



Dear MIP&L members and friends,

## MIP&L ANNUAL MEETING — Be Green, Be Seen!

**Tuesday April 28  
7:30 pm  
Andover Baptist Church  
7 Central Street  
Andover, MA**

**What have we done? Where are we going?  
Find out at MIP&L's Annual Meeting.**

**Be sure your congregation is represented. Lots to learn, and then to put into practice.**

**Mark Gallagher, District Office Director for  
Rep. Edward Markey, (D-7th Mass. Dist.)  
will be the featured speaker.**

Rep. Markey has introduced important legislation in Congress that will increase clean renewable energy and energy efficiency. The American Renewable Energy Act would require the United States to draw a quarter of its electricity from clean sources by 2025. "With our economy in crisis, renewable energy can create hundreds of thousands of new green jobs, revitalize declining manufacturing sectors, and decrease global warming pollution," said Markey, who chairs the *Select Committee for Energy Independence and Global Warming* and the *energy and environment subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee*. Clean energy is the fastest growing sector of the Massachusetts economy. It is widely believed that a national renewable energy standard will be enacted by this Congress.

Markey also introduced a second bill that would require the country to reduce energy consumption 15 percent by 2020. Markey estimates that the Save American Energy Act would eliminate the need for 300 new medium-size power plants. Rep Markey has been a leading national advocate of legislation to support American energy independence and to combat global warming.

Other major elements of the annual meeting are **awards** for significant contributions to environmental stewardship, **success stories** from those hard at work, **information** on events and activities, and **election** of the MIP&L Executive Committee and officers.

### Work in Progress: 1st Congregational Church, Reading



In both a literal and spiritual sense each house-of-worship as a "work in progress." Whether wood, brick or a holy pile of stones (as is 1st Congregational Church in Reading) the buildings always need care and loving. Here's a sampling of what our friends in Reading have learned:



Buildings dating to early 20th century often are still using **steam heat**. Steam boilers (especially if 10 or more years old) typically have an efficiency estimated at 75%±, though operating always to generate steam (212°) means the functional efficiency is much less in shoulder seasons (Fall and Spring). Hydronic (hot water) heat can have a temperature adjusted to match outside temperature, such as 140° if 45° outside and up to 180° if outside temperature approaches 0°. Also, as seen in the photo, the extent of rust-residue indicates deterioration of the steam distribution pipes and radiators, meaning they are nearing end of useful life. In these cases stuck valves and leaking pipes are not uncommon. New pipes and radiation will be needed.



A 75-gallon gas-fired **domestic hot water** (DHW) tank is inefficient (65%), operates 24/7, and is significantly oversized. This building (like most houses-of-worship) has a very low demand for DHW, mainly sinks in restrooms and kitchens. There are no showers, or any of the high-volume constant uses (such as showers) found in a home. The best solution is to install high-efficiency gas-fired on-demand DHW system. These are upper 80% or better for generation, and make DHW only when a hot water faucet is turned on.

**Remember also that the observations for this house of worship apply as well to the houses in which we live, work, learn and play. Be active in caring for them all.**

*If We Don't, Who Will?*

### CLIMATE SUMMER



**Massachusetts Power Shift (MPS)** is putting together an exciting program this summer to bring the energy and enthusiasm of the youth climate movement to the service of all the great work going on in communities across the state to live harmoniously with creation. **Climate Summer** ([www.massclimatesummer.org](http://www.massclimatesummer.org)) will assemble small teams of 8-10 students to live and bike together, and with the support of local activists and groups, canvass and hold public events to increase community members' knowledge of the issue, awareness of resources, and inspire new action.

MPS is looking for motivated faith communities and individual activists to help out. The success of **Climate Summer** depends upon successfully connecting with individuals and organizations in the towns and cities they visit. **Climate Summer** needs your help with any of the following:

- Host sites for public events
- Outreach in communities
- Overnight accommodations for the 8-10 bikers.

MPS welcomes your assistance with any of the above.

To help put them on the road to success, call Elizabeth at (857) 413-1326 or email [elizabeth@massclimatesummer.org](mailto:elizabeth@massclimatesummer.org).

### OXFAM and Global Warming

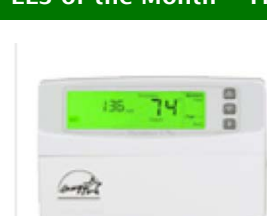


Oxfam America is an international relief and development organization that creates solutions to poverty, hunger and social injustice worldwide. This year, one of Oxfam's leading causes is climate change, which they consider to be one of the most important poverty issues facing mankind.

Oxfam is currently organizing support for the US Congress to pass equitable climate change legislation. Also, they are attempting to get support for UN funding for poor countries that have the means to adapt to global warming themselves. Oxfam is asking Representative Ed Markey, and Senator John Kerry, both from Massachusetts, to become key champions of climate change legislation, and strong supporters of Oxfam's efforts for international adaptation financing.

MIP&L encourages all its members to support Oxfam's efforts. There are brochures and DVDs available from Oxfam, if you are interested in publicizing their efforts with your congregation. If you would like more information, please contact Mike Meldonian ([mmeldonian@oxfamamerica.org](mailto:mmeldonian@oxfamamerica.org)). He is the Oxfam Organizing and Alliances Coordinator for Massachusetts.

### EES of the Month – Thermostats



How's your memory? When is it time to turn up or turn down or turn on your heat or AC? Guess what—Smart Thermostats do it for you—and save lots of money and help reduce emissions.

Go to the MIP&L homepage and click on the [EES of the Month](#) link.

### Intersect



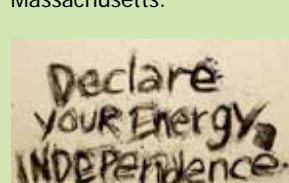
We're thrilled to be highlighted in the March, 2009 issue of Intersect, the newsletter of the Massachusetts Council of Churches. To see the issue [click here](#).

And for more information on MCC's other activities go to [www.masscouncilofchurches.org](http://www.masscouncilofchurches.org).

### Clean Energy Choice

*You have the power! Choose clean energy!*

- Through the Clean Energy Choice program, you can:
1. Support clean energy.
  2. Earn money for clean energy projects for your town or city.
  3. Earn money for clean energy projects to benefit low-income assistance programs throughout Massachusetts.



*Sign-up now!*

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

Not having your electricity be 100% clean is like choosing to swim in a pool fed by dirty water. Neither is good for you, your neighbors or the world!

*Peace and blessings,*

*Your friends at MIP&L*

### MIP&L Annual Meeting

**Tuesday April 28, 7:30 pm**  
Andover Baptist Church,  
Andover, MA.



**Bring your Earth Day week celebration to a wonderful conclusion!**

### Ministry for Earth Community

**Friday, April 24**  
at Harvard Divinity School  
[Click here](#) to RSVP.

### Our Father's World

**April 22, 2009**  
at Amherst Center for Christian Studies, Amherst  
**April 23, 2009**  
at Park Street Church, Boston  
**April 25, 2009**  
at Christ Church, South Hamilton  
[Click here](#) for more info.

### Don't Get Steamed Up, Get Stem'd Up!



### Savings Through Energy Management for This Old House of Worship

brings 5 to 10 congregations together in five 3-hour training sessions aimed at introducing houses of worship to energy savings techniques which can be used to save energy, save money, and fight climate change.

Each workshop is designed for learning and networking, and for those interested, on planning how to bring STEM workshops to other congregations in the Massachusetts faith community.

The five week collaborative course will help you ...

... Create a comprehensive low-cost written energy audit for your house of worship

... Learn about your building systems on-site and create detailed studies of them

... Calculate potential savings for your church, both short term and long term

... Get information on rebates and other sources of funds

... Learn strategies to get congregational buy-in

There is a nominal charge for attending a STEM. The sponsoring congregations get a substantial rebate from MIP&L when the STEM sessions are complete. And a bonus for bringing new congregations in as members of MIP&L.

If you want more information about STEM, please contact Lyle Pirnie at [lyle@MIPandL.org](mailto:lyle@MIPandL.org).

### Know somebody who should receive this newsletter?

Let us know.

We're happy to add all to the list. And of course, just forward it now! (use the forward link at the bottom of this newsletter).

To add to our list, visit our website, click ["Join our E-mail List"](#) (under "Membership") and fill the sign up box.

Or send us an email at [MIPandL@MIPandL.org](mailto:MIPandL@MIPandL.org) with the email address to be added to our mailing list.

Write *"add to MIP&L email"* in the subject line.

### Annual Member Dues

### It's Green Time Again!

Watch for the MIP&L member dues request. We are a "mutual ministry". We depend on you doing your part — by actions and by \$.

