



Massachusetts

Interfaith Power & Light

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Promoting environmental justice and care of creation with the community of faith in Massachusetts

April 2006

NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Issue 2

MIP&L's 5th Annual Forum in Honor of Earth Day

On **April 26, 2006** (Wednesday) from 7:00p.m.-8:30 p.m., MIP&L will hold its 5th Annual Forum in honor of Earth Day at **Eliot Church of Newton**.

The keynote speaker will be the **Right Reverend Steven Charleston**. Bishop Charleston is the President and Dean of Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) of Cambridge, MA, one of the historic theological seminaries training both lay and ordained leadership for the church. A citizen of the



Bishop Steven Charleston.

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Bishop Charleston was born and raised in that state in a family that has had a long history of service in the Christian Native American community.

Bishop Charlesaton's vocation in the church has been extensive and varied. He is widely recognized as a leading

proponent for justice issues – including

environmental issues – and for spiritual renewal in the church in both the United States and Canada. He has been called “one of the best preachers in the Episcopal Church,” leading worship services ranging from a revival style service in Texas to Lenten Services at Harvard. Bishop Charleston is responsible for bringing a Resolution on Global Warming to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

In addition to Bishop Charleston's keynote talk, there will be a presentation on **clean energy** by **Eric Olson** of the Massachusetts Climate Action Network (MCAN). MCAN and MIP&L, along with Clean Water Action, are working on a public awareness campaign for clean energy with grant funding from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). Eric Olson is a professor at

Brandeis University, and the MCAN local representative in Newton.

Registration is Free. Please help us prepare -- if you plan to attend, please let us know. Either call, fax, or e-mail our office to RSVP. Please Let us know your name, your congregation, how we can reach you, and how many people are in your group. Our contact information: Lara Hoke, Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light; 6 Institute Road; Worcester, MA 01609. Fax: 508-795-1400. E-mail: lhoke@MIPandL.org. Call 800-406-5374 with questions. ■

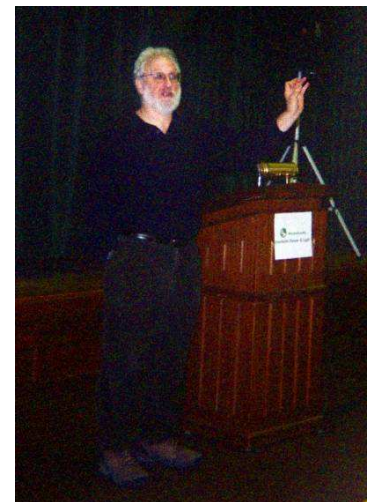
A PowerPoint presentation on clean energy and environmental stewardship is now available for your use during this “Earth Day” month – see details on page 2 of this newsletter!

Gottlieb's talk in Worcester

On March 2, **Roger S. Gottlieb** spoke to a crowd of more than 40 people at the United Congregational Church of Worcester. The forum was sponsored by MIP&L. Gottlieb is a Professor of Philosophy at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). Professor Gottlieb's provocative talk was based on his forthcoming book, **A Greener Faith:**

Religious Environmentalism and Our Planet's Future, which is due to be published April 29, 2006, by Oxford University Press.

Professor Gottlieb's talk was the last event of MIP&L's “**Clean Energy Campaign for the Community of Faith in Worcester**”, a public awareness campaign made possible by grant funding from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative (MTC). ■



Prof. Roger S. Gottlieb at United Congregational Church in Worcester on March 2, 2006.

**The Choice Is Yours:
Clean Energy Choice**

You have the power of choice - which do you want?

Clean Energy



**A Healthy Environment
Environmental Justice
Care of Creation**

OR

Dirty Energy



**Toxic Pollution
Environmental Injustice
Degradation of Creation**

To help you in honoring Earth Day in your congregation and community, **MIP&L has prepared a 4½ minute PowerPoint presentation** for your use. (The slides advance themselves.) Download it at www.MIPandL.org, or e-mail lhoke@MIPandL.org and ask us to send it to you. This PowerPoint presentation will give you suggestions on ways to take up this Mutual Ministry of environmental stewardship in your corner of the world. **Show it at your congregation during April or May** at coffee hour -- use a lap top and/or a projector.

This Earth Day month, you can make a choice that helps the earth and its inhabitants. If you would like to choose clean energy, go to our website (www.MIPandL.org) and click on the "Clean Energy Choice" button. You can also go to www.CleanEnergyChoice.org to learn about the matching grant program – for every dollar you spend on clean electricity, there is a match of up to one dollar for your community and up to one dollar for low income communities in Massachusetts. This match is from the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. **Truly, this is a win-win-win! It is, quite simply, the right thing to do. ■**

Welcome to new MIP&L Members!

The following congregations and organizations recently sent in their Declarations of Intent to join MIP&L:

First Parish Unitarian Universalist, Lexington
Grace Church, Amherst
Grace Episcopal Church, Norwood
Park Avenue Congregational Church, Arlington
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Hanover
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Malden
St. Peter's Church, Weston
Wollaston Congregational Church, Wollaston

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