

**Green Team Coaching
Memorandum of Understanding**

This Memorandum of Understanding (the “MOU”) made as of ___ day of ___ (the “Execution Date”),

Between:

Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL), 701 S. Columbia Dr. Decatur, GA 30030; and _____

(Congregation Name; Green Team Name; and address): _____

Contact Person/Green Team Lead (please identify the person(s) who will serve as the principal liaison(s) for the Green Team):

Contact Name and Email

Background:

- A. GIPL was founded in 2003 and incorporated in 2009 as a Georgia non-profit organization that engages communities of faith in the stewardship of creation and faithful environmental action. As an extension of this mission, GIPL offers Green Team Coaching, a program to help establish and support new Green Teams in congregations and religious schools. GIPL and the congregation wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support through this program.

- B. _____ (Name of Congregation) wishes to enter into this relationship with GIPL in order to receive support and guidance for its Green Team and larger congregational sustainability efforts. To achieve this purpose, this congregation and GIPL wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.

Understanding of the Parties

GIPL will enter a cooperative relationship with _____
(Congregation) with the following understandings and commitments:

- A. GIPL will provide a staff member to serve as a committed Green Team Coach for the congregation for a 12-month period. After this timeframe, GIPL will continue to provide support and resources to the congregation's Green Team as needed but the Green Team will not have dedicated GIPL coach.
- B. The Green Team Coach will attend one in-person meeting every three months, and will otherwise be available through email or phone as needed. The Green Team Coach may attend more than one meeting every three months as available.
- C. The Green Team Coach will commit to following up with the Green Team Leader of this congregation at least once a month to receive updates and provide support. The Green Team Coach may initiate follow up correspondence more often as available.
- D. The Green Team Coach will assist the Green Team in developing fundraising plans, sustainability policies, events, educational series, and other programs appropriate for the congregation's context and sustainability goals.
- E. The Green Team Coach will commit to being present and assisting with at least one of the congregation's sustainability events.
- F. The Green Team Coach will be available to speak to members of other committees, Deacons, Board of Directors, congregational clergy/staff, etc. in support of the congregation's Green Team and to explain the details and purpose of their given initiatives (i.e. explaining the Power Wise audit, or financing options for solar, etc.).
- G. The Green Team Coach will be readily accessible to all members of the Green Team and congregational clergy/staff as they have questions or need support for their initiatives.

_____ will enter into this agreement and commit to the following:

- A. The Green Team will commit to recruiting and maintaining a membership of no less than 3 individuals (that are non-staff members).
- B. The Green Team will hold at least one regularly scheduled meeting every two months, and will record and distribute meeting minutes to all members, the Green Team Coach, and pastoral staff (as appropriate). Additionally, The Green Team should consider more frequent meetings if there is an upcoming event, or planning heavy program/initiative.
- C. The Green Team will commit to consistent and transparent communication with its members, congregational staff, GIPL Green Team Coach, and additional GIPL staff as appropriate. As challenges arise, the Green Team Leader should communicate to GIPL and their Green Team Coach as soon as possible.
- D. The Green Team will develop a mission statement and a strategic plan for its operation.
- E. The Green Team will host at least two events over the 12 month period. One event should be educational in nature (panel, speaker, documentary, etc.) and the other should be action oriented (clean up day, lobby day, etc.).
- F. In addition to these two events, the Green Team will seek to incorporate environmental sustainability and eco-theology into the religious education of the congregation. This could be in the form of a joint Sunday school program, an appropriate book study, GIPL's Creation Wise module, etc.
- G. The Green Team will develop a fundraising strategy and attempt to secure funds for the Green Team to embark on projects and contribute to energy efficiency measures pursued by the congregation.

- H. If appropriate, the Green Team will initiate conversations with the pastoral staff and congregational leaders to participate in GIPL's Power Wise program. Subsequently, the Green Team will prepare a grant proposal for funding to implement at least one of the ECMs in the audit report.
- I. The Green Team will participate/design at least one worship service dedicated to environmental sustainability as an aspect of faith. Ideally this would be done in conjunction with the pastoral staff. If only one service is possible, the Green Team might consider aligning it with Earth Day/Earth Week in April.
- J. The Green Team is encouraged to develop a contextualized sustainability policy for the congregation, including, but not limited to, appropriate guidelines for events, catering, and recycling.
- K. The Green Team will commit to creatively exploring ways to engage the congregation and the community in sustainability efforts, conversations about environmental justice, and avenues for faithful environmental action. These efforts should be contextualized to the congregation, and the Green Team should commit to challenging themselves to going beyond the measurable listed here.

Signed: _____

Rev. Kate McGregor Mosley, GIPL Executive Director

Signed: _____

Codi Norred, Associate for Programs & Policy and Green Team Coach

Signed: _____

Green Team Leader(s) & Print Name

Signed: _____

Supervising Staff/Clergy of the Congregation