



IOWA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT



The mission of Iowa Interfaith Power & Light is to engage and equip people of faith to become leaders in addressing the environmental and social justice consequences of climate change. We inspire Iowa's faith communities to embrace environmental stewardship as central to their religious convictions. We work together as people of faith to address climate change and lead by example in reducing our individual and collective carbon footprints for the benefit of present and future generations.

Iowa Interfaith Power & Light (Iowa IPL) engages and equips people of faith to become leaders in addressing the environmental and social justice consequences of climate change. Since our launch in October 2006, we have worked with more than 300 congregations state-wide and have developed a monthly e-newsletter mailing list of more than 1,800 individuals.

Iowa IPL is a joint response of Christian, Jewish, Muslim and other faith communities to global climate change. We work to protect creation and safeguard society's most vulnerable by providing education about global climate change, helping individuals and congregations reduce their carbon footprints, and advocating for sustainable energy policies.

Iowa IPL currently has twelve board members representing six different faith traditions. Our board works tirelessly to spread the word about Iowa IPL throughout the state and to give support to our various programs and mission.

Iowa IPL has received national recognition for our *Cool Congregations* program, which inspires and educates religious communities to be faithful stewards of Earth. It helps people reduce their energy use and save money in the process.

Our second signature program is *Food • Faith • Climate: Connecting the Dots*. This program provides education on how our "foodprint" practices contribute to climate change and explores how our faith traditions call us to respond with practical solutions.

Another significant piece of our work is advocacy. In April 2013 we released "A Statement by Religious Leaders in Iowa on the Moral Impacts of Coal," which was signed by 52 clergy and other faith leaders from around the state. Iowa IPL also is working alongside other organizations to coordinate a Midwest campaign focused on supporting the EPA's carbon pollution safeguards for new and existing power plants.

Iowa IPL Quick Facts

PURPOSE

Mobilizing the religious community to address global climate change

LOCATION

Office in Des Moines (serving the whole state of Iowa)

FOUNDED IN 2006

One of 40 affiliates of National Interfaith Power & Light

STAFF

Rev. Susan Guy, *Executive Director*
Sarah Webb, *Program and Outreach Coordinator*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Jim Martin-Schramm, *President*
Barbra Jotzke-Torrier, *Vice President*
Andi Lewis, *Secretary*
Linda Farkas, *Treasurer*
Bill Cox
Bill Ferrel
Dr. Gereon Kopf
Robert Mulqueen
Allison Steuterman
Michelle Stewart
Wendy VanDeWalle
Rev. Britt Vickstrom

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Cool Congregations

Cool Congregations is a program for people of faith across Iowa to reduce climate change in our own homes. This Iowa IPL program has garnered national recognition for inspiring and educating people to be faithful stewards of Earth. We encourage action by teaching participants about simple ways to conserve energy, be more energy efficient, and utilize renewable energy.

As a participant, you will attend a series of small groups by a trained leader to measure your carbon footprint, explore ways to reduce your footprint, make a faith-based pledge to reduce your footprint, and meet to celebrate your successes and build community. Together, these steps help you save money while reducing climate change. So far we have succeeded in facilitating about 30 workshops and have trained representatives from more than 250 Iowa congregations!

The Barclay family in Decorah is a Cool Congregations success story. Inspired by one of our workshops, the family pledged to cut their energy use, encourage elected representatives to take action, and work with their church to educate members. Today, the Barclays have cut their home heating fuel use by 31% and electricity use by 15%, saving \$524 in one year and preventing the release of 7,500 pounds of carbon dioxide!



“We each need to be responsible for our impact on the world, and we can’t just wait for governments to act. It is up to us as individuals, churches, businesses, and organizations to take climate change seriously and work hard at reducing the impact we have on the rest of the world.”

—Connie Barclay, Decorah



Food • Faith • Climate: Connecting the Dots is Iowa IPL’s newest program. It provides education on how our “foodprint”—or the carbon emissions resulting from our food practices—contributes to climate change. It also explores how our faith traditions call us to respond with practical solutions.

This program helps us consider the impact our food choices have on the environment. *How was my food produced? How was it packaged? How was it processed?* These are important questions, because as much as one third of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions are connected to our food choices!

This 90-minute workshop focuses on solutions to the climate crisis that can be found at the end of our fork. As a participant, you will examine your household’s food practices and create a plan to make more climate-friendly choices.

Become a Supporter!

Individual Levels:

Founder:	\$10,000 and up
Benefactor:	\$5,000–\$9,999
Patron:	\$2,500–\$4,999
Champion:	\$1,000–\$2,499
Protector:	\$500–\$999
Guardian:	\$250–\$499
Advocate:	\$100–\$249
Friend:	\$50–\$99
Associate:	Up to \$49

Congregational and Organizational Levels:

Leadership Member:	\$1,000 and up
Sustaining Member:	\$500–\$999
Supporting Member:	\$250–\$499
Sponsoring Member:	\$100–\$249
Associate Member:	\$50–\$99