

Dear MIP&L members and friends,



# CREATION CARE LEADERSHIP THROUGH ORGANIZING

4 Saturday Afternoons: March 18 & 25, April 1 & 8

MA Interfaith Power & Light is introducing a new experiential and relational program designed to enable people of faith to become active and effective leaders in the fight against climate change. Our **Creation Care Leadership Through Organizing** training recognizes that values and emotions are key elements that facilitate action.

The four afternoon workshops will enable you to:

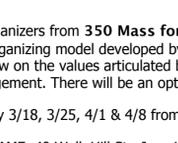
- Identify the actions that your faith, values and passions call you to take;
- Work with the psychology of facing of climate change in order to move from awareness to acceptance to action;
- Use the power of public narrative to invite others to join you in collective action;
- Build strong teams with shared norms and clear roles;
- Organize strategically with specific goals and a realistic timeline; and
- Develop relationships that will continue after the program.



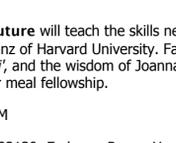
**Rev. Mariama White-Hammond**  
Minister of Ecological Justice  
Bethel A.M.E. Church



**Vince Maraventano, M.Div.**  
Executive Director  
MA Interfaith Power & Light



**Emily Kirkland**  
Director of Organizing  
350 Mass. for a Better Future



**Andy Gordon**  
Legislative Coordinator  
350 Mass. for a Better Future

Experienced organizers from **350 Mass for a Better Future** will teach the skills needed to carry out the values-based organizing model developed by Marshall Ganz of Harvard University. Facilitators trained in ministry will draw on the values articulated by *Laudato Si'*, and the wisdom of Joanna Macy needed to support sustained engagement. There will be an optional time for meal fellowship.

**When:** Saturday 3/18, 3/25, 4/1 & 4/8 from 1 PM to 5 PM

**Where:** Bethel AME, 40 Walk Hill St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130; Embassy Room, Youth Center.

**Register today at:** <http://conta.cc/2klahUg>

Registration limited and available on first come first served basis. No Fee. 2 participants per congregation recommended — no more than 3. This is a four-afternoon seminar. Participants are expected to attend all four sessions. A light meal will be served. Convenient to MBTA Orange Line, Forest Hills station and buses.

**All faiths welcome!**

For more information contact: Vince Maraventano: [vince@MIPandL.org](mailto:vince@MIPandL.org) or 617-244-0755

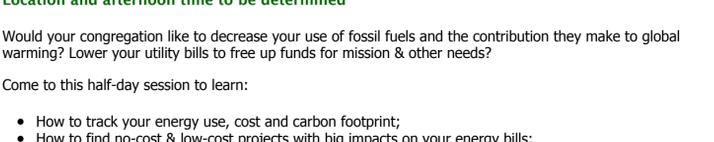
Co-sponsors: Environmental Ministries, MACUCC; Creation Care Ministries, TABCOM



MASSACHUSETTS  
INTERFAITH  
POWER & LIGHT



## Sustainable House of Worship (SHOW) Workshop in Western MA



**Sunday, April 23, 2017**  
**Springfield/Longmeadow Area**  
**Location and afternoon time to be determined**

Would your congregation like to decrease your use of fossil fuels and the contribution they make to global warming? Lower your utility bills to free up funds for mission & other needs?

Come to this half-day session to learn:

- How to track your energy use, cost and carbon footprint;
- How to find no-cost & low-cost projects with big impacts on your energy bills;
- How to know when heating & electrical equipment needs to be updated;
- Whether solar energy works for your house of worship; and
- Rebates and financial help available through utility companies

**When:** Sun. April 23, 2017  
Springfield/Longmeadow area  
Hosting house of worship and afternoon time to be announced soon.

**Members of all faiths are welcome to attend!**

The fee to attend is \$20 payable online by credit card, or in-person by check. Light refreshments are included. Sponsored by the MA Conference of the UCC.

