In 1999, a group of faithful individuals began to form a vision of people of faith leading the environmental movement in Illinois.

Now, 20 years later in 2019, Faith in Place is celebrating those early visionaries. The accomplishments and impact that Faith in Place had last year, in 2018, is highlighted in this report. Each year as we grow as an organization we remember our roots – those early conversations and visionary planning.

We chose the phrase “Rooted and Growing” to commemorate this 20-year milestone. It beautifully describes both the growing processes in the natural world and also serves as a metaphor for our daily work to empower people of faith to care for the earth.

We are rooted in our values and faith traditions – which are as diverse as all of the plants in an ecosystem – and, like plants, we are all interconnected in our need for clean water, clean air, and healthy soil to grow and thrive.

Faith in Place strives to make connections between people of different faiths, recognizing that by forging partnerships, we support each other as we care for our common home. We highlighted just a few of these connections for you in this report to exemplify our broader impact.

Our work with you is rooted in community. If you look very closely at the tree trunk of our logo, you will realize that the image is made up of people to symbolize that partnership. We are all interconnected with the places we interact with every day and with each other. To move forward with hope in our most challenging environmental concerns, we must act together.

In these pages, you will find the results of that collective impact in 2018 through our programs and initiatives across the state. This is all made possible thanks to your generous support.

We are rooted in the history of the work that our organization has done with countless faith communities across the state, and together, we look forward to growing our impact further in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Rev. Brian J. Sauder, PresidentKaren J. Lewis, Board Chair
ENERGY & CLIMATE CHANGE

People of faith are leading the way in clean energy in Southern Illinois.

Faith communities learned about the cost savings and environmental benefits of installing solar thanks to educational events and meetings with Faith in Place staff in Central and Southern Illinois.

Church of the Good Shepherd became the first church in Carbondale to install solar panels in February 2018 and panels went up at First Christian Church in Carbondale a few months later in June. First Christian Church hosts regular meetings of the Carbondale Community Solar Working Group, as they find ways to bring a Community Solar array to their community.

“We felt that as the first church in Carbondale, and the first church that we’re aware of in southern Illinois to do this, that other churches will become interested in doing solar systems too.”

- Dale Ritzel, member and Green Team leader at Church of the Good Shepherd

2018 IMPACT

- 7,023 individuals educated about smart energy
- 7 houses of worship have solar panels
- $32,597 saved in energy bills
- 273,631 kWh saved through energy conservation & renewable energy
- 12% increase in savings from 2017

First Christian Church in Carbondale celebrated their solar panel dedication by handing out sunflowers, reminding us to look toward the light.
SUSTAINABLE FOOD & LAND USE

People of diverse faiths are working together to grow vegetables and beautify an empty lot on Chicago’s West Side.

Rooted in a strong social justice history and mission, Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church dreamed of turning an empty lot they own into a thriving garden that would bring local produce to the community.

In 2018, Faith in Place connected Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church with resources and support to bring this vision to fruition.

We also connected them with Chicago Sinai Congregation, a Jewish Synagogue on Chicago’s North Side that was interested in assisting another faith community with a garden.

After working together to plant the seeds in spring 2019, the garden is growing and providing a peaceful gathering space in the neighborhood.

Since the inception of our partnership with Faith in Place in 2015, we have been inspired to do several amazing community projects. The Stone Temple Community Heritage Peace Garden is the latest project initiated by Faith in Place. “The Garden” is a place where Community, Culture, and Peace lovingly collide.

