Madison Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Ct, Madison

More and more our planet groans with the disruptions and disasters of extreme weather events, heat waves, droughts, floods, forest fires and the like. These are increasingly traceable to humanity's continued fossil fuel use. In response, faith communities can take steps to bring life and hope. Come hear how. Hear Rev. Nick Upthall, WIPL’s Vice President, Pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Monona, describe ways our faiths call us to take responsibility for how human activity disrupts creation and disrespects God's gift of life. Hear Terry Wiggins, member of the First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee, tell how she persuaded her congregation to withdraw their investments in the coal, oil, and natural gas industries. Hear one another discuss how to increase faith-based support for divestment and take practical steps forward. Moderator Kevin Corrado also represents the Madison Monthly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) which has already written a letter calling the University of Wisconsin Foundation to divest from Fossil fuels.

Co-sponsors: 350 Madison Climate Action Team, Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin, Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light. Contact: Julia Isaacs, Jbxleri@aol.com or 608-467-7187
6th Wisconsin Interfaith TelePrayer for Earth / Climate Change

Monday, September 16, 2013, 12:00-12:30 pm, by Phone

See http://wisconsinipl.org/interfaithteleprayer.htm
To register, please click HERE or e-mail info@WisconsinIPL.org

Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light and the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin are hosting a series of conference calls in which people from all over Wisconsin can join in praying for a just, healthy, peaceful and sustainable future for all.

Presenters include:
- Art Shegonee, Member of the Menominee and Potowatomi Tribes in Wisconsin
- Rabbi Bonnie Marguluis, Wisconsin Faith Voices for Justice, Madison
- Rev. Dr. Neddy H. Astudillo, Parroquia San José, Beloit
- Sister Suzanne Moynihan, School Sisters of Notre Dame and The EDGE, Elm Grove
- Rev. Tina Lang, First United Methodist Church, Madison
- Mary Grossnickle, Interfaith Community for the Earth, Stevens Point
- Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Islamic Society of Milwaukee, Milwaukee
- Melissa Taylor, Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church, Racine & WIPL
- Rev. Adam Arn, Vineyard Community Church, Grafton & WIPL
- Huda Alkaff, Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin & WIPL
- Dr. Peter Bakken, WIPL, Sun Prairie

As the consequences of climate change become all too obvious; as we take action to reduce our own carbon emissions; and as we work for sustainable energy and climate policies, we need spiritual sustenance and the support of companions on our journey.

These calls (lasting one half-hour or less) will include prayers offered by religious leaders from varied faith traditions. If you are a member of the clergy or leadership in your faith community, and would like to lead a prayer in a future teleconference, please let us know at info@WisconsinIPL.org!

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Cool Congregations Training Events: Manitowoc and Racine

Learn how to conduct a Cool Congregations program in your congregation by attending this training workshop with a team of two or more from your congregation.

Cool Congregations is a program to help members of your congregation work together to be better stewards of the earth. Participants measure their household carbon footprints and pledge to take simple steps to cut energy use, save money, and reduce their contribution to climate change.

What makes the program successful and fun is that it:
- Uses existing groups at your congregation to spread activity
- Regularly celebrates success
- Builds community and new leadership through house parties
- Provides a safe space for people to begin
Upcoming Cool Congregations trainings will be:

Sunday, October 27, 2013, 1-4 p.m.
Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
620 Park Street
Manitowoc, Wisconsin 54220
Sponsored by the Environment Committee of RUTH (Responding with Understanding Truth & Hope), Manitowoc County Interfaith Social Justice Organization

Saturday, November 2, 2013, 9 a.m. to noon
Resurrection Lutheran Church
322 Ohio Street
Racine, Wisconsin 53405.
Sponsored by Racine Green Congregations

Watch for registration information and further details, or check back at http://www.wisconsinipl.org/wiplcoolcongregations.htm

**COOL HARVEST**

For faith communities with gardens, the fall harvest season is here. The Jewish harvest festival, Sukkot, is coming up in September. The Hajj (Pilgrimage) and Eid al-Adha, an Islamic joyous feasting holiday, will be in October 2013, as well as several Food Day celebrations, such as World Food Day, Oct. 16 -- the global movement to end hunger, and Food Day, Oct. 24 -- a nationwide celebration of sustainable food.

Now is the perfect time to download your free copy of “Cool Harvest” - Interfaith Power & Light (IPL’s) food, faith, and climate program. The Cool Harvest kit includes many activity ideas for faith communities, such as hosting a cool potluck to educate people about reducing their carbon "food print".

One-fifth of climate change pollution comes from the way we produce, transport, and use food, so our choices make a big difference. Your Cool Harvest kit at www.coolharvest.org and the companion movie, Nourish, will help people connect the dots.

Feeding the hungry and sharing the harvest are core religious teachings. Transforming our society's industrial, inequitable, and wasteful food system to one that nourishes people and the environment is a tall order. But we can make an impact, starting with our own faith communities and building on our own faith traditions.

Please visit www.coolharvest.org for more resources.
2014 Preach-in on Climate Change

We expect the 2014 IPL Preach-In on Climate Change (during Valentine’s Day weekend) to be the largest yet! Mark your calendars and schedule a climate service any time between Friday, February 14, 2014 and Sunday, February 16, 2014. We anticipate more than 1,000 congregations of all faiths nationwide will participate. Whether you are clergy, a lay leader, or a caring individual, sign-up your congregation below. In the coming months, we’ll send reminders as well as links to free resources developed for the 2014 Preach-In to help you prepare sermons, reflections, devotionals, children’s activities, and more. You will also be notified when the 2014 Preach-In website becomes available, so that you can list your activity on the map! To learn more or to pre-register, check out http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/get-involved/preachin/. Also, see 2013 WIPL’s Preach-In on Climate Change events: http://wisconsinipl.org/preachinonclimatechange.htm.

Upcoming WIPL Displays

September 9, 2013, 7-9 pm, Madison Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Ct, Madison, WI 53711. WIPL is a co-sponsor of “Divestment: A Moral Response to a Disrupted Climate.” http://350madison.wordpress.com/upcoming-events/

September 21, 2013, 8:30 am-1:30 pm: REAP Food Group Food for Thought Festival, Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, off the Capitol Square, Madison. http://www.reapfoodgroup.org/food-for-thought-festival/2013-food-for-thought-festival-exhibitors


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

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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.