



Michigan Interfaith Power and Light (MiIPL)

...Faith in Action....

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In 1997 Rev. Sally Bingham, San Francisco Grace Cathedral, formed the Episcopal Power and Light ministry to educate members about energy efficiency, green power and deregulated energy.

In 2002, Father Charles Morris, St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, Wyandotte, MI, teamed with the Small Business Association of Michigan (SBAM), ENERGY STAR Program to launch an IPL in Michigan. The purpose of Michigan Interfaith Power & Light (MiIPL) is to *involve communities of faith as stewards of God's creation by promoting and implementing energy conservation, energy efficiency, renewable energy and related sustainable practices.*

MiIPL Board of Directors:

Dick Brown
Danielle Conroyd
Al Conner
Rev. Peggy Garrigues-Cortelyou
Ginny Jones (SSJ)
Ed Kohl
Ada Kidd
Charles Morris
Paul Stankewitz
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MiIPL Newsletter

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Mark H. Clevey, Senior Editor

Message from the Director

On October 28 MiIPL will have its second annual State Conference at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. We are honored to have as our keynote Dr. Cal DeWitt, the director of the Au Sable Institute. Also featured this year are Dr. Debra Rowe, the leading voice in alternative technology education in Michigan and Mr. Bob Gough, one of the nation's leading advocates of wind power. We offer two tracks this year – educating the congregation and reducing costs. We are honored to have Sr. Leanne Jablonski a climate scientist from the University of Dayton and the head of the Ohio Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign as one of our workshop leaders. We are also happy to have Aileen Gow of Urban Options, Sara Spoonheim of Faith In Place out of Chicago, Illinois, noted architect Bill Doty out of Cleveland and Jennifer Alvarado of the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association will also be leading workshops in areas such as energy efficiency, renewable energy and worship/educational aids for congregations. Please go to www.miipl.org/conference for on-line Conference registration and a downloadable Conference brochure.

This issue also features a profile of our newest Board member, Iman Achmat Salie of the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit. We also feature a description of a company that both preserves windows and has helped my parish of St. Elizabeth save nearly 40% on the utility bills in the Church last year.

Rev. Charles Morris

2nd Annual MiIPL Conference

Mark Your Calendars for the 2nd Annual MiIPL Conference, featuring Dr. Calvin DeWitt [The AuSable Institute and Robert Grough [Intertribal Council on Utility Policy] and numerous other workshops will be on Thursday, October 28, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. More information and conference registration can be found by going to our website at www.miipl.org. Thanks to our partners at Native Energy this Conference will be officially labeled “climate neutral”, the first time an event in Michigan will ever receive that designation.

Meet the MiIPL Board

Our newest Board member, Iman Achmat Salie, is a leading voice in the Muslim community of Detroit on behalf of the environment. Iman Salie has lived most of his life in Cape Town, South Africa. He has been an Iman since he graduated from a religious seminary in Newcastle, South Africa. In 1999 Iman Salie immigrated to the Detroit area, where he took on pastoral leadership at the Islamic Association of Greater Detroit.

Deacon Salie married his wife Safiyah in 1990. She also hails from South Africa and is studying to be a psychologist. They have four children, Thaakir, Saleem, Maahirah, and Bilqees who range in age from 13 to 6.

Deacon Salie has been very devoted to the faith and has attended daily services at the mosque since he was ten years old. His interest in

the environment began as he tells it “at college when I had Biology as a major. It was easy to bring my understanding of the topic to the sacred texts of Islam”.

Iman Salie says that he was drawn to MiIPL because it “is an opportunity to meet other religious leaders passionate about the environment and conservation. I am proud to be part of the Board and its chair who have so much to offer. If find the exposure to be enriching and invaluable”. Conversely, Iman Salie brings a great gift to the Board. As he states, “One third of the Quran peaks about natural phenomenon... The Quran speaks about stones that fall out of fear for God, an ant that speaks and birds as soldiers of Solomon. Many Quranic chapters bear the names of animals... As long as people or animals benefit from trees we have planted, we receive reward in perpetuity.”

We too are blessed to have such a deep person of faith as well as experience in Iman Achmat Salie.

Energy Conservation Services

Last year, when St. Elizabeth in Wyandotte was looking to do something about the 1,400 square feet of window wall in the Church came upon a company that takes a different approach than window replacement. Energy Conservation Services [ECS] prides itself on being a solutions company that can provide a much more energy efficient alternative than replacing windows. In the case of St. Elizabeth, not only did their bid come in at \$15,000 **less** than the bid for replacement, but they got a window system that was three times as energy efficient. In their particular case this meant the utilization of a solar net on the outside of the windows, 2.5 inches of dead air space for maximum insulation value and low-E glass on the inside. The upshot was a 40% savings in utility bills [no difference in gas bill this past winter even give the 30% rise in natural gas and the colder winter this year than last] and, thanks to the solar net, an end to window vandalism.