- Pastor Reshorna Fitzpatrick
2018 IMPACT

WINTER FARMERS MARKETS

17 markets
3,701 attendees
$52,576 gross sales for 47 different vendors
$1,560 Link Sales
$795
Link Match utilized to increase shoppers’ access to fresh produce

MIGRATION & ME

988 people attended nature outings, volunteering
3,824 hours to restore
42 acres of habitat

“CONGREGATION SUPPORTED” AGRICULTURE (CSA) FARMS

4 farms
162,720 pounds of food harvested
37,800 pounds donated back to the community

Building raised beds for the garden at Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church
Starting to grow vegetables and herbs for the community
Flowers ready to be planted at the garden

Susan Stone (left) of Chicago Sinai Congregation and Pastor Reshorna Fitzpatrick (right) of Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Commissioner Kari K. Steele met with youth in our summer Eco-Ambassadors program to answer questions about water conservation, green infrastructure, and having a career as an environmentalist.

WATER PRESERVATION

In 2018 we made it easier for faith communities to learn about water justice by updating and revising our interfaith water curriculum, *Our Grandchildren’s Water*, and presenting different versions for one, four, or seven sessions.

Religious education students at Anshe Emet Synagogue participated in one of our water education events and heard from Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Commissioner Josina Morita, who presented practical tips for conserving water and preventing flooding.

It’s important for people of faith to study water issues because water is vital for life on this planet. We can look to both science and faith for insights into caring for water.

- Dr. Ashlynn Stilwell, Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Faith in Place Board member

2018 IMPACT

- Water program events educated faith communities
- 6
- 1,029,978 gallons of rainwater diverted from combined sewer systems in 2018 through rain barrels and rain gardens installed in 2016

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) Commissioner Ramont Bell introduces the *Our Grandchildren’s Water* curriculum in a Green Team Summit workshop.

Students at Anshe Emet Synagogue painted two rain barrels that will collect rain water off their building.
ADVOCACY

With the importance of local activism on environmental issues more important than ever, Faith in Place empowered people of faith to make their voices heard and bring justice and equity to the conversation.

Outreach staff across the state hosted 13 Listen. Lead. Share. events in partnership with the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition to seek community feedback on 4 policy pillars:

1. Clean energy jobs across Illinois
2. 100% renewable energy by 2050
3. Decarbonizing the electric sector
4. Increasing electric vehicles

I enjoyed sharing our congregation’s solar installation process and hearing what others are doing. I also felt encouraged by discussion of efforts to mitigate the economic results of the dying coal industry. I’m always impressed with the coordination Faith in Place does with the Illinois Environmental Council for Advocacy Day.

- Judy Ball, member of the Green Team at Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist in Palatine and Listen. Lead. Share. participant

2018 IMPACT

10 people of faith offered testimonies in opposition to repealing the Clean Power Plan at the only EPA hearing in the country, which was held in Chicago

Held 13 Faithful Citizen Workshops statewide to educate people about environmental advocacy

2,100 petitions delivered to state and federal elected officials
Our Eco-Ambassadors summer experiential learning program provides youth with the opportunity to engage in environmental education through field trips and learn about environmental careers.

After learning about the work being done in their community to achieve a just transition for the coal-fired plant in Waukegan, the Lake County Eco-Ambassadors had the opportunity to visit another community in Illinois that was also advocating to clean up a site contaminated by coal ash.

It was great to meet a fellow environmentalist that is working directly to bring awareness and hold companies and our government accountable for the toxins created by a coal-fired plant. It reminded me of the importance of advocating for a just transition plan to be set in place before a coal-fired plant is retired.

- Guadalupe Bueno, 2018 Eco-Ambassador, environmental studies student at Coe College, and volunteer with Clean Power Lake County
GREEN TEAMS

