



Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light

750 Windsor Street, Suite 301, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 / 608-837-3108
info@WisconsinPL.org / www.WisconsinPL.org

People of All Faiths Working Toward a Just and Sustainable Future

Mission

The mission of **Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light** is 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.

Board of Directors

Huda Alkaff
President

The Rev. Nick Utphall
Vice-President

Katy Walter
Secretary

Sr. Janet Weyker, OP
Treasurer

The Rev. Adam Arn

The Rev. Dr. Neddy
Astudillo

The Rev. Dr. John Helt

Dr. Rebecca McAllister

Melissa Taylor

Dr. Danlel Weber

Justin Yotter

Executive Director
Dr. Peter W. Bakken

*Treat the earth well.
It was not given to you by your parents,
it was loaned to you by your children.
We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors,
we borrow it from our Children.*

Ancient Native American Proverb

The weather is colder. But that is not because the climate change deniers are correct. It is simply that time of year. While the winter season is upon us, it is not the winter of decades past. It is warmer. And, on average, so is our planet. We are borrowing environmental stability from our children and squandering the loan to the detriment of the lenders' future.

We here at the Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light are committed to being responsible stewards of this planet, to make our children, from whom we have borrowed the Earth, proud of our efforts.

In 2013:

- Our three “**Interfaith TelePrayer for the Earth**” conference calls brought together faith leaders from Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, Sikh, Hindu, Native American, Unitarian Universalist, Baha'i, Catholic, and Protestant faith communities to share their hopes, prayers, and concerns for the well-being of the Earth and its inhabitants;
- Our **Cool Congregations** program to help households reduce climate pollution and save money has been adopted by St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Monona and First United Methodist Church in Madison, and we have held trainings with over thirty persons from ten Congregations in the Manitowoc and Racine areas;
- Our **advocacy efforts** have included meetings in Washington, D.C. with staff of Wisconsin's Congressional delegation, testifying at the EPA's hearings on limiting carbon pollution from existing power plants, recruiting Wisconsin faith organizations to sign a regional letter thanking President Obama for his announcement of climate and energy initiatives, and sending action alerts asking our network to oppose the Keystone Pipeline and oppose cuts to weatherization and energy assistance to low-income families; and
- Our **Board of Directors** has grown to twelve, including members of Jewish, Islamic, Buddhist, Catholic, Unitarian Universalist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, United Church of Christ, and Vineyard faith traditions as well as Latino and African American representatives. In our programs, we collaborate with members of Native American, Sikh, Hindu, Baha'i, and Religious Society of Friends (Quaker) faiths.

In 2014, we will:

- Hold a **conference on climate change, health, and environmental justice** and a series of **TeleSeminars** and **TelePrayers** on climate and energy issues to inform and motivate people of faith to take action;
- Provide additional **Cool Congregations** trainings for congregations in Milwaukee and elsewhere around the state to bring about measurable reductions in carbon pollution;
- Build support in Wisconsin's faith communities for **clean energy policies** at the state level and **strong carbon pollution safeguards** at the national level.
- Empower faith leaders to hold **Preach-In on Climate Change** events at their place of worship.

We cannot, however, do this without your continued and generous support.

As an affiliate of the national Interfaith Power and Light, we are participating in its \$7,000 Regeneration Project challenge grant. According to the IPL, our chapter's growth in its two short years of existence was impressive, especially with our small budget. Because of our successes and our sustained involvement in the lives of congregations and communities throughout Wisconsin, the IPL awarded us 90% of our request in 2012.

So far this year we have raised over \$4000 toward our challenge grant from individuals, congregations, organizations and foundations. **But we only have until December 15 to meet this challenge!** Imagine how much more we could accomplish this and next year if we can receive the full matching funds.

Just as we wrote to you over the summer, we are making it easy for you to help. Below are four categories of WIPL activities that our Board has identified as key to our mission. Each category has a suggested amount to donate and what it would accomplish. Because these are only suggested amounts, you are still free to donate whatever you can for that category. We deeply appreciate any amount you are able to send.

- \$25 will provide for one individual scholarship for a Cool Congregations Training;
- \$50 will provide one WIPL outreach program in the general community or a place of worship;
- \$75 will provide for a scholarship for one team of 3 individuals for a Cool Congregations Training;
- \$100 (individual) and \$250 (organization) will make you an official sponsor of our 15th Anniversary Conference on Climate Change, Health, and Environmental Justice, with a listing in our program and promotional materials.

So help WIPL today. Help us achieve a 100% match from the IPL's Regeneration Project. Help us double our capacity to honor our children's faith in us to do what is right for this Earth.

Thank you!

In peace,



Daniel Weber, PhD
Senior Scientist, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Board Member and Fundraising Committee Chair, WIPL

You may complete this form and place it in the enclosed envelope. *Mail to: Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light, 750 Windsor Street, Sun Prairie, WI 53590.* Please make your checks payable to: Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light. *WIPL is a 501(c)3 registered organization.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Amount: \$25 _____ Cool Congregation Individual Scholarship
 \$50 _____ WIPL Outreach Presentation
 \$75 _____ Cool Congregation Team Scholarship
 \$100 _____ Individual Conference Sponsorship
 \$250 _____ Organization Conference Sponsorship

Other _____ For: _____