ECS is committed to saving you energy so that you can put your dollars forward to your Church's mission. This is a practical way your congregation can save dollars and fight global warming. And the company is right here in Michigan [ECS has worked on such notable buildings such as the St. Regis Hotel in New York City and the McNamara Building in Detroit]. If you are interested in getting a return on investment of 20% or more on your windows you might give ECS a call. Their address is: 1318 Rolling Ridge, Sturgis, MI 49091. You may contact their president, Jay Wickum by phone at (269) 651-2243. Mr. Wickum may be contacted by e-mail at j.wickum@voyager.net.

As their company motto says, "Can you afford not to explore the possibilities with ECS?"

Environmental Stewardship, One Soda Machine at a Time

The Interfaith Coalition on Energy (ICE) in Philadelphia, PA was created more than 24 years ago by The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, The Board of Rabbis of Greater Philadelphia, The Metropolitan Christian Council of Philadelphia, and The American Jewish Committee Philadelphia Chapter.

In its most recent volume of "Comfort & Light," the ICE newsletter, Project Coordinator Andy Rudin wrote about a visit to the First Presbyterian Church in Germantown, PA. There he used a watt-meter on a soft drink machine, which he noticed was lighted. Rudin explained that not only do the lights need costly electricity, but they "also heated up the refrigerated compartment a bit." He suggested that they disconnect the ballasts. Afterwards, Rudin metered the machine again without the lights, and estimated the church could save as much as \$117 per year with the lights off.

If your congregation would like to save energy costs on a lighted vending machine, first you should be sure who owns the machine--whether the congregation does or a soft drink distributor. If the congregation is not the owner, there may be contractual requirements regarding opening or altering the machine. However, the potential savings could make it worthwhile to phone and get approval, or find a competing vendor who will approve.

For more information on ICE and its technical services, online documents, reports, links to helpful Web sites, and for a free copy of "Comfort & Light," visit <http://www.interfaithenergy.com/>. You can reach

Andy Rudin at 215-635-1122 or
andrewrudin@earthlink.net.

Solar Light for African Hospital

The faith-based organization Solar Light for Africa (SLA) recently completed its sixth consecutive mission trip to East Africa and the solar electrification of the Kakuuto Hospital located in the Rakai District of Uganda where AIDS was first discovered. The project also included providing pure water to the hospital and rural populations. The SLA and Ugandan youth teams built and installed solar-generated water pumps, two water storage tanks, and 3.2 kilometers of piping from a natural spring to the hospital. Water spigots were strategically placed along the way so that nearby villages can also access the pure water. A formal commissioning ceremony for the hospital took place on July 27 with participation by U.S. Ambassador Jimmy Kolker, a USAID representative, and First Lady Janet Museveni of Uganda.

Founded by Retired Episcopal Bishop Alden Hathaway in 1997, Solar Light for Africa, Ltd. is a not-for-profit collaboration between U.S. and African churches, non-governmental organizations, and governments to provide light and energy sources for rural Africa using the natural power of the sun. SLA has been selected as a project of the U.S. Department of Energy's Initiative on Joint Implementation (USIJI), as a participant of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. For more information, please visit www.solarlightforafrica.org or call 202-232-7490.

Sharing Denominational and Interfaith Resources

Many MiIPL Newsletter readers are aware there are a number of denominational and interfaith organizations concerned with the environment, and you may be active in their work. If you are not familiar with these groups, here are some Web sites that may be of interest:

- Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life at <http://www.coejl.org/>
- Evangelical Environmental Network at <http://www.creationcare.org/>
- Interfaith Power & Light/The Regeneration Project at <http://www.theregenerationproject.org/ipl/>
- National Council of Churches of Christ at <http://www.webofcreation.org/ncc/index.html> - National Religious Partnership for the Environment at <http://www.nrpe.org/>
- U.S. Catholic Conference at <http://www.nccbuscc.org/sdwp/ejp/index.htm>

MiIPL ENERGY STAR Aggregation Program for Congregations...

