



# Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light



## *Environmental Stewardship with the Massachusetts Faith Community*

April 2007 Newsletter

Vol. 6, Issue 3

April greetings,  
MIP&L members and friends!

As this newsletter goes out, we gaze through our [interior storm windows](#) as ANOTHER nor'easter roars outside....

But the un-Spring-like weather hasn't dampened the spirit and determination of the faithful walkers, demonstrators and others who have raised their voices these past few weeks across Massachusetts- in a **remarkable public witness** on behalf of Creation!

***Read on!***

***Welcome, New MIP&L members!***

[Hope United Methodist in Belchertown](#)

[Universalist Unitarian Church of Haverhill](#)

[Community Church of Boston](#)

***Has your faith community signed up for MIP&L membership and a Environmental Stewardship Assessment (ESA) yet?*** The ESA one of the most important ways MIP&L can help your faith community be more environmentally responsible. [View sample ESAs here-](#) and then contact MIP&L about becoming a member and moving ahead with your ESA!

Join Our Mailing List!

## In This Issue

Interfaith Walk for Climate Rescue draws huge crowds to Copley!

MIP&L Testifies at State House

What's a GLOBAL WARMING CAFE? And how can it help motivate your community?

Boston going green?

## Quick Links You Can Use NOW!

[Buy Clean Energy!](#)

[MIP&L membership](#)

is now open to individuals, too! And dues have gone DOWN!

Take advantage of your energy company's incentives! [Here's what KeySpan is doing!](#)

## COMING EVENTS!

### 8th Annual Charles River Cleanup

**Saturday, April 21 9am-12 noon**  
Join over 1,000 volunteers helping to make the Charles River healthier and more beautiful.

[www.charlesriver.org](http://www.charlesriver.org)

### Sunday, April 22- EARTH DAY!

This promises to be the biggest Earth Day ever! For general info, [click here](#).

MIP&L will be joining the Earth Day Fair at the Unitarian Universalist church in Haverhill. Noon. [UU Church, Haverhill](#)

### SAVE the DATE!

**Sunday, May 6**, MIP&L's annual forum- on the North Shore this year! Location to be announced

### On TV this month:

Tues., April 17: Robert Redford presents "The Green"- on 13 consecutive Tuesday nights. [The Green](#)

Sat., April 21, 9pm "Green- the

## MIP&L NEWS Briefs

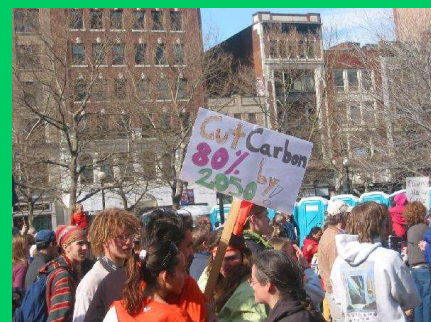
### From the South Shore:

What does your carbon footprint look like? One ton of carbon dioxide is hard to visualize. But a group of 9th graders from Cohasset High School gets the picture- and have built a 27-foot high "CO2 Cube" to make their point! The CO2 Cube powerfully illustrates the average amount of carbon dioxide every one of us emits into the atmosphere every two days! [Read the story](#).

### From Central Mass:

*Great energy* at the March 20 Interfaith Climate Walk event in Worcester, at Temple Emanuel! Organized by environmental activist (and Temple Emanuel member) Margot Barnet, speakers included Rev. Fred Small (of Religious Witness for the Earth, and one of the Walk organizers)...and MIP&L's Lara Hoke, who described the results of the MIP&L energy audit at her home church (the UU Church of Worcester). Representatives from MIP&L member congregations UU Church of Worcester, First Unitarian Church (Worcester), United Congregational Church (Worcester), and All Saints Church (Worcester) were also present. Other speakers were State Senators Ed Augustus and Harriett Chandler.

## March 20th Interfaith Walk for Climate Rescue Culminates at Copley Square



Thanks for the photos,  
Mark Larson!

## April 2- Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light at the State House

MIP&L's Co-Founder and Chief Evangelical Officer Steve MacAusland, together with MIP&L's Mark Larson, appeared before the Senate Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy on April 2- urging lawmakers to take a hard look at the pros and cons of House Speaker Sal DiMasi's proposed energy bill, H-3965. ([read bill here](#))

After submitting MIPL's written testimony ([entire text here](#)) to the panel, Steve departed from the fact-crunching oral testimony given by others to say,

"If Moses were here to today, he would probably come down from the mountain with two new commandments... *If it Ain't Broke, Don't Fix it, and Pay Attention to the Elephant in the Middle of the Room.*" He went on to say that the Inter governmental Panel on Climate Change has strongly suggested that global emissions of greenhouse gasses be cut by eighty percent as soon as possible. "That is our challenge here today."

MacAusland also held up a CFL (compact fluorescent light bulb) as a new symbol behind and under which the community of faith is uniting to practice what it preaches. "By saving eighty percent on our lighting costs, not only are we saving money, but we are saving energy and reducing our greenhouse gas emissions by eighty percent as well. By spending pennies of those savings on green electricity we can plug into the sun and the wind and save the planet at the same time."

## Host a Global Warming Cafe for your worship community!!

Everything you need to get started is right here on the [Empowerment Institute website](#).

MIP&L's Sue Harden has been trained in teaching this exciting model- watch for Sue at our May 6th annual event- this year on the North Shore. Check back for more details!

## April 12-Boston Mayor Tom Menino unveils extensive new plan to cut greenhouse emmissions- and invites MIP&L's Steve MacAusland to speak

[See Globe story here.](#)

MacAusland thanked the Mayor, Congressman Edward Markey and especially the Mayor's Environment & Energy Department Chief Jim Hunt for inviting the community of faith to participate:

"In the past we have had to march through police dogs and fire hoses to make our voice heard for peace and justice, MacAusland said. "Today we are here with you and we are out in the community with an office on every corner ready to address the issue of our time."

Contact us with your questions, ideas, success stories...horror stories/photos...and/or calls for help!

Remember: Wherever you are in your environmental stewardship journey, we've been there- and can help light the way (with CFLs, of course!).

[Begin that journey today, here.](#)

Most importantly, thank you for everything you and your faith community are doing- and will do- to care for creation.

Because... *IF WE DON'T, WHO WILL?*

In faith,

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light