



August e-Newsletter

You guys, there's *a lot* going on in the next 2 months!

We hope to see you out there!

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Leah

Workshop: Funding Your House of Worship's Solar Project

This workshop is a follow up to our Solar 101 introductory sessions. It will focus exclusively on how to fund a solar project, including a deeper dive into:

- Case studies on congregations who have held successful solar fundraising campaigns
- Low-interest loan options for energy efficiency and solar projects
- How to benefit from the federal tax credit and finance solar by partnering with an investor



*Funding Your House of Worship's Solar Project
Tuesday, September 18, 7-8:30pm
St. Peter's Episcopal Church
1950 Trumbull (at Michigan Ave.), Detroit*

Free event. RSVPs required.

Note: All presentations from the Solar 101 Workshops are available on our [Resources page](#). We will upload the materials from this workshop after the

event.

Supported by:



To the non-Southeast Michigan folks: we're coming to you, too!

Come out to a Solar Celebration near you to hear from Michigan businesses,

homeowners, churches and others who are benefiting from solar energy.

Enjoy snacks, see solar installations, ask questions, and discuss how we can work together to expand solar access in Michigan.

[See details and RSVP for an event near you.](#)

September 16	Residence of Art Toy Lawrence, MI
September 18	Electrical Industry Training Center Warren, MI
September 20	Arcadia Brewery Kalamazoo, MI
September 30	Haslett Community Church Haslett, MI
October 2	Dow Diamond Midland, MI
October 11	West Bloomfield High School West Bloomfield Twp., MI
October 14	Berrien Unitarian Church St. Joseph, MI
TBD	Madonna University



Faith Leaders Respond to Detroit Water Shut-Offs

So far this year, an [estimated 10,000 households](#) have received water shut-off notices from the Detroit Water and Sewer Dept. Given that Detroit has already experienced [twice as](#)

[many 90-degree days](#) as normal this summer, water shut-offs are especially brutal and dangerous.

Local faith leaders are speaking out about this violation of human rights.

Here is an update from Rev. Cass Charrette, member of the People's Water Board Faith Action Committee:

The response from faith leaders across the state, calling for an end to the water shut-offs in Detroit and implementation of a water affordability plan, has been overwhelming. Over 200 leaders have signed on. We have increased our goal to 300.

There is still time to add your name!

As a compassionate faith leader, we know you will want to sign this historic declaration to address the immoral act of shutting off water to those who are in hardship. There is an urgency to this situation on behalf of the thousands of people living without water.

[Sign the letter here.](#)

Important: For those who signed on prior to a request for contact information, we need your contact information. Please take a moment to go into the document and add your email.

Other ways you can support this effort:

1. Share the letter. Forward the link above to faith leaders you know and ask them to sign.
2. The People's Water Board is looking for stories of people impacted by water shut-offs. If you know of persons, please contact:
 1. Rev. Ed Rowe: whereisthepastor@yahoo.com, 313-268-0068
 2. Rev. Cass Charrette: casscharrette@gmail.com, 248-980-1911

Finally, the People's Water Board is planning a press conference led by the faith community for the end of the September. Stay tuned for details.

Peoples Climate Movement Upcoming Events Across MI

In recent years, Michigan communities have faced enormous environmental injustices, and Flint continues to be an epicenter. On top of it all, our top leaders have launched unprecedented environmental attacks, rolling back hard-won air and water protections and trampling on the rights of frontline communities.



The good news? We're ready to take action, hit the streets, and fight back. And in less than two months, we get to go to the polls.

It's time to get revved up. Come on out to an event near you!

August 25	<u>It Takes a Village Youth Festival</u> River Rouge Memorial Park
September 1	<u>Pipe Out Paddle Protest & Water is Life Festival</u> Mackinaw City
September 8	<u>Michigan Environmental Justice Coalition Summit</u> Flint
September 8	<u>RISE for Climate, Jobs, and Justice Cultural Event</u> Flint
September 8	<u>Marquette Climate March</u>

October 6

Caring for Creation Festival Marquette



What would your congregation do with \$2,000?

Victorious Believers Ministries Church of God in Christ (Saginaw) earned \$2,000 cash through House of Worship Rewards. Be like Victorious Believers!

Here's how it works:

1. Your congregation hosts an energy efficiency workshop (led and sponsored by Consumers Energy).
2. You encourage congregants and friends to schedule their free home energy analysis with Consumers Energy.
3. Based on the number of referrals, your congregation earns up to \$2,000!

[Sign up for House of Worship Rewards.](#)

Free Energy Audits for Grand Rapids Houses of Worship



GR2030 ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Grand Rapids 2030 District is providing a unique opportunity for small business, non-profits, houses of worship, multi-family & educational institutions to lower their monthly utility costs.

APPLY NOW!

This program will provide a FREE building audit to uncover systems and/or processes that are increasing your energy bills. A team of experts will work with you to develop a strategic plan and connect you with resources that will increase the profit from energy efficiency upgrades.

Benefits for qualified businesses include:

- FREE energy baseline/ energy benchmark of your property
- FREE customized building audit and financial analysis
- Energy savings through profitable upgrades and property value increase from lower operating costs.
- Show leadership with public acknowledgement of your participation in pilot program
- Access to special incentives that can drastically reduce the cost of new equipment.

Apply at www.2030districts.org/grandrapids to be considered for this for this program. A limited number of buildings will be accepted based on available funding.

This program is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy



Other Upcoming Events

8/26/18: [Michigan Jewish Food Festival](#), Eastern Market (Detroit), 10am-4pm.

9/18/18: [Workshop: Funding Your House of Worship's Solar Project](#), St. Peter's Church (Detroit), 7-8:30pm. Refreshments will be served and RSVPs are required.

11/2-3/18: [Great Lakes Detroit Bioneers 14th Annual Conference](#), University of Detroit Mercy.

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.