How It Works... Through a grant from the Michigan Energy Office, the Small Business Association of Michigan operates a state-wide Michigan ENERGY STAR Promotion and Aggregation Program. The Congregations part of the program is operated as a partnership between SBAM, Urban Options (Primary Support Contractor) and the Michigan Interfaith Power and Light (MiIPL). The following outlines the terms under which Congregation Clients can receive FREE assistance from MiIPL designed to lowering their energy costs through the expedited, facilitated and discounted purchase of energy efficient (ENERGY STAR rated) products:

MiIPL	Congregation Client
<p>Step One – A MiIPL representative meets with the congregation client and presents an overview of the Michigan ENERGY STAR Promotion and the Client Scope of Understanding.</p>	<p>Congregation Clients arrange for the MiIPL representative to meet with their facility staff, receive the presentation and review this Scope of Understanding. Clients are asked to form Earth Care Teams¹ that will house the ENERGY STAR project and related activity.</p>
<p>Step Two – MiIPL arranges for a FREE ENERGY STAR Assessment of the Congregation Clients facility(s) from a qualified ENERGY STAR Promotion and Aggregation Program Energy Auditor. The ENERGY STAR Assessment will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be an OBJECTIVE assessment of how the congregation can save energy and money by using energy efficient (ENERGY STAR rated) products. • Generate a prioritized list of ENERGY STAR product opportunities for the facilities (prioritized based on payback - i.e., how long it will take for the energy savings to pay for the product purchase) • Use the appropriate ENERGY STAR Audit Guide for the type of facility being audited (e.g., “ENERGY STAR Guide for Congregations”). 	<p>The Congregation Clients arranges for the visitation of the facility by the ENERGY STAR Energy Auditor and ensure access to the facility, facility managers and necessary records and documentation on the energy usage by the facility.</p>
<p>Step Three – The ENERGY STAR Energy Auditor meets with the MiIPL representative and the Congregation Client Earth Care Team members to present the results of the Audit and a PLAN for how the next steps in the process should be implemented. (For example, the full implementation of the Audit Results may take several years, with the savings from the purchase of a product being used to offset the purchase price of the next product).</p>	<p>The Congregation Client, and their Earth Care Team members, should anticipate the Energy Auditor will recommend the purchase of specific ENERGY STAR rated products. Accordingly, it is expected that the Client will make sure that the necessary decision makers are present at this meeting (facility managers, budget Director, Purchasing manager, etc.).</p>
<p>Step Four – Where possible, the MiIPL Representative and Energy Auditor will provide the Congregation Clients with information on funding opportunities for the products.</p>	<p>The Congregation Client will authorize: (a) the expenditure of funds by the organization to implement the product purchase recommendations presented by the Energy Auditor; and (b) the Energy Auditor to contact appropriate product vendors.</p>
<p>Step Five – The Energy Auditor will provide the results of the Energy Assessment to pre-qualified vendors of ENERGY STAR products. These vendors will schedule a meeting at the facility and prepare a DISCOUNTED Bid. This Bid will outline the terms, price and conditions of the sale.</p>	<p>The Congregation Client will meet with the Product Vendors and decide on whether or not to accept the Bid and purchase the identified ENERGY STAR products.</p> <p>To ensure program quality, Congregation Clients will be asked to complete a quality questionnaire on the Vendor, their products and services. This questionnaire will be provided to other client as a reference and used to</p>

¹ An *EarthCare Team* is a group that takes the primary responsibility for the cultivation of creation awareness and religiously motivated environmental activities at their congregation. Typically *EarthCare Teams* are led by lay people and involves both members and employees of the congregation. *EarthCare Teams* oversee such things as energy audits, the purchase and use of energy efficient products and renewable energy technologies, recycling programs, environmental curriculums and lessons in congregation schools, environmental sermons and community programs.

	monitor and evaluate Vendor performance
Step Six – MiIPL will work with the Congregation Client to monitor energy savings and emission reductions and identify opportunities for additional savings and participation in new related programs. For example, participation in a grant funded special project. MiIPL will also work with SBAM to make available Deregulated Electricity (“Electric Choice”) to clients.	The Congregation Client will maintain an ongoing contact with the Program Sponsor.

EarthCare Teams...

Rev Charles Morris, founder and Chairperson, MiIPL, is challenging MiIPL members to form ***EarthCare Teams*** within their congregations. An ***EarthCare Team*** is a group that takes the primary responsibility for the cultivation of creation awareness and religiously motivated environmental activities at their congregation. Typically ***EarthCare Teams*** are led by lay people and involves both members and employees of the congregation.

