



Vermont Interfaith Power & Light
A faith-based response to global warming



Dear VTIPL Community,

This week, we're bringing you a peek inside our inaugural **Annual Report to Our Community**. This is a way to share a more in-depth look at the work we've done over the last year, with deep thanks for your support and participation. Without you, none of this work would be possible!

You can read and download the full report on [the homepage of our website](#).

We have even more in store for the year ahead as we work to expand our programming, impact, and partnerships, and as together we strive for ecological, social, and racial justice and equality in our beautiful state.

In this season of giving, please consider an end-of-year gift to VTIPL in support of this work.

Thank you!

The VTIPL Team

Please Support VT IPL!

You can donate online via the button above, or via check to:

Vermont Interfaith Power & Light

P.O.Box 3095, Burlington, VT 05408



Climate change in Vermont and beyond calls on us as spiritual leaders and people of faith to reaffirm our commitment to caring for our shared home.

Vermont Interfaith Power & Light empowers and inspires individuals and communities of faith to act, advocate, and care for our sacred Earth.

You can read & download the Annual Report on the homepage of our website

[Donate Now!](#)

DEAR COMMUNITY:



Ron McGarvey
President, VT IPL

*(Pictured here with his family;
Ron is on the left.)*

Dear VT IPL Community,

Thank you for your support and your actions to address our climate crisis. 2025 has been a difficult year, but despite Federal and State attempts to repeal and to reverse climate legislation, you and VT IPL have continued to live our faith through our actions to address the climate crisis.

Our Faith Climate Action Day in Montpelier, our educational webinars, our eco-spiritual events, and our Climate Action Grants have enabled VT IPL to continue its role as a catalyst for a faith-based response to climate change.

Looking ahead, we will continue to advocate for and defend effective climate legislation and policies; sponsor events that bring our communities together to experience the power of Caring for Creation; and support, through our Climate Action Grants, your efforts to reduce your carbon emissions through energy efficient climate actions.

We want your continuing support and participation in these on-going activities and we welcome your input and ideas. Feel free to contact me at: RMCGAR864@aol.com to share how VT IPL can help your faith community address our climate crisis.

Ron McGarvey
President, Vermont Interfaith Power & Light



**Chelsea Steinauer-
Scudder**

VT IPL
**Communications &
Programs Director**

Dear VT IPL Community,

Today the morning sun fell onto the mountains, illuminating wide swaths of bare-branched, silver trees as last night's storm dissipated, letting the light through.

So much of the news on the ecological front this year has been disheartening and discouraging. But I have found both heart and courage in our work with faith communities across the state who are stepping up, pitching in, and raising their voices for the Earth and Creation. Just over a year-and-a-half into my role at VT IPL, I've been continually impressed by the passion, commitment, and resolve I see in congregational leadership, in Green Team activism, in our climate action grant applicants, in those standing side-by-side with us at the Statehouse in February, and more. I'm honored to be doing this work by your side.

I was pleased to step into a new role at VT IPL this fall, as Communications & Programs Director. As I take on more responsibility and leadership with the organization, I'm excited to find ways to deepen my engagement with and connection to you in the coming year. If you have ideas for collaborations or conversations, my door is always open. Please email me at: chelsea@vtipl.org. And thank you!!

Blessings,

Chelsea
Communications & Programs Director, VT IPL



**“Thriving is
possible only if
you have
nurtured strong
bonds with your
community.”**

Robin Wall Kimmerer
The Serviceberry

eco-spirituality

We operate from the core tenet that the climate crisis is, at heart, a spiritual crisis, brought on by our perceived separation from the Earth and Creation.

This separation has direct impacts on ecological, social, and racial justice. Our eco-spiritual work seeks to heal this separation by inviting people of faith into a holistic understanding of ourselves as fundamentally interconnected into the sacred web of life, and therefore called to work for a healed, just, and vibrant world: for all beings and the living world of which we are a part.

While this focus broadly imbues all of our work, it also directly guides much of our programming. We offer a wide range of events and resources to faith communities that are intended to spark reflection, dialogue, and action within faith communities around caring for Creation, honoring the Earth as sacred, and advocating for the environment. From statewide gatherings, congregational conversations, and watershed stewardship workshops, to sermons, film screenings, book clubs, and more, we work to equip faith communities with actionable knowledge and a robust spiritual foundation for caring for the Earth.





advocacy

As a faith-based, non-partisan organization we stand for the values of a healthy planet and a sustainable future.

We advocate for policies that forward environmental, social, and racial justice initiatives, and that seek to restore, protect, and prioritize our sacred Earth and Creation. We fight for the integrity of our Democratic institutions and values as the pillars of a just society and we cooperate and partner with organizations across the state that are working to ensure equitable, peaceful, and healthy communities in Vermont.

Our signature advocacy event is Faith Climate Action Day, held annually in February, in which leaders of Vermont's faith and conservation communities come together to meet with our legislators and make our collective voices heard.



climate action

Climate change in Vermont and beyond calls on us as spiritual leaders and people of faith to reaffirm our commitment to caring for our shared home and recognize that:

- the Earth is a precious gift;
- global climate change is a moral challenge which is disrupting the natural balance;
- we live our faith through our actions; and
- there is no peace or justice without a healthy, thriving planet.



2025 Grant Highlights



Ascension Lutheran Church, South Burlington

- A matching grant to install four Level 2 Electric Vehicle charging stations in the church parking lot, saving an estimated 8.9 tons of CO2 annually

St Steven's Episcopal Church, Middlebury

- A matching grant for blower door testing, an energy audit, and modeling of the church's heating system

Church of Christ, Montpelier

- A matching grant for an energy efficiency project that included weatherization, insulation, heat pumps, and a solar system

St Michael's Episcopal Church, Brattleboro

- A matching grant for the installation of heat pumps for heating the Undercroft and Sanctuary

United Church of Dorset and East Rupert

- A matching grant for the installation of a heat pump water heater in the Pastor's house

St. Catherine of Siena, Shelburne

- A grant supporting the installation of a 25KW solar array on the church building

Looking Ahead to 2026:

- Faith Climate Action Day 2026. Join us at the Statehouse in late February!
- “Gathering for Creation” in Brattleboro: Building Hope for the Earth (Spring 2026)
- Green Team engagement and formation opportunities
- VT IPL Webinar Series
- Interfaith Book Club: Join us for our quarterly discussions over Zoom!
- Climate Action Grants: We accept applications on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Please Consider an End-of-Year Gift to VT IPL!

[Donate Now](#)

Thank you for supporting Vermont Interfaith Power & Light. We are grateful to collaborate with you on behalf of our human communities and all of Creation.



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