For more information contact Vince Maraventano at [vince@MIPandL.org](mailto:vince@MIPandL.org) or 617-244-0755.

## Senate confirms Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt as EPA Administrator

### —Emails Disclose Ties to Fossil Fuel Industry

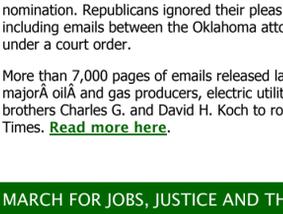


Photo by Gage Skidmore/Flickr

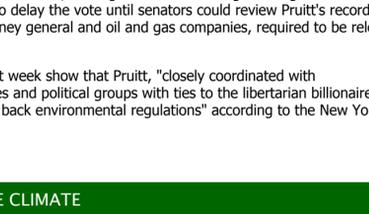


Photo by Thelma Young/350.org

The Senate confirmed Scott Pruitt, President Trump's EPA nominee on a 52-46 vote, which was split largely along party lines. Two Democrats, Sens. Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota and Joe Manchin of West Virginia, crossed the aisle to vote for Pruitt. One Republican, Sen. Susan Collins of Maine, voted no on confirming the EPA nominee. Another, Sen. John McCain R-Ariz., skipped the vote, as did Sen. Joe Donnelly, D-Ind. "For us to ... approve this nominee who is hostile, who has sued the agency, who has never done a thing in his life to protect the environment, is just outrageous," said **Sen. Angus King (I-Maine)**. **"It's a dereliction of our responsibility, and we are going to look back on this moment and say, 'What were we thinking?'"**

Democrats had stalled the vote on Pruitt's confirmation, holding the floor all through the night to debate his nomination. Republicans ignored their pleas to delay the vote until senators could review Pruitt's records, including emails between the Oklahoma attorney general and oil and gas companies, required to be released under a court order.

More than 7,000 pages of emails released last week show that Pruitt, "closely coordinated with major oil and gas producers, electric utilities and political groups with ties to the libertarian billionaire brothers Charles G. and David H. Koch to roll back environmental regulations" according to the New York Times. [Read more here.](#)

## MARCH FOR JOBS, JUSTICE AND THE CLIMATE



From Emily Kirkland at 350 MA for a Better Future

On April 29th, 350 Mass and MA Interfaith Power & Light will be joining hundreds of thousands of people in Washington, DC for the People's Climate Mobilization—a massive march to protect our climate, our families, and our communities.

Will you join us? We'll send as many buses as we can fill—[sign up now to reserve your spot!](#)

Over the last 27 days, there have been plenty of moments when it seemed like all hope was lost. But make no mistake: we're fighting back. From the Women's March, to immigration protests, to congressional town halls, people all over this country are showing what it looks like to resist Trump's dangerous agenda with courage, hope, and determination.

Now, it's time for the climate movement to take up the challenge. On April 29, we'll come together to demonstrate our passion, our commitment, and our fierce love for this planet and one another. Together, we'll do what we can to defend our climate, our communities, and our future.

Can you be there? [Sign up now to reserve your spot on a bus!](#)

Over the last few years, through hard work, creativity, and persistence (and a lot of late nights), we've built a tremendous movement. Now, with everything at stake, it's time to show what this community can do. Join us! I'll see you out there!

Emily Kirkland

## CARBON PRICING BILLS GAIN STRONG SUPPORT IN MA LEGISLATURE

Two carbon pricing bills have garnered strong support in the Massachusetts legislature. Sixty-two lawmakers signed onto Sen. Barrett's bill (SD 1021), [An Act Combating Climate Change](#) which is similar to the one he proposed last session. Rep. Jennifer Krane rounded up 58 co-sponsors for her bill (HD 1504) [An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure, Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and Create Jobs](#). To read more [click here](#).

Want to help build support for carbon pricing in Massachusetts? Contact Vince Maraventano at [vince@MIPandL.org](mailto:vince@MIPandL.org).

## LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION CONFERENCE

### March 5th at Northeastern

Don't miss the 30th Annual Local Environmental Action Conference on Sunday, March 5th at Northeastern University in Boston.

20 workshops will cover a range of issues and skills – from the future of energy in New England to organizing in the age of Trump.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

- **Kandi Mossett** is a powerful Indigenous leader and environmental justice hero on the frontlines of the fight to stop the Dakota Access Pipeline.
- **Lois Gibbs** is known by many as the mother of the anti-toxics movement and the federal Superfund program. After successfully organizing her neighbors to win the evacuation and cleanup of Love Canal, Lois went on to found the Center for Health, Environment & Justice.

Breakfast and lunch are included in all tickets.

Co-hosted by the Massachusetts Climate Action Network and the Toxics Action Center.  
Co-sponsored by MA Interfaith Power & Light and Mothers Out Front.

For more information and to register [click here](#).

## Climate Change Film Series

Temple Sinai, Temple Israel, and Temple Ohabei Shalom are excited to announce a climate change film and discussion series. The issues raised by these films are more relevant than ever given the continuing degradation of creation caused by the search for fossil fuels and the resultant increase in the numbers of climate refugees. A moderated conversation will follow each film.

**March 5: *Time to Choose***, at Temple Israel, 477 Longwood Ave, Boston.  
Time to Choose by Oscar-winning director Charles Ferguson takes audiences on a journey from the threats we face to the remarkable stories of people changing our world for the better.

**April 2: *How to Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change*** at Temple Ohabei Shalom, 1187 Beacon St., Brookline.  
Traveling to 12 countries on six continents, the film acknowledges that it may be too late to stop some of the worst consequences and asks, what is it that climate change can't destroy? What is so deep within us that no calamity can take it away? The film first premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2016.

There will be no charge for the series. Each showing will begin at 4 PM and end by approximately 6:15 PM.

For more information, contact:  
Deborah Nam-Krane, Temple Sinai [Deb@deborahnamkrane.com](mailto:Deb@deborahnamkrane.com)  
Joan Rachlin, Temple Israel [Rachlin@aol.com](mailto:Rachlin@aol.com)  
Danit Ben-Ari, Temple Ohabei Shalom [Danitben.ari@icloud.com](mailto:Danitben.ari@icloud.com)

## Spiritual resilience and resistance in a time of climate change

### A Saturday Morning Retreat



**Saturday April 1, 2017**  
**9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**  
**Led by the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas**  
**Trinity Church in the City of Boston, Copley Square**

Looking deeply into our sources of hope can sustain our efforts to renew the web of life and to create a more just society. This retreat will explore a framework for the heart to help us become healers filled with compassion, energy, and hope.

The retreat will include presentations, guided meditation, singing, silence, and conversation. Led by a Christian who honors the deep wisdom of every religious tradition, the retreat is open to people of all faiths and none. Everyone is welcome.

The retreat is free and open to the public. Free-will donations gladly accepted.

Please Pre-register [here](#).

## A Prayer of Gratitude for Creation



God of the universe,  
We thank You for Your many good gifts -  
For the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits,  
For clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants.  
Forgive us for the times we have taken the earth's resources  
for granted  
And wasted what You have given us.  
Transform our hearts and minds  
So that we would learn to care and share,  
To touch the earth with gentleness and with love,  
Respecting all living things.  
We pray for all those who suffer as a result of our waste,  
greed and indifference,  
And we pray that the day would come when everyone has enough  
food and clean water.  
Help us to respect the rights of all people and all species  
And help us to willingly share your gifts  
Today and always. Amen.

Fiona Murdoch, Eco-Congregation Ireland

## 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](http://www.MIPandL.org), clicking on the **DONATE** button and making a secure, fully tax deductible donation.

Peace and blessings,

Your friends at MIP&L