Looking Back on September

On September 14th, we celebrated Faith in Place’s 20th anniversary at our 4th annual Green Team Summit. We welcomed 600 people at the Field Museum for a day of education, connection, and advocacy. Attendees enjoyed workshops on topics ranging from Environmental Racism, Climate Change and Migration, Green Teams, Waste, Youth, and more. You can see all the workshop PowerPoints in our most recent blog post. We are also celebrating all our exhibitors who joined and shared ways attendees could further engage in Earth care with their communities.

During the day, we were honored to have a few amazing guests join us. They shared how much the work of Faith in Place means to them – U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, and the
CEO of the Field Museum, Richard Lariviere, were among those faithful visitors.

To honor the land, elders past and present, we opened our afternoon Plenary Session with dances from the Xochitl-Quetzal Danza Azteca Dancers. Their ancestral dancing was followed by a keynote speech from our founding Executive Director, Rev. Dr. Clare Butterfield. We then celebrated the work of our 129 Green Teams from across the state and gave Green Team Awards to five Houses of Worship from Carbondale, Libertyville, Chicago, Arlington Heights, and Urbana. The day closed with a giveaway of fabulous prizes from our generous sponsors.

Growing in October

Extra, Extra!! Illinois has an opportunity to lead for climate action, and we need your help to make it a reality. Faith in Place and our partners are organizing an extra climate change advocacy day this October 29th at the Statehouse in Springfield, IL. Buses will depart from Bloomington/Normal, Urbana + Decatur and Peoria. Come ride with us as we demand action now for clean energy jobs and environmental justice. (And enjoy good snacks.)
Registration is available on our website. [Sign up now](#) to save your seat on the bus!

**Hazardous Waste Collection Saturday, Oct. 26th – Reservations Required - Sign up today**

Safely dispose of hazardous chemical products at a rare IEPA-Sponsored event. You must reserve a drop off time and spaces are limited. Find out what items are accepted and where the collection point will be at the link below.

**Solar Dedication Service, Sunday, Oct. 27th, St. John’s UCC, Freeport, IL**

Our newest Solar House of Worship will “Flip the Switch” on their 65 kW solar array at a special Reformation Day service. Read about their journey to solar, the witness they are making and the savings they will realize on their Faith Partner Page. (And while you are there, check your house of worship’s page. If it needs updating, please contact Cindy@faithinplace.org so she can make those changes.)

**Champaign County Grows Green, Thursday, Oct. 17 & Saturday, Oct. 19th, Urbana**

During the weekend of October 17h-19th, we join Midwest Grows Green to share natural lawn care, organic gardening and sustainable landscaping tips for Champaign County Grows Green Weekend. Join us for a weekend of helpful demonstrations, informational discussions and more. Please be sure to share with your friends via email or social media. Hope to see you there!

**Youth! Apply for Lux Summer Theological Institute for Youth, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL**

In September, millions of youth and their supporters around the world participated in the climate strike movement. Now Monmouth College invites high school youth to apply for the 2020 Lux Institute for Youth. June 14-28, 2020, theologically curious high school students
from around the country will focus on environmental justice: diving deep into the world of theological and biblical studies, intentional community, vocational discernment, and worship.

**Apply Now**

**Thank You Reception for Coal Ash Sponsors, Monday, Oct. 7, CityView Center, Champaign, 6-7 pm**

This summer, Gov. Pritzker signed a comprehensive coal ash protection bill. Come join us in thanking the legislative champions behind it and celebrating a victory for our communities and rivers.

**Learn More**

**Screening of “What Lies Upstream”, Oct. 22, 6 pm, McKinley Foundation**

The McKinley Green Team and the Sierra Club Wastewater Residuals Team present a showing of the film "What Lies Upstream". This movie documents the search for the cause of a massive 2014 chemical spill in West Virginia. A panel after the film will update us on local issues. Free parking available.

**Learn More**
Other News

Smart Energy Grant Opportunity

Your house of worship could be eligible for a grant of $1,000 to $2,500 to educate faith community members about energy conservation and smart energy!

Incubator Kitchens

Has your faith community ever considered allowing local residents to use the kitchen to run small-scale food businesses (such as baking and catering)?

Eco-Tip of the Month

Support local farmers and sustainable agriculture by purchasing produce at local farmers markets and farm stands. You can find local food using the cool searchable map compiled by our friends at Buy Fresh Buy Local! Want to buy a local turkey for your feast next month?

Connect with Us

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