

Dear MIP&L members and friends,

The Fierce Urgency of Climate Change — Act Now!



Pope Francis' call for international and local action on climate change has sparked similar calls from Jewish and Muslim leaders throughout the world. The Greek Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew and Protestant leaders have been calling for such action for years.

In his address to the joint session of Congress, Pope Francis recalled the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on behalf of equal rights for all. In the 1960's Dr. King spoke about the "fierce urgency of now". Can there be any doubt that we are again at a moment in history when the climate change crisis presents us with "the fierce urgency of now"? If world leaders do not enter into a meaningful and binding agreement to cut greenhouse gas emissions at the COP21 negotiations in Paris this year the world may pass the tipping point after which the effects of climate change become irreversible.

This newsletter focuses on the many events occurring this fall to help us comprehend the fierce urgency of our time and the need for action. Please attend one or more and get involved. Here are a few actions you can take:

- Tell your representatives in Congress to [fund the Green Climate Fund](#). The Green Climate Fund (GCF) was conceived in 2009 to help poor and vulnerable countries adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and build more resilient societies. President Obama has pledged \$3 billion from the U.S., and requested the first installment of \$500 million in this year's budget. To maintain U.S. leadership in addressing the global climate challenge, Congress must approve this request.
- Sign the [Interfaith Climate Petition](#), urging the U.S. to take strong leadership at the COP21 negotiations in Paris in December.
- Take the [Paris Pledge](#) to show that faith communities are leading by example. Then join [Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light](#), get an [Environmental Stewardship Assessment](#), cut your congregation's carbon footprint by 50% or more and cut your energy bills, thereby freeing up money for mission and spiritual development.

**ANSWERING THE CALL:
An Interfaith Gathering for Climate Action
A Response to Pope Francis' Encyclical Message**

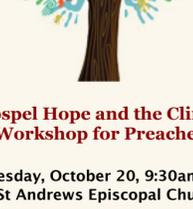
**Monday, October 12th. Sign in at 6:30 pm. Event 7 – 9 pm
Temple Beth Elohim, 10 Bethel Road, Wellesley**

Inspired by the message of **Pope Francis** in his encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*: *On Care for Our Common Home*, people of many faiths will join together in shared appreciation for creation, and with shared determination to take action to protect it.

Confirmed speakers to date:

- **Father Bryan Hehir**—keynote speaker—Professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at Harvard Kennedy School and the Secretary for Health Care and Social Services in the Archdiocese of Boston
- **Rabbi Joel Sisenwine**
- **Imam Ismail Fenni**
- **Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman**
- **Father Robert VerEecke**
- **Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas**
- **Mariama White-Hammond**
- **Rev. Fred Small**
- **Rabbi Rachel Sapphire**

To be part of this special interfaith event—where messages of hope and inspiration will be shared please RSVP at www.tbewellesley.org/climate.



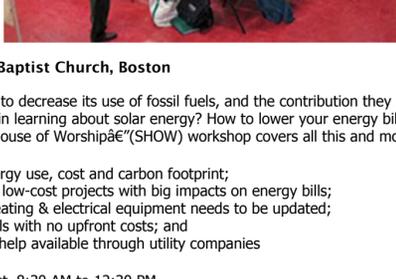
**Gospel Hope and the Climate Crisis:
A Workshop for Preachers**

**Tuesday, October 20, 9:30am–2:00pm,
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.

**Sustainable
House
of
Worship
Workshop**



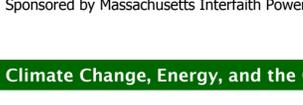
October 31st at People's Baptist Church, Boston

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, 830 Tremont St., Boston, MA

For information contact Vince Maraventano: vince@MIPandL.org or 617-244-0755
To Register [click here](#).



**EVERYTHING MUST CHANGE:
The Papal Encyclical's 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: **Cristina Leano**, [Global Catholic Climate Movement](#), **Rabbi Katy Alan**, [Jewish Climate Action Network](#), and additional participants to be announced.

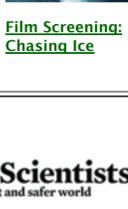
Sponsored by Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light

Climate Change, Energy, and the Outdoors

Minimizing the effects of climate change, and preserving our clean air will take actions, small and large, by individuals and communities across Massachusetts. Using local green energy, and promoting energy efficiency and conservation are key to reducing the severity of climate change and getting us on the road to a future that preserves the integrity and health of our natural lands.

Come learn more with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), Mass Audubon, and the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) at a series of events about climate change and how your actions can make a difference.

Dates, venues and times will be posted at activities.outdoors.org and at Massaudubon.org.

Date	Title	Location	Type of Event
October 28	 Cooler Smarter	5 Joy Street, Cabot	Presentation: John Rogers, Union of Concerned Scientists
November 17	 Power Hour! Make the Switch	5 Joy Street, Cabot	Presentation: Maura O'Gara and Erin Taylor, Mass Energy and Banks Poor, Mass Audubon
December 8	Understanding the Impacts of Climate Change in the Northeast	5 Joy Street, Cabot	Dave Publicover, AMC and Robert Buchsbaum, Mass Audubon
December 16	 Film Screening: Chasing Ice	5 Joy Street, Cabot	Film and discussion



Join EPA and Celebrate ENERGY STAR Day!



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR Day celebration will take place on Tuesday, October 27th, 2015. What is ENERGY STAR Day? ENERGY STAR Day is a national celebration that encourages people to make a commitment to saving energy and protecting the environment from climate change. This year EPA is celebrating ENERGY STAR Day by asking people across the country to commit to an energy-saving action, and to do so by taking the ENERGY STAR Pledge. EPA will conduct a special pledge drive throughout the month of October, promoting Portfolio Manager, its easy tool to help Americans save energy.

In 2014 Eliot Church of Newton, UCC became an Energy Star Congregation, one of only 8 in Massachusetts. If your house of worship would like to become an Energy Star, contact Vince Maraventano, at vince@MIPandL.org or 617-244-0755 to learn how we can help!

Medford Harvest Your Energy Festival

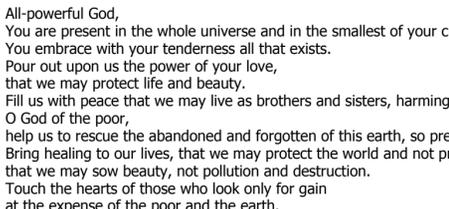


For the 6th year in a row, Mass Energy, the City of Medford and Go Green Medford are holding the [Medford Harvest Your Energy Festival](#) on October 3rd.

- Presentation of the Medford Green Awards
- Tours of "Windy" the Wind Turbine
- Live music, entertainment, and local artists
- Information about sustainable energy for your home & lifestyle

When: Saturday, October 3, 2015 12pm - 3pm
Where: Mystic Riverbend Park (behind McGlynn School), Freedom Way, Medford, MA 02155. Parking available.

No RSVP necessary.

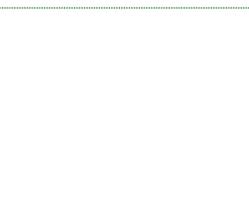


A PRAYER FOR OUR EARTH

All-powerful God,
You are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.
O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so no prey on their eyes.
Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation,
to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

From *Laudato Si'* (Praise Be), Encyclical Letter of Pope Francis on Care for Our Common Home.

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