

MASSACHUSETTS INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

FAITH IN ACTION FOR CREATION

March 2018

Dear MIP&L members and friends,



Faith Climate Action Week

April 13-22, 2018

People across the nation will be celebrating Earth Day on April 22. Faith communities are playing a big part by participating in Faith Climate Action Week beginning April 13. You can show how your faith tradition values and supports the integrity of creation by joining one or more of the following activities.

The theme of the 2018 Faith Climate Action Week is "Charged with Faith: Leading the Way to a Clean Energy Future," and will focus on how we can protect our climate and support renewable energy policies. In addition to asking your pastor to preach from the pulpit about climate, there are many activities for lay leaders and congregants to choose from.

Celebrate Earth Week with thousands of other congregations around the country.

1. Join the Make A Climate Sign contest and be entered to win \$100 for your congregation. [Download the kit](#) to find out how.
2. Participate in the Nationwide Climate Prayer at Noon on Earth Day. [Sign up here](#) to pledge to pray.
3. Post your events on the National Event Calendar. If you are looking for an event to join or want to invite others to your event this is the place to look. [Find an event here.](#) [Publicize your event here.](#)
4. Host a movie screening of *Happening—A Clean Energy Revolution*; then join a webinar discussion with the film maker. [Get your Movie Screening Kit here.](#)
5. Get a kit with an activity guide along with postcards to fill out and send to your Senators. [Buy a kit here](#) with all the postcards printed for you. [Download a kit here and print at home.](#)
6. Have a pizza garden planting day and plant all the toppings you need for your summer pizza parties. [Find the Pizza Garden Seeds here.](#)

Join us for this exciting national event to raise awareness about global warming within the faith community, and to collectively raise our voices and prayers.

Please send sermons and reflections or stories of events held during Faith Climate Action week to Vince Maraventano at vince@MIPandL.org, so we can share them with our 245 faith community members.



**Attention Faith Leaders:
sign the Interfaith Call for
Carbon Pricing TODAY!**

Sign the Massachusetts Interfaith Call for Carbon Pricing

The social, public health and economic damage from carbon pollution mounts daily. We need a law in Massachusetts that adds a fair and rising cost to fossil fuels to account for the enormous damage carbon pollution is causing. More than 200 faith leaders have signed the [Interfaith Call for Carbon Pricing](#).

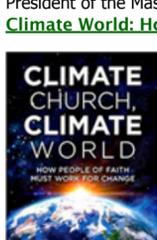
If you are a leader at your faith community or organization, [click here to sign today!](#)

Let's pass a strong Clean Energy Law in Massachusetts that provides for carbon pricing by July 31st!

RI IP&L 2018 Annual Meeting

What?

Join Rhode Island IP&L for their 2018 Annual Meeting, featuring The Reverend Dr. Jim Antal, Minister and President of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ and author of [Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change](#).



When?

Monday, April 16, 2018
5:30-8:00 pm

Where?

Westminster Unitarian Church
119 Kenyon Ave
East Greenwich, RI 02818

For more information [click here](#).

New England Youth Environmental Justice Summit



April 7, 2018
9 am-4 pm

Brookside Congregational Church Manchester, NH

Keynote Speakers:

Rev. Dr. Jim Antal — Massachusetts Conference Minister, UCC
Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt — UCC Minister for Environmental Justice

Afternoon breakout sessions will include:

Pam Arifian — Director, UCC Northeast Environmental Justice Center
Marla Marcum — Founder, Climate Disobedience Center
Professor John Ungerleider — School of International Training
Rev. Eric Jackson — Pastor, Brookside Congregational Church.

Sponsored by the NH Conference of the United Church of Christ

To learn more or register to this event, [click here](#).

Online Interfaith Course on Climate Change 1 April – 26 May



The Wilmette Institute will offer an 8-week online course on Climate Change starting April 1, 2018.

Course participants will explore ethical questions related to climate change and address them in the context of the spiritual teachings of the world's religions, especially those of the Baha'i Faith. The materials help participants to consider changes in lifestyle and community action for environmental and social responsibility. They show how to rise above partisan politics and use both science and religion for the well-being of humankind.

Faculty are Christine Muller, Rhode Island; Arthur Lyon Dahl, PhD, Geneva (Switzerland); and Laurent Mesbah, PhD, Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina)

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

Faith Leaders Gather at State House, Pray for Governor to Stop New Gas Projects



After back-to-back extreme weather events throughout the Commonwealth this winter, faith leaders hosted an interfaith ceremony on the steps of the Statehouse. "We are holding this event during a time of year that is a holy season for multiple faith traditions, because protecting our climate and God's creation is one of the most important ways to practice our faith in today's world," said the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt Jonas, Missioner for Creation Care, Episcopal Diocese of Western Mass., and Mass. Conference, United Church of Christ. After the interfaith ceremony, which highlighted frontline communities that are suffering and resisting new gas projects, including groups from Sandisfield, West Roxbury, Weymouth, the Back Bay, Central Mass, and the Cape, the faith leaders delivered their concerns to the Governor's door and renewed their request for dialogue. "We are challenging the Governor to separate himself from President Trump, fossil fuel executives, and other contemporary Pharaohs, by acting boldly to advance a clean energy agenda," explained the Rev. Betsy Sowers, Minister for Climate Justice at Old Cambridge Baptist Church, and a resident of Weymouth, MA, a community which is fighting the siting of a proposed fracked-gas compressor station.

Prayer of the Month



We Hold the Earth

We hold brothers and sisters who suffer from storms and droughts intensified by climate change. We hold all species that suffer.

We pray that the web of life may be mended through courageous actions to limit carbon emissions.

We pray for right actions for adaptation and mitigation to help our already suffering earth community.

We pray that love and wisdom might inspire my actions and our actions as communities ... so that we may, with integrity, look into the eyes of brothers and sisters and all beings and truthfully say, we are doing our part to care for them and the future of the children.

May love transform us and our world with new steps toward life.

PLEASE DONATE TODAY

Donate by going to www.MIPandL.org and clicking on the red **Donate** button.

Peace and blessings,

Your friends at MIP&L