Green Teams are dedicated groups of people who meet regularly to plan and implement sustainability initiatives at their houses of worship. These 127 Green Teams are the key to growing healthier communities across the state.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Springfield
Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago
Ascension Catholic Church, Oak Park
Baha’i Center of Champaign-Urbana
Beit Yichud, Chicago
Bethany Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake
Bethel Lutheran Church, Chicago
Beverly Unitarian Church, Chicago
Broadway Presbyterian Church, Rock Island
Calvary Episcopal Church, Lombard
Calvin Christian Reformed Church, Oak Lawn
Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship
Carrier Mills First United Methodist Church
Charleston Wesley United Methodist Church
Chicago Community Mennonite Church
Chicago Muslims Green Team at Downtown Islamic Center
Chicago Sinai Congregation
Chicago Theological Seminary
Christ Episcopal Church, Waukegan
Church of Our Savior Episcopal, Chicago
Church of the Good Shepherd, Carbondale
Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist, Palatine
Covenant United Church of Christ, South Holland
Dayspring Native American United Methodist Church, East Peoria
Destiny Church, Hoffman Estates
Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church, Springfield
Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ, Davenport
Effingham Centenary United Methodist Church
Ellis Avenue Baptist Church, Chicago
Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church, Oak Park
Fiedler Northwestern University Hillel, Evanston
First Baptist Church of Waukegan
First Christian Church, Carbondale
First Congregational Church of Western Springs
First Mennonite Church of Urbana-Champaign
First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
First Presbyterian Church of La Grange
First Presbyterian Church of Urbana
First Presbyterian Church, Champaign

First Presbyterian Church, Charleston
First Presbyterian Church, Danville
First Presbyterian Church, Monticello
First Presbyterian Church, Normal
First Presbyterian Church, Shelbyville
First United Methodist Church of Arlington Heights
First United Methodist Church of Park Ridge
First United Methodist Church, Carbondale
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Oak Park
Grace Lutheran Church, Champaign
Grace Lutheran Church, Evanston
Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest
Greater St. Paul AME Church, Chicago
Iglesia Nuestra Señora De Guadalupe, Waukegan
Immaculate Conception & St. Joseph Parish, Chicago
Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Evanston
Kam Isaiah Israel, Chicago
Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago
Loop Church Chicago
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
McKinley Presbyterian Church, Champaign
Metropolitan Apostolic Community Church, Chicago

• Initiate or join a Green Team at your faith community
• Volunteer your time with Faith in Place at one of our offices or events
• Join our leadership and inspire others to support Faith in Place as part of our Founders or Fellowship Circles, as an Event Chair, or as a Committee Member
• Become a Faithful Advocate and engage in our advocacy efforts

For more information, contact Veronica Kyle
veronica@faithinplace.org | 312-733-4640 Ext. 114
GREEN TEAMS (Cont’d)

Neoga Grace United Methodist Church
New Covenant Fellowship, Champaign
New Deliverance Presbyterian Church, Chicago
Normal First United Methodist Church
North Shore Unitarian Church, Deerfield
Old St. Patrick’s Church, Chicago
Old State Road Christian Church, Charleston
Our Lady of the Snows Parish, Chicago
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Arlington Heights
Parroquia Luterana Sagrado Corazón, Waukegan
Plainfield United Methodist Church
Power Circle Congregation, Chicago
Prairie Avenue Christian Church, Decatur
Prairie Circle Unitarian Universalist Church, Grayslake
Prince of Peace United Methodist Church, Elk Grove Village
Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church
Saints Peter & Paul Greek Orthodox Church, Glenview
Salem Baptist Church, Champaign
Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Shambhala Meditation Center of Chicago
Sinai Temple of Champaign
Sisters of St. Benedict at St. Mary Monastery, Rock Island
Sixth-Grace Presbyterian Church, Chicago
Sketchpad, Chicago
Skokie Valley Agudath Jacob Synagogue & Kol Sasson Congregation
Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership, Chicago
St. Benedict the African Catholic Church, Chicago
St. Chrysostom Episcopal Church, Chicago
St. Clare Friary, Chicago
St. Clare of Montefalco Parish, Chicago
St. James Parish, Arlington Heights
St. John Lutheran Church, Rock Island
St. John United Church of Christ, Freeport
St. John’s Episcopal Church, Chicago
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Libertyville
St. Luke Union Church, Bloomington
St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Glen Ellyn
St. Mary Of The Annunciation Catholic Parish, Mundelein
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Urbana
St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church, Urbana
St. Patrick’s Church, Urbana
St. Paul of the Cross School, Park Ridge
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Evanston
St. Simon’s Episcopal Church, Arlington Heights
Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago
Temple Sholom, Chicago
Trinity Lutheran Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago
Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago
Unitarian Church of Evanston
Unitarian Church of Hinsdale
Unitarian Society of Geneva
Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal
Unitarian Universalist Church of Elgin
Unitarian Universalist Church Of Urbana-Champaign
Unitarian Universalist Church, Rockford
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Decatur
Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Oak Park
University of Chicago Divinity School
University of Chicago Hillel
University Place Christian Church, Champaign
Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting
Vernon Park Church of God, Lynwood
Waukegan Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church
Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ, Chicago
Wesley United Methodist Church, Naperville
Wesley United Methodist Church, Urbana

