



## **A Brief History of the “Power and Light” Movement**

In 1997 Rev. Sally Bingham and Rev. Steve McAusland founded Episcopal Power and Light with the goal of making the Episcopal Church emission free.

They persuaded 17 California churches to install solar panels and 61 churches to switch to a renewable power company.

Episcopal Power and Light became California Interfaith Power and Light, and enlarged sponsorship to include Catholics, Muslims, Jews, Lutherans.

There are now twenty-one states, including Georgia, with “Power and Light” movements. Each state works differently, depending on the local situation. For example the Maine groups acts as a licensed aggregator, putting customers together with green power suppliers. The Tennessee group encourages people to sign up for TVA’s Green Power Switch program. The Pennsylvania group offers environmental audits, curriculum materials and green power purchasing guidance.

Here in Georgia, we are working with churches to perform energy audits of congregational space, promote education about energy conservation, and provide compact fluorescent bulbs to congregations and individuals to help cut energy usage.

We will evolve with your help, responding to our faith traditions and the conditions in Georgia.