

VERMONT INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT (VTIPL) works to educate Vermont's faith/spiritual communities about the climate crisis and the threat it presents to our planet. VTIPL's goal is to move congregations toward responsible stewardship of Earth by reducing greenhouse gas emissions through personal and community action. VTIPL helps people take action in their houses of worship, homes, and workplaces to conserve energy, use it efficiently, and increase use of renewable energy.

The Katy Gerke Memorial Program was established in 2014 by Dr. Paul Gerke to honor the memory of his wife, Dr. Katherine Flowers Gerke, who died in July 2013.

For more information, please contact Betsy Hardy at the VTIPL office by calling 802-434-3397 or email: [info@vtipl.org](mailto:info@vtipl.org)

Examples of work done with KGMP matching grants include:

Mercy Farm, Benson- air sealing and insulating attic and basement of the main house and attic of the worship center.

Burlington Monthly Meeting of Friends- insulating Bassett House attic.

Ascension Lutheran Church, South Burlington- energy audit of church.

St. John's Episcopal Church, Randolph- energy audit of Rectory.

United Church of Underhill Parsonage- insulating attic floor, basement walls and another wall, and installing efficient windows.

Comment from the United Church of Underhill: the pastor and his family's comfort level was improved dramatically, "No more moving curtains and no more need for cozy blankets in the living room."

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## Katy Gerke Memorial Program

### *Matching Grants for Energy Efficiency*



## Vermont Interfaith Power and Light

## **Outline of The Katy Gerke Memorial Grant Program**

Katy Gerke Memorial Program (KGMP) grants are to be used to improve the energy efficiency of Christian churches in Vermont and twelve towns in the Upper Valley of the Connecticut River in New Hampshire.\*

KGMP is a challenge grant program: Congregations are to provide a minimum of 50% of project funds. The total annual disbursement of KGMP funds will usually not exceed \$20,000.

Two types of grants are available through this program:

- Grants for energy audits of church-owned buildings.
- Grants to implement energy efficiency improvements identified by energy audits.

Congregations awarded grants must agree to monitor and report to VTIPL, for a period of at least two years, changes in energy use following completion of the efficiency projects.

### **Grant Application Process**

- Applications for grants may be submitted at any time, but VTIPL will disperse no more than \$20,000 in grants annually (unless there are carryover funds from the previous year).
- Congregations must own the property intended for energy audits and efficiency improvements or obtain the property owner's approval for the efficiency improvements.
- Katy Gerke Memorial Program (KGMP) grant applications are available on VTIPL's website: [www.vtipl.org](http://www.vtipl.org)

### **Grants for Energy Audits**

- Applications must identify the individual or organization selected to perform the audit. (VTIPL may identify qualified energy auditors; congregations decide who will do the work.)
- The resulting energy audit must include estimated costs and energy savings for efficiency improvements identified in the audit. The methodology used to estimate energy savings must also be identified.

\*Bath, Charleston, Claremont, Cornish, Hanover, Haverhill, Lebanon, Lyme, New London, Oxford, Piermont, and Plainfield

## **Grants to Implement Energy Efficiency Improvements**

- Improvements to be funded must be identified along with their associated costs and energy savings quantified by an energy audit completed within the prior two years. (The audit must meet the conditions described previously, e.g. energy savings methodology identified.)
- The contractor or organization chosen by the congregation to implement the efficiency improvements should be selected on the basis of a competitive bid process. And, the contractor's proposal, including costs, material and work specifications, must be included with the application.
- The work and materials used in this project must be in compliance with all applicable laws, codes, regulations, rules, standards, and manufacturer's instructions.

### **Grant Review Process**

- VTIPL's Board of Directors will review and decide what funds will be awarded based on advice from expert advisors and the recommendations of a subcommittee of VTIPL's Board which will examine each grant proposal in detail.
- Applications to implement efficiency improvements will be prioritized on the basis of energy savings and carbon emissions reductions per grant dollar.

### **Grant Follow-up Process**

- Congregations awarded grants for energy efficiency improvements will report their energy use to VTIPL for at least two years following the grant award.
- Following completion of projects, congregations will provide VTIPL with an evaluation of the grant process as a way to identify possible improvements.