The Green Team at First United Methodist Church of Normal won an award at the Green Team Summit for their energy efficiency efforts

Chosen Tabernacle Ministries in Chicago won an honorable mention at the Green Team Summit
2018 AUDITED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2018 REVENUE: $1,740,881

2018 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES: $1,416,825

Members from St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church in Chicago learned how trees are rooted and growing in their neighborhood on a tree walk with Openlands, the U.S. Forest Service, and Faith in Place.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SUPPORTERS

FOUNDERS CIRCLE
These generous donors, marked with an asterisk (*), have made a 5-year commitment of donating $1,000 or more per year to Faith in Place.

FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE
Members of the Fellowship Circle have supported Faith in Place with gifts of $500 or more in the past year.

GREATER THAN $100,000
Energy Foundation
Grand Victoria Foundation
ISEIF (Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation)
The Joyce Foundation

$30,000 - $99,999
Chicago Community Trust
ComEd
Gaylord And Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Jenner & Block LLP
Kalliopeia Foundation
Lumpkin Family Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

$10,000 - $29,999
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The Field Foundation of Illinois
The Grainger Family Descendants Fund
US Forest Service
Walter S. Mander Foundation
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$5,000 - $9,999
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Chicago Community Mennonite Church
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Illinois Environmental Council
Joanne Kouba and Jim Cavallo
Karen and Bob Lewis*
Natural Resources Defense Fund
Openlands
The McKnight Foundation
The Regeneration Project/Interfaith Power & Light

$1,000 - $4,999
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Barbara Boockmeier*
Barbara and Eric Burgess
Rev. Dr. Clare Butterfield*

William Capel*
Megan and Sam Cox*
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Lynn Donaldson and Cameron Avery*
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Fourth Presbyterian Church
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Local 134 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Margo and Greg Lykins
Karen McKenzie*
Robert McKim*
Eileen and Robert Meissen*
Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, Arlington Heights
Parroquia Luterana Sagrado Corazón
Patagonia Chicago
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St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Urbana*
Harrison Steans
Dr. Ashlynn and Andrew Stillwell*
Sunrun
Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Oak Park
University of Minnesota
James Vroman*
Kim Weaver*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Wilson*
Karen and Rabbi Michael Zedek*

$500 - $999
Alliance for the Great Lakes
Loryn Ankeny
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Archdiocese of Chicago
Alison and John Blaser*
Sue Boucek
Robert Carlson
Catholic Theological Union
Citizens Utility Board (CUB) Consumer Education & Research Fund
University of Illinois student volunteers tend and harvest the Sharing Garden at McKinley Foundation. The fresh produce is distributed to families at a local food pantry in Champaign.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 SUPPORTERS (Cont’d)

Jon Carson  
Cenacle Retreat & Conference Center  
Craig Chamberlain  
John Chambers  
Coalición Latinos Unidos de Lake County  
Rabbi Alan Cook  
Veronica Cook  
Carol Cooper  
Nancy L. Cowger  
Christina Crusius  
James Cubit  
Kenneth Cuffey  
June Cullum  
Mayor Sam Cunningham  