EarthCare Teams oversee such things as energy audits, the purchase and use of energy efficient products and renewable energy technologies, recycling programs, environmental curriculums and lessons in congregation schools, environmental sermons and community programs. ***EarthCare Teams*** also join together to educate policy makers about the relationship between public policy choices and the environment

MiIPL Now Offers Green Tags

MiIPL is excited to announce that you can now help to offset global warming and help economic development among the tribes through the purchase of “green tags” through MiIPL’s collaboration with Native energy. Either for yourself or as an alternative holiday gift you can offset a ton or more of CO₂ by purchasing a green tag through Native Energy.

At the MiIPL website [www.miipl.org] go to the Native Energy link and you can have the satisfaction of reducing global warming. For more information about green tags go to www.nativeenergy.com and go the windbuilders link.

Islam and the Environment

“The Koran states that God allows human beings to enjoy everything necessary to satisfy their desires, such as food, clothing, housing, transport and every other ornament or means of enjoyment – but with balance and moderation and no excess or overuse.”

For Khamlichi, maintaining balance is also existentially important for the earth’s climate, for the earth was created as a balanced system. To counteract climate change, every individual must contribute actively to restoring and maintaining this balance. For, as he said, “each generation will only lie for an allotted time. The environment is not something that can be owned by anyone here and now. The environment and the climate belong to coming generations.”

(from a presentation by Professor Ahmed L Khamlichi, from the Royal Moroccan Palace at the November 9, 2001 World Council of Churches inter-religious colloquium at the climate summit in Marrakesh: an exchange of views between Islam and Christianity on the subject of climate change).

Prayer

...I vow to develop compassion and understandings so that I may love, protect and nurture the harmony that exists among all living things...

MiIPL Fundraising Activity - Donate Used Phones for Recycling...

ReCellular, Inc., in Dexter, Michigan, buys, sells and recycles used cell phones, pagers, printer cartridges and other handheld electronics. The company resells, and/or recycles millions of wireless products annually, providing cell phone retailers with high quality refurbished, graded, and used wireless product at an affordable price. So far ReCellular has kept over 10 million of such products out of America's landfills.

MiIPL members can donate cell phones as a tax deduction for their congregants and as a fundraising activity for members. Over 200 million used wireless handsets are taken out of service each year around the world as new cellular innovations reach the marketplace.

To Donate Phones go to: www.recellular.com.

From this website, you can:

- [Recycle your used cell phones at a local donation center.](#)
- [Start a local cell phone collection to support a national charity.](#)
- [Start a local collection program as a fundraiser for your favorite charity.](#)

Why Energy Matters: a Publication Review by Byron Kennard

The Energy Future Coalition (EFC) has devised a short manual entitled "Why Energy Matters" which outlines proposals "that can lead to broad, bipartisan agreement about our risky oil dependence, fuel economy, our dangerously brittle electric power grid, global warming and new energy technologies."

The booklet asserts that American ingenuity can lead the way for the rest of the world and create a new wave of economic growth at home. It discusses how advanced vehicles, biofuels, a modernized power system, renewable energy, and energy efficiency can provide America with clean, sustainable energy for the 21st century. Although the booklet doesn't address the pivotal role of small businesses in creating innovation and break-through technologies (two-thirds of all innovations come from small business) the booklet is a useful general guide to the energy debate. The guide can be downloaded from <http://www.whyenergymatters.org/>. This Web site also provides the opportunity to listen to experts talk about crucial energy issues, link to additional research and resources, and get recent articles and news releases. This Web site can also be accessed through <http://www.energyfuturecoalition.org/>.

The Energy Future Coalition is headed by senior aides to former presidents George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton. Members include Timothy E. Wirth, former Democratic senator from Colorado and president of the United Nations Foundation., C. Boyden Gray, former counsel to President George H.W. Bush; and John D. Podesta, White House chief of staff in the Clinton administration. The coalition has called for a one-third reduction in U.S. oil consumption and a one-third reduction in carbon dioxide emissions over the next 25 years.

Byron Kennard is Executive Director of the Center for Small Business and the Environment.



MiIPL 2003 Membership Form

Contact: Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr. Rev. Rabbi Imam Sr. Other: (_____)

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

P.O. Box _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-Mail: _____ www: _____

MiIPL is organized exclusively for the purposes of receiving and administering funds for charitable, [religious,] educational and scientific purposes as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law. Annual Dues are **\$100.00/Congregation, \$75.00/Partner, \$50.00/Individual**). Please check payment method:

- Please make ENCLOSED Checks Payable To: "MiIPL"
- Master Card Visa Discover American Express Other: _____
Card # _____ Expiration Date (mm/yy) _____

Signature: _____

Please mail completed Membership Form AND Payment to: Rev. Charles Morris, Executive Director, MiIPL, P.O. Box 4606, East Lansing, MI 48826.

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c/o Urban Options, Inc.
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