



green light

The quasi-quarterly newsletter of Georgia Interfaith
Power and Light.

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Announcements

Green Vacation Bible School Curriculum

The Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta is putting together a fantastic Green VBS Curriculum and they are generous enough to want to share it with you! The curriculum will include all manner of projects and lots of other exciting ideas. The curriculum is free and you can get it by emailing us at info@gipl.org.

Bulletin/Newsletter Inserts

We know there are congregations out there who dutifully add a Creation Care themed insert into their bulletin/newsletter every month. We are collecting your inserts so that we can share them with other congregations. Send them to our Email at info@gipl.org

Dear GIPL Supporter,

We could not be more excited about Spring! Flowers are blooming, everything seems new. Also new, the layout of our newsletter. The left column is filled with fantastic GIPL Announcements. In the right column you will find events. In the middle keep reading for a run down of what happened at this years GIPPY's. Also, if you are having an Earth Day Event please let us know. We are compiling a list of participating congregations and organizations. Email us at info@gipl.org to send in your event.

2008 GIPL Awards

The GIPPY'S

The GIPPYs were a huge success!!! Angela Speir-Phelps gave an inspiring keynote address and call to action, and Antioch Baptist Church North was honored for their work in initiating the low-income light-bulb swap program that has now replicated by several other congregations. And then the time came for the GIPPYs themselves, as we honored several congregations who have shown initiative and creativity in incorporating creation care into the life of their congregations. See pictures and a few creative highlights from the winning congregations below. Maybe next year your congregation can win a coveted GIPPY.



Congregation of the Year

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church

This year Glenn Memorial implemented a recycling program, recycling aluminum, paper, plastic, glass and cardboard, and distributing bins throughout the buildings. Glenn's kitchen switched over to compostable take-home containers, plates, and cups. Glenn has hosted several Environmental-themed Wednesday Night Suppers. Every Sunday, some member's bike and volunteer drivers pick up a

Events Page

There are lots of great Earth Day and Related events on our events page. Click on the calendar to check them out!



Click the calendar to see a list of upcoming events!

Spotlight Event

Clean Energy, Green Economy Town Hall

With Congressman Hank Johnson
Thursday, April 16 7-8:30 p. m. Decatur Public Library Auditorium
215 Sycamore St Decatur,

Join us for a discussion about a cooler, cleaner and cheaper energy future for Georgia with Congressman Johnson and leaders in energy efficiency and renewable power. Learn how you and your community can support cleaner energy and a greener economy!

For Questions and to RSVP

Caring For Your Creation Care Team

(thank Willa for the Title) Have you ever wondered why you are the only one at the meeting or where your momentum went? Borrowing heavily (or completely), from the curriculum already developed by Rev. Cynthia Hizer at Epiphany Episcopal, we put together a curriculum for you to care for your creation team. It's a radical shift from a normal committee, but to keep your committee active and sane, this may just be what it takes. Email us at info@gipl.org for details.

Volunteers Needed

GIPL is having a booth at the SweetWater 420 Fest on April 18th & 19th. We need your help to staff the booth. If you have a two or one hour window free Saturday or Sunday let us know! To volunteer Email us at info@gipl.org

busload of people from Wesley Woods and Clairmont Place. Vacation Bible School (VBS) kids fundraised over \$2500 to match a church donation for a Heifer International Ark and in preparation for VBS, members constructed a recycled materials ark (mostly plastic bottles). Members also participated in April and November Step It Up events, calling on Congress to pass legislation to reduce carbon emissions 80% by 2050. The church also dedicated a new chalice and paten which were created from an old oak tree on their property that was removed due to Emory construction. On Sunday, October 26th, Glenn held a Green Sunday worship service called "Festival of God's Creation". As part of the Festival of God's Creation, Glenn held a festival of booths out on the lawn.



The Power Award
Temple Sinai

The biggest project for Temple Sinai was their first annual Earth Festival. Timed to coincide with the holiday of Tu BiSh'vat, the Jewish New Year for Trees. It was a packed house with a diverse program for kids and adults. The festival offered informational vendors and green merchants, workshops on living green, themed musical and puppet show entertainment, environmentally friendly kids' crafts, an electronics recycling program and an organic luncheon.



The Light Award
Haygood Memorial United
Methodist Church

Haygood has been very active and we would like to highlight one of their events. The Green Team and Youth Ministries hosted an outside viewing of the movie **Sacred Planet** in September 2008. There were over 40 people in attendance. The Youth also sold "I Care Bags" during the event as a. They are planning to hold "Green on the Screen" quarterly to continue to increase awareness about earth stewardship and the need for individuals to take action in their homes.

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The Trailblazer Award
Northwest Unitarian
Universalist Congregation
of Atlanta



Most impressively, this year they began a campaign to install a rooftop photo voltaic array. Over the course of the year, they planned the array, met with contractors and received bids, then raised more than \$30,000 for this project. The first of five rooftop solar panels of this solar array were actually installed in January 2009. Northwest Unitarian Universalist Congregation is the first house of worship in Georgia to actually install a photovoltaic array.

We celebrate the work of these and all of our partner congregations. Keep working and maybe next your congregation can win a GIPPY.

Sincerely,

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