

Dear MIP&L members and friends,



The federal government recently issued important new regulations limiting emissions of methane. View this [video](#) to see why they are important for the U.S.

Here is why methane leaks are important for Massachusetts:

The expansion of natural gas pipelines in Massachusetts should not be approved until:

- Aggressive action is taken to control existing leaks in natural gas pipelines;
- Strong legislation is enacted allowing for the rapid expansion of solar energy in Massachusetts; and
- Consideration is given to the full effect of efficiency programs in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

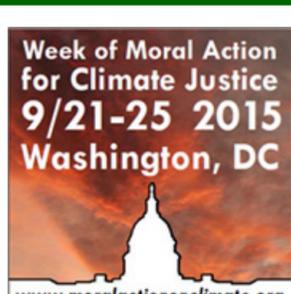
Natural gas, often referred to as a "bridge fuel," emits about half as much carbon pollution at the power plant than burning coal. However, natural gas systems emit methane, a much more powerful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide over the short-term, which means a small amount of leakage can have a big effect on the climate.

A [study by scientists at Harvard University](#) found that methane has been leaking in the Boston area by as much as **three times greater than previously estimated**. The leaked gas is enough to heat as many as 200,000 homes a year and is valued at \$90 million a year

A federal study commissioned by Senator Edward Markey found that **Massachusetts residents paid as much as \$1.5 billion from 2000 to 2011 for gas they never used** because of leaks.

Baker administration solar net metering bill. The MA State Senate recently passed a bill promoting increased growth by the MA solar industry. Governor Baker has submitted his own bill. [Read more](#) about how the Governor's bill needs to be improved to keep Massachusetts a leader in solar energy.

UPCOMING EVENTS



September 21-25, 2015, Washington DC—Moral Action on Climate

Yom Kippur Services on 9/22 & 9/23 and a Rally at the Lincoln Memorial on 9/24 after Pope Francis' address to the joint session of Congress. For more details click [here](#).



Our Common Home: An Ethical Summons to Tackle Climate Change

Monday, September 28 - Thursday, October 1, 2015

This [conference](#) explores the implications of Pope Francis's newly released encyclical on the environment and climate change, "Laudato Si' (Praised Be): On Care for our Common Home."

Distinguished presenters over four days will discuss how the moral voice of faith communities can offer distinct contributions to address climate change, as well as the policy implications of the upcoming international climate conference (COP21) to be held in Paris.

REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 23rd. [Click here](#) to register.



MASSACHUSETTS
INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

EVERYTHING MUST CHANGE: The Papal Encyclical for Local and International Action

Wednesday, November 11, 2015, 7-9 PM
St. Ignatius Church, 28 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill

Keynote Address by **Patrick Carolan**, Executive Director, [Franciscan Action Network](#)

Panel Discussion to follow: **Rabbi Katy Alan**, [Jewish Climate Action Network](#), and **Cristina Leano**, Global Campaigns Coordinator, [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#).

Sponsored by Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light

Sustainable House of Worship Workshop



Saturday, October 31st, 8:30am-12:30pm at People's Baptist Church, Boston

Would your congregation like to decrease its use of fossil fuels, and the contribution they make to global warming? Are you interested in learning about solar energy? How to lower your energy bills? Mass. Interfaith Power & Light's Sustainable House of Worship—(SHOW) workshop covers all this and more.

You will learn:

- How to track your energy use, cost and carbon footprint;
- How to find no-cost & low-cost projects with big impacts on energy bills;
- How to know when heating & electrical equipment needs to be updated;
- How to get solar panels with no upfront costs; and
- Rebates and financial help available through utility companies

When: Saturday, October 31st, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Where: People's Baptist Church, 134 Camden St., Boston, MA

For information contact Vince Maraventano: vince@MIPandL.org or 617-244-0755

To register online, please [click here](#).

SAVE THE DATE



Gospel Hope and the Climate Crisis: A Workshop for Preachers

Tuesday, October 20, 9:30-2:00,
at St Andrews Episcopal Church, Framingham

This ecumenical, hands-on workshop will give us a chance to air our reservations and to explore how to preach vibrant, faith-filled, pastoral, and prophetic sermons about climate change. We will discuss the latest research in how to communicate about climate, and provide resources for further theological and homiletic exploration.

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Dioceses of Massachusetts, Western Massachusetts, and Rhode Island; and Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY



Mass. Interfaith Power & Light provides a faith based response to global warming by helping people and faith communities to lower their carbon footprints and by advocating for public policies that fulfill our moral responsibility to create a sustainable future.

Please help us carry out this critical mission by going to www.MIPandL.org, clicking on the **DONATE** button and making a secure, fully tax deductible donation.

If not us who? If not now, when?

Peace and blessings,

Your friends at MIP&L