



Massachusetts

Interfaith Power & Light

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

June 2006

NEWSLETTER

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MIP&L Gets Challenge Grant

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light recently earned a \$10K Challenge “matching” Grant from the Regeneration Project, the national coordinating body of state Interfaith Power & Light organizations. MIP&L raised \$10K from new sources in 2006 – including new members, new fee-for-service projects, and new donations – in order to



Logo of The Regeneration Project.

qualify for the matching funds. Thank you to our

new members and new donors for helping us meet the match! The Regeneration Project is a program of the Tides Center. To learn more, visit www.TheRegenerationProject.org. ■

Transition for MIP&L and program director

This month marks the beginning of a transition for MIP&L. Namely, Program Director Lara Hoke is stepping down from her staff role into a volunteer role. Specifically, Lara will continue as volunteer webmaster and regional representative in Worcester as she begins to pursue her call to become a chaplain. She will also continue to field day-to-day phonecalls and e-mails during the interim between professional staff persons.

Lara will be doing a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) internship this summer at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, followed by a CPE residency at Hartford Hospital (in Connecticut) in the fall. She hopes to become an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister. “I finished seminary a decade ago,” said Lara,

“and I’ve been doing community-based lay ministry ever since. With my calling to chaplaincy, however, formal ordination is a necessity for the first time,” she explained. “Working with Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light has been a wonderful mutual ministry of care for creation and environmental justice, and I will continue in that ministry – just as a volunteer,” she added. Lara is also on the Board of the Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth.

With any change, there is good and bad. Lara will miss her full-time work with MIP&L, and MIP&L will miss her in that role as well. However, not only is this an opportunity for personal growth, but it’s also an opportunity for organizational growth. Namely, now is a wonderful time for interested individuals to come forward to volunteer.

On page two of this newsletter, you will see a “Friend of MIP&L” form. This is your chance to be involved formally with MIP&L as an individual. We have created a new category, “Friends of MIP&L”, which is akin to individual membership. Whether your congregation is a member of MIP&L or not, you can become an individual Friend of MIP&L through volunteering your time, skills, or money. We hope that many of you will come forward to be more involved. ■



Outgoing program director Lara Hoke.

Now is the time....

... to request a free home energy audit. These utility-sponsored audits will help you determine ways that you can conserve energy, save money and reduce pollution. Schedule *now* to avoid the fall crunch. Call **866-527-7283** today!

For the first time ever: Join Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light as an individual member!

In the past, only congregations could join Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light (MIP&L). New for June 2006: now you can join as an individual! Whether your congregation is a member of MIP&L or not, this is a wonderful way to support MIP&L and to be more involved.

Several levels of membership are available:

- Senior/Student/Limited Income - **\$15**
- Basic membership, individual - **\$25**
- Basic membership, family - **\$35**
- Ultra Green membership - **\$100**
- Ultra Green family membership - **\$250**
- Lifetime membership, individual - **\$500**
- Lifetime membership, family - **\$1,000**

What do you get for membership?

Mostly, you get the satisfaction of helping MIP&L and becoming part of our mutual ministry toward environmental justice and care of the earth and its inhabitants. You will also be added to our e-mail distribution list and our newsletter mailing list. You will be notified of all upcoming MIP&L events and other related events. MIP&L is a 501(c)3 non-profit, and your membership and donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

Please make checks payable to Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light and mail to:

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light
6 Institute Road
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In addition to membership, there are other ways to be more involved with MIP&L.

Do any of the tasks/roles below appeal to you? Let us know! Check of any and all that you might want to explore, and mail this back to us. (You can also e-mail responses to mipandl@MIPandL.org.)

- Working on the newsletter
- Working on the website
- Learning to do energy audits
- Learning to do presentations
- Becoming an Executive Committee member
- Serving on the Advisory Board

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