

## How do I get started?

Contact Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light (info@WisconsinIPL.org or 608-837-3108) to find out when and where the next Cool Congregations Training will be offered.



If you would like to have a Cool Congregations Training held nearer to you, ask WIPL how you can help plan and promote an event for congregations in your area.

Form a “Cool Congregations Team” for your congregation – invite your faith leader and other members to attend the workshop with you.

My dear friends, God's creation is one and it is good. The concerns for nonviolence, sustainable development, justice and peace, and care for our environment are of vital importance for humanity.

—Pope Benedict XVI



## Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light

[www.WisconsinIPL.org](http://www.WisconsinIPL.org)

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The mission of

### Wisconsin Interfaith Power and Light

is to inform, train, and activate people of all faiths and faith communities to take concrete steps in response to global warming through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency and renewable energy in order to protect Earth's ecosystems, safeguard public health, and ensure just, sufficient and sustainable energy for all.

## Become a Friend of Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light!

Join online at:

[www.WisconsinIPL.org/join.htm](http://www.WisconsinIPL.org/join.htm)



## Cool Congregations

Help members of your congregation care for creation and save money, too!

*“Cool Congregations is a beautiful way to use your passion and reason to change your own life and help others change theirs in big and small ways that may better the health of your children's children.”*

— Kate Dunning, CC Participant

Cool Congregations is a program of



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or go to [www.WisconsinIPL.org](http://www.WisconsinIPL.org)



# Cool Congregations

People of faith across Wisconsin are caring for the earth by reducing the causes of climate change in their own homes and saving money in the process. The Cool Congregations stewardship program will provide you with the tools you need to make a difference in your home, congregation, and community.

This program brings hope and renewal to your community and contributes to global poverty solutions, for the poor of the world are suffering the most from climate change.

**Be a good steward of the earth.  
Be a Cool Congregation!**

Participating households:

- Invest in energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Save money on bills
- Prevent climate change pollution

Participants accomplish this by attending a series of small groups led by a trained leader to:

- Measure their carbon footprint
- Explore ways to reduce their footprint
- Make a faith-based pledge to reduce their footprint
- Meet to celebrate their successes and build community!

**“We pray, therefore, for the creativity and dedication to live more gently with the earth.”**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## Training Workshop

Learn how to conduct a Cool Congregations program in your congregation by sending a team of two or three or more to a training workshop.

These informative and entertaining workshops (yes, we do have a few laughs along the way) include time to network and plan. During those three hours, we will address:

- What’s a Cool Congregations program?
- ABCs of climate change
- Why we care about this in our congregation: The religious response to climate change
- Measure your own carbon footprint and find ways to reduce it
- How to organize a Cool Congregations program

Training includes:

- Cool Congregations Manual
- Resource CD
- Cool Congregations Carbon Calculator

**“O Children of Adam! Wear your beautiful apparel at every time and place of prayer: eat and drink: but waste not by excess, for God loveth not the wasters”**

The Qur’an, 7:31

## Success Stories



**Ann and Barry** are just one of the many success stories of Cool Congregations. They reduced their carbon footprint by 10%, saving them \$100 a month on utility bills. To do so, Ann and Barry only invested \$12 dollars!

This is how they did it:

- ⇒ Changed 5 light bulbs to compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLS and turned off lights when not in use
- ⇒ Turned AC up 2 degrees and closed off rooms not in use
- ⇒ Washed clothes in cold water, not hot
- ⇒ Line-dried 5 of the 14 loads of laundry they do each week

**You can do it too!**

**“Do not corrupt or desolate my world; for if you do, there will be no one to repair it after you.”**

Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13