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Connecting Faith and Sustainability

Whew! Our 10th Annual Sustainability Conference - Green & Grow Your Congregation-- is now in the rearview mirror.

We began the day with Sr. Simone Campbell, who spoke with compassionate conviction about the toxicity in our environment, the toxicity of racism and how to heal. After some great workshops and lunch, energy expert Valerie Brader gave us some good news about the affordability of renewable energy compared with conventional fuels. We were also delighted to honor and publicly recognize the



contributions of 10 sustainability champions. The Rev. Mayor George Heartwell warmed our hearts with a hopeful call to action, and we closed the day with beautiful benedictions from the Jewish, Buddhist, Sikh, Christian and Hindu faiths.

We were thrilled to see so many member congregations and friends in person and to be able to send some of them home with energy efficiency products and gift cards.

Until we meet again!

In other big news, we are excited to welcome Bob Chapman to our staff as the new Executive Director of Michigan IPL! Bob brings decades of experience doing the work of sustainability and nurturing the growth of non-profits who are guided by this mission. He is a lifelong Detroit, a member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, and the former Executive Director of EcoWorks. Stay tuned for a note from Bob in our next e-newsletter!



University of Michigan graduate student Gianna Petito, invites members of faith communities to participate in a 15-minute online survey. The survey will be used to help the Ecology Center (Ann Arbor) better link faith-based institutions with funding for building upgrades.

All survey participants will be entered to win a free energy consultation.

[Fill out the survey here.](#)

Upcoming Events

[The State Opportunities in Clean Energy](#), Detroit, 10/19

[West Michigan Sustainable Business Forum Fall Conference](#), Grand Rapids, 10/19

American Association of Blacks in Energy Networking Reception, Detroit, 10/21 (Contact Siraj Mumin, 810-278-3935, for information)

[Great Lakes Bioneers](#), Detroit, 10/23-25

[MI Advanced Lighting Conference](#), Lansing, 10/29 (Michigan IPL supporters eligible for reduced registration-- respond to this email for more info!)

Resources

Check out a list of our [free online resources](#) for congregations. From energy efficiency guides to study manuals that help faith communities engage with the spiritual dimensions of earth care.



Love Our Work?

Become a member! See our [membership benefits](#) (including discounts on energy efficiency products). Or, make a [tax deductible donation](#) in any amount.



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In 2015, Michigan's renewable energy standard will expire. [Sign up](#) to stay informed about policy and advocacy opportunities.



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