



Earth Day (April 22) is just 76 days away

How will your congregation celebrate?

Holding an Earth care-themed worship service is not only a great way to commemorate Earth Day, it's also a critical means of integrating Earth care, as a value, into a congregation's spiritual life.

This year we are holding a contest for best Earth Day Sermon & and best Earth Day Service Contest. We welcome submissions from all religious traditions!



We will share the winning materials with the Michigan IPL community on Friday, April 20, just in time for Earth Day.

[See the contest guidelines on our website. Check out sample Earth Care sermons from a panoply of religious traditions here.](#)

Send your materials to Leah Wiste at outreach@miipl.org by **Friday, April 13**.

If an Earth Day-oriented service isn't feasible for your congregation, consider other ways of commemorating. This could mean organizing a nature outing, including an environment-themed article in your newsletter, offering a blessing to your Green Team, or inviting members to sign an environment-themed letter to a lawmaker.

We look forward to hearing about your plans!



Carbon Fast for Lent

Are you a Christian looking to make a meaningful commitment this Lenten season (February 14-April 1)? Are you a non-Christian wanting to shrink your carbon footprint?

Whatever your religious persuasion, our hope is that our 2018 **Carbon Fast for Lent calendar** will support you in transforming your relationship with Earth. The calendar suggests 1 activity each day meant to help you live in greater harmony with our common home.

Signing up for the Fast helps us know how many folks are participating (and therefore the scale of our impact). If you like, you can also choose to receive weekly emails from us during the fast to support your journey.

We hope this will be an opportunity to build community-- if only in the virtual realm for now. We look forward to fasting with you!

[Sign up for the Carbon Fast](#)

[Or just download the calendar \(PDF\)](#)

Michigan IPL is proud to co-sponsor the "Just Water" conference on Saturday, April 21 in Detroit

[Advance Registration required.](#)



Just Water: A Daylong Conference on Building Better Faith-based Approaches to Storm Water Runoff

Conference Date: Saturday, April 21, 2018

Place: Hartford Memorial Baptist Church

18700 James Couzens Fwy.,

Detroit, MI 48235

Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Breakfast and lunch served

Scholarships available for the Citizens Climate International Conference and Lobby Day (June 10-12, 2018)

Free registration/transportation/stipends are available for Southeast Michigan students of color (18+) to attend this year's CCL annual event. [Application deadline: 3/31/18.](#)



Citizens' Climate Lobby

Extra Rebates Available to Congregations for LED Lighting!

The Michigan Agency for Energy is providing rebates of up to \$10,000 for non-profits-- including houses of worship-- who are upgrading to LED lighting (interior/exterior). [Learn more here.](#)



Battle of the Buildings

The Michigan Battle of the Buildings is an awards and recognition program for energy use reduction. *This year, there is a new category just for houses of worship!* [Registration deadline is March 31.](#)



Governor's Energy Excellence Awards

Nominations are now being accepted to honor Michigan organizations and individuals for their commitment to responsible energy production and consumption. [The nomination deadline is March 31.](#)



Jewish Organizing Fellowships

The Jewish Organizing Institute & Network's organizing fellowships provide a year of field experience and professional development for young Jewish adults (21-30) looking for the opportunity to turn good intention and raw talent into concrete skills and action. [Deadline is March 5.](#)

