

Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light NEWS

October 2008

Dear MIP&L members and friends,



On October 18 nearly 100 folks, representing congregations from all over eastern Massachusetts, gathered at the theatre at the WGBH complex in Boston for an Energy Summit on Savings, Sustainability and Spirituality. Many were introduced to a new game -- [24 Questions](#) -- which you can take up.

And those in attendance found out the answer to this question ... What do these pictures have in common?



Each represents a fundamental concern of an MIP&L member congregation before taking action. What were the concerns? What were the actions? The stories were told at the Energy Summit.

Get details at the [Success Stories](#) link for Congregations at the MIP&L home page.

Want a hint, and a location for each congregation?

Top to bottom:

1. **St. James Cambridge** worried over old boilers and failing steam distribution.
2. **Beth-El Temple Belmont** wondered if the chiller would continue to work for high holidays.
3. **Eliot Church Newton** was concerned about what sort of boiler to install to replace one dating to the 1950s.
4. **First Parish Westwood** thought that the wonderful southern exposure of the roof of its Parish House might be a way to cut down on electricity cost, both money and environmental impact.
5. **Trinity Church Weymouth** agonized over what type of boiler and fuel to use to replace its dying equipment.

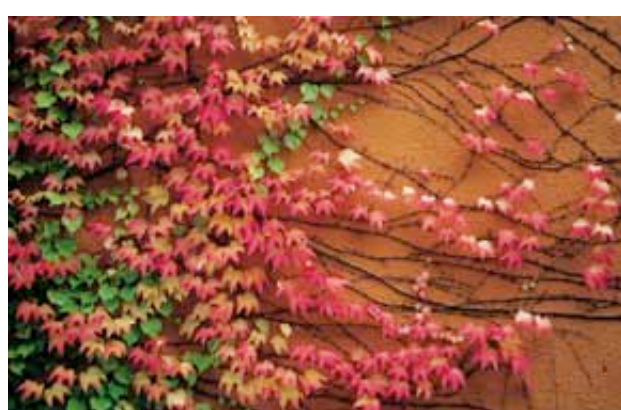
For one clergyperson's response to the Energy Summit, go to www.trinityconcord.org and click on Rev. Tony Buquor's sermon on October 19, 2008.



And consider taking up the challenge of Bishop Bud Cederholm to have your congregation [Ring Bells 350 times](#), on a date before the end of November.

Why 350? 350 ppm is the amount of carbon in the atmosphere that is sustainable on a long-term basis. The level of CO2 in our atmosphere is currently 385 and climbing. Environmental author Bill McKibben has launched a worldwide movement to make 350 the most recognized number on the planet. '350' represents safety. To learn more, visit www.350.org.

AND once you've heard the bells, ACT!



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

350 BELLS



Join congregations throughout Massachusetts by **ringing bells** (steeple, hand, cow, just ring!!!) at your House Of Worship 350 times, on a date before year's end. Publicize it widely!

Why 350?

350 parts per million (ppm) is the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that our planet can sustain without causing cataclysmic and irreversible damage to life as we know it. The world is now at 385 ppm, heading toward 450ppm. Not Good!

To learn more about the science behind 350, visit www.350.org.

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](#).

New England Religious Summit on Energy, Climate & Economic Crisis

Speakers include Bill McKibben & Richard Heinberg
Thursday, Nov. 20, 2008
11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
[Plymouth Congregational Church](#), 87 Edgell Road, Framingham
[Click here](#) for more information.

RSVP to Rev. Jack Johnson, [email](#) or phone: 617-523-2771.

ANDOVER EVENTS



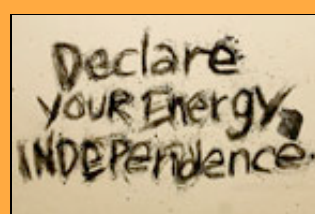
Sunday October 26 10:00 am

Vince Maraventano, Clean Energy Coordinator, MIP&L
Preaching on "The Environmental Injustice of Global Warming"
[West Parish Congregational Church](#), UCC, 129 Reservation Road
Andover, MA 01810
Tel: 978-475-3528

Tuesday, October 28 7:00 pm

"How to Live a Greener Lifestyle" with Dan Ruben at the Memorial Hall Library.

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!