



Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light NEWS

December 2008

Dear MIP&L members and friends,

Holiday Giving – Go Green

The true gift, for a loved one and for the love of creation, is taking the steps to sustain the planet, to be green. Earlier this month we distributed the wonderful study guides to bringing light to our holiday celebrations.



[One for Each Night: A Hanukkah Study Guide for a Brighter Future](#)

[Preparing for a New Light: Caring for God's Creation During Advent](#)

These can be downloaded by clicking on the links. They focus on how the lights we have in our homes, houses-of-worship, schools and work places can be improved to reduce bad environmental impacts.

Reducing is a direct, immediate step each of us can take. But reducing is not eliminating. So what else can we do to be "carbon neutral"? The answer: **OFFSET**.

A carbon footprint is the measure of your life/behavior/choice on the environment, measured in the amount of CO2 produced. Reducing each person's carbon footprint is the way to reverse global warming, and ensure a healthy planet. Basically, each of us must be carbon neutral, at home, at school, at work, at play, at worship, everywhere!

It is virtually impossible to reach "0" by your actions alone. So you have to find ways to make up for the CO2 you cause to be produced. This is offsetting. Offsetting is finding ways other than your direct personal actions to reduce CO2.

Find out many ways to offset by going to MIP&L's EES of the Month – **OFFSETTING**.

In Massachusetts an immediate and direct way is to offset 100% of electricity use. You can do this easily by going to www.CleanEnergyChoice.org

Doing that also multiplies. If your town gets 150 CEC sign-ups, it will be in line for a Massachusetts Technology Collaborative program to get a Solar Electric Array installed on a public building. So get your Clean Energy now—and encourage everyone you know to do the same!

That makes every day a happy green holiday!

Radical Abundance: A Theology of Sustainability



January 21-23, 2009 at Christ Church, Andover.
January 30-31 at MIT

The economic "crisis" of the world is precisely the time to understand reality from a faith-basis. Money is illusory. Putting faith into practice is what sustains. As the Rev James Cooper (rector of Trinity Church, Wall Street) says:

"Human beings have been entrusted with the care of this world, but for too long a minority of its population has enjoyed the majority of its resources, without giving thought to the effect on the planet or on those less fortunate. We now face a global climate crisis shared by the advantaged and the disadvantaged. Social justice demands that we reduce waste, build sustainable communities, and ensure that abundance is available to all."

The Trinity Institute conference will explore the theological basis for re-imagining abundance measured not by consumer satisfaction but by just and sustainable relations with nature and communities. Speakers include MacArthur "Genius" Fellow/Sundance Channel host **Majora Carter**, environmental theologian **Timothy Gorrige**, best-selling author **David C. Korten**, professor of New Testament Studies at Instituto Universitario ISEDT, Buenos Aires, Argentina, **Néstor O. Míguez**, and **Sister Miriam MacGillis**, preacher. Conference participation is open to clergy and laypersons of all faith traditions.

For Andover contact Jim Dodson at jmontyd@comcast.net
For MIT contact Christian English at cenglish@mit.edu.



STEM



Savings Through Energy Management for This Old House of Worship

brings 5 to 10 congregations together in five 3-hour training sessions. Sponsor one with congregations in your community. Create interest, and a support group for implementations. More information [here](#).

ANDOVER EVENTS



Radical Abundance: A Theology of Sustainability

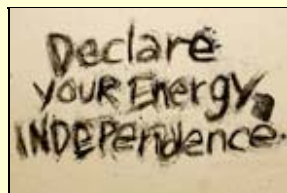
January 21-23, 2009
at Christ Church

Participate in the conference (via high-speed video link) and join in small group discussions.

Conference participation is open to clergy and laypersons of all faith traditions.

Contact Jim Dodson at jmontyd@comcast.net

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

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!



EES of the Month: OFFSETS

Go to the MIP&L home page and click on [the link](#).

Save money! Save the planet!

*Peace and blessings,
Your friends at MIP&L*