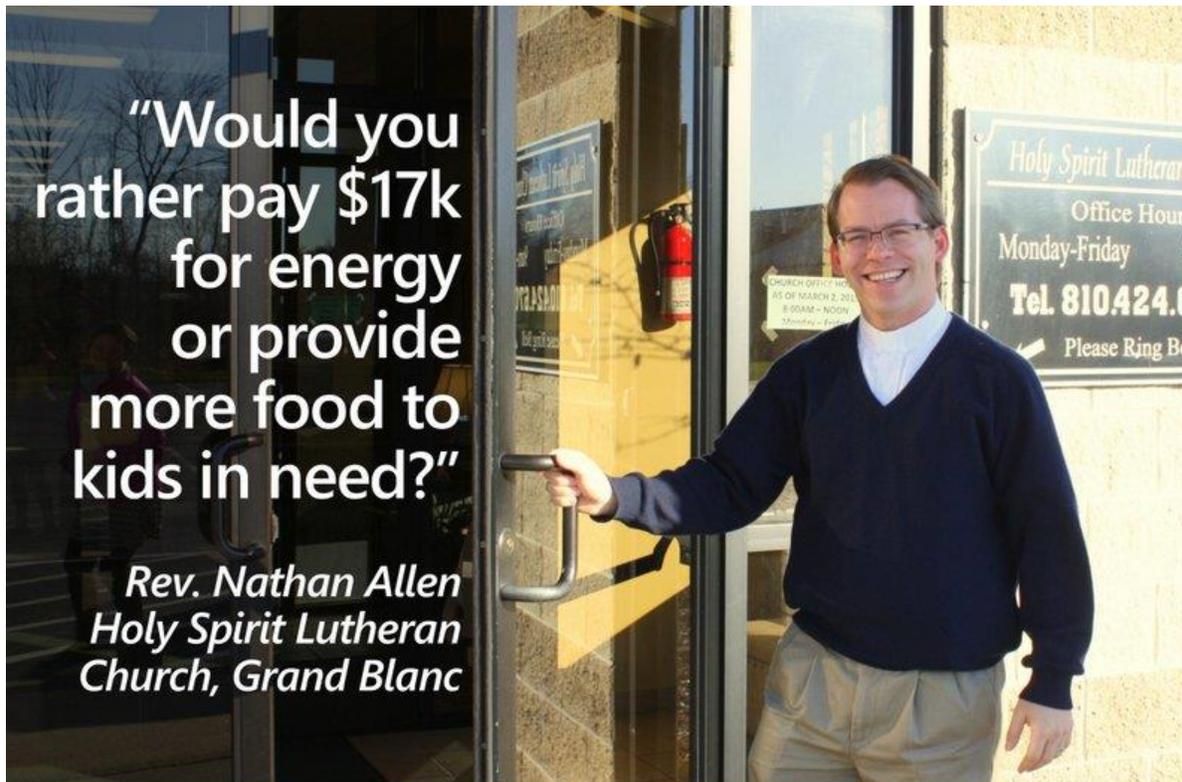


Light the Way 2018 Sign-Ups Open!

We've done A LOT in the last 3 years:

- \$400,000 worth of energy upgrades have been installed for FREE in 430 Michigan houses of worship
- 40 faith traditions and denominations have participated

[If your congregation has Consumers Energy service, sign up for Light the Way or call Jennifer for more info: 248-463-8811.](#)



"Would you rather pay \$17k for energy or provide more food to kids in need?"

*Rev. Nathan Allen
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Grand Blanc*

**More money = more mission
Sign up for Light the Way!**

The image shows a man, Rev. Nathan Allen, standing in the doorway of a church. He is wearing a dark blue sweater over a white collared shirt and khaki pants. He is smiling and has his hand on the door handle. To his right, a sign for Holy Spirit Lutheran Church is visible, listing office hours (Monday-Friday) and a telephone number (Tel. 810.424.6). A fire extinguisher is mounted on the wall inside the doorway.

Upcoming Events

2/7/18: [Interfaith Dialogue: Ask a Sikh](#), Temple Kol Ami (West Bloomfield), 7-8:30pm.

2/8/18: [Lecture + Discussion: A History of Islam in Dearborn](#), Dearborn Historical Museum, 7pm.

2/8/18: [Movie + Discussion: Catching the Sun](#), Nandi's Knowledge Cafe (Highland Park), 5-8pm.

2/10, 2/15, 2/23: Energy Smart Weatherization Series, Metro Detroit. [See](#)

[Facebook for details.](#)

2/12/18: [Interfaith Seminar on Religious Etiquette](#), Hamtramck Public Library, 5pm.

2/17/18: Workshop: Home Solar Setup, Detroit Training Center, 11am-1pm. [RSVP required.](#)

2/25/18: [Central Michigan Seed Swap](#) (including workshops, family events and vendors), Chippewa Nature Center (Midland), 11am-4pm.

3/11/18: [World Sabbath: An Interfaith Experience of Music, Dance and Prayer](#), Christ Church Cranbrook (Bloomfield Hills), 4-5:30pm

4/10/18: Presentation on Solar, Ypsilanti Food Cooperative (312 N River St, use the 308 door and go upstairs), noon-1pm. Contact Dave@Strenski.com for info.

4/11/18: [Sierra Club Citizen Lobby Day](#), Lansing, details TBD.

4/21/18: Conference: "Just Water: A Daylong Conference on Building Better Faith-Based Approaches to Storm Water Runoff," Hartford Memorial Baptist Church (Detroit), 9am-4pm. [Register here.](#)

Do you have an event other members of the Michigan IPL community might be interested in? Let us know: admin@miipl.org, 248-537-9175.

[Michigan Interfaith Power & Light](#)

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