

Lindsey Sharp

From: Bob Chapman, Michigan Interfaith Power & Light <director@miipl.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 21, 2018 3:43 PM
To: Lindsey Sharp
Subject: November e-Newsletter



Friends,

**"Well it isn't for
the money and it's
only for awhile."**

In the past few years I have been to gatherings where people are encouraged to step up/step back. No, these are not dance classes practicing the two-step. The suggestion is part of the ground rules for a meeting where people who often are the first to speak are encouraged to "step back" and make space for those who are might be slower to volunteer their thoughts or to take on a leadership role. This deceptively simple ground rule reminds everyone how ingrained patterns of practice can keep new thought and leadership from bubbling up unless we actively subvert the "normal."

So at the end of November I am stepping back. I'm retiring from Michigan IPL.

I am very pleased that Leah Wiste is stepping up to the Executive Director position. As Director of Outreach and Advocacy, Leah has already forged strong relationships with many of our members and partners. She will be great. I strongly, deeply, humbly ask for your support of Leah and Michigan IPL.

And me? I want to learn how to be an elder. I'm blessed with good health. I will be an active volunteer. You may have noticed that there seems to be no end of social and environmental matters that cry out for a response (I'm

reminded of Lily Tomlin's observation years ago that "No matter how cynical you get it's never enough").

Put in a more positive way, I want to devote my time to working for the Beloved Community. Thank you for doing the same.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving!

Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob".

Bob Chapman

Celebrating 500 Congregations Caring for Creation!

Supporting congregations in becoming better stewards of the Earth has always been a cornerstone of Michigan IPL's work.

So we're proud to let you know that we've just passed a milestone-- **we've helped more than 500 congregations cut their energy waste since 2015!**



As you may know, we're currently a small staff of 4 part-timers. So we're really proud to have achieved this level of reach and impact around the state.

We've connected these churches, mosques, synagogues, and temples with [no cost energy upgrades](#) through utility programs, we've helped congregations [earn cash rewards](#) by promoting energy efficiency, and lately we've been helping congregations take the next step of [pursuing renewable energy](#).

Our Light the Way energy efficiency program is now closed for 2018. But you can **learn more and sign up for 2019 [on our website](#)**.

Lame Duck Lobby Day: Tuesday 11/27, 8am-1pm

Remember that time when Michiganders voted in favor of a ballot proposal, and then our lawmakers promptly passed legislation to overturn the will of the people? It's happened a few times, actually.

That's the kind of crazy, anti-democratic stuff that happens during Lame Duck-- the period between the election and the beginning of the new legislative year.

There's a lot at stake this Lame Duck session, including the future of Line 5. We need your help! **Come on out to the [Oil & Water Don't Mix coalition's Lame Duck Lobby Day on Tuesday, 11/27!](#)**



The issue: [Legislation](#) has been introduced that would pave the way for a tunnel to be built under the Straits of Mackinac for Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline. Under the legislation, the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) would take ownership of the tunnel.

The problems with the legislation:

1. The legislation puts the MBA-- a council appointed by our pro-Enbridge Governor-- in charge of decisions about Line 5. This unelected body is not accountable to the public.
2. The bill would grease the skids for a quick decision about the tunnel before Gretchen Whitmer, who has promised to shut down Line 5, takes office.
3. It would guarantee that the Line 5 pipeline keeps operating in the Straits for at least 10 more years.

Folks, [we have 12 years](#) to make dramatic changes in the way we generate and use energy. And the eventual rupture of Line 5 is a disaster for the Great Lakes just waiting to happen. We hope to see you in Lansing on Tuesday!

P.S.: If you've never lobbied before, this is a great time to start. There will be a training call on Monday 11/26 and a brief session the morning of 11/27 to get you up to speed, and your appointments will be scheduled for you. Register for details.

RSVP for the 11/27 Lobby Day.

Join the bus picking up in Traverse City and Grayling.

Climate Justice Teach-in: 1/21/19, 4-8pm

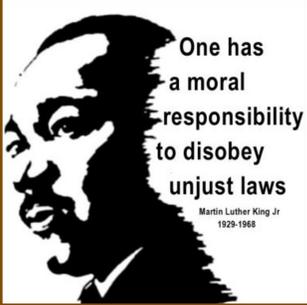
How does our power system work? And who does it work for? How can us regular folks-- those of us who don't know all the technical details-- have a say in shaping the future of our energy system and climate?

This Martin Luther King Day, we are helping organize a Climate Justice Teach-In at the Cass Commons (UU Church) in Detroit. Save The Date!

Why is this important now?

- DTE has filed to raise residential rates by more than 20% by 2022. This will be a huge hit to those already experiencing energy poverty and shut-offs.
- Utilities want to compensate homeowners, businesses and churches LESS for the solar energy they generate and contribute to the grid. (This would kill rooftop solar in Michigan.)
- The way we are managing energy and climate right now isn't sustainable-- and it's urgent that we work together to shape a better, more just future.

Save the Date
Jan 21, 4-8pm
MLK DAY
Climate Justice Teach in
@ the Cass Commons
4605 Cass Ave.
Just transition to Save Our
Planet and Our Selves



One has
a moral
responsibility
to disobey
unjust laws
Martin Luther King Jr
1929-1968

More details forthcoming!

Free Energy Upgrades for Congregations with SEMCO gas

SEMCO ENERGY Gas Company is now offering religious institutions free smart thermostats, designed to help you easily save energy and increase comfort in your building.

Each participating house of worship will receive up to 10 [ecobee3 smart thermostats](#) for FREE (a \$199 value for each), depending on the facility's needs. The energy advisor will install and program the smart thermostats according to your building's occupancy and will teach you how to adjust the settings from your smart phone or computer.

How it works:

- Smart thermostats will be installed in your building
- Keep the settings as is or adjust them from anywhere using your smart phone

Value: up to \$2,000

Cost to the congregation: \$0



As an additional benefit, your building's energy usage will be monitored for a year, so you'll see exactly how much your congregation is saving.

Cutting energy waste is a great way for congregations to put their faith into action—to become better stewards of God's Creation, while also being better stewards of their own financial resources.

To sign-up, contact Roger Wiseley at (517) 375-9899 or roger.wiseley@clearresult.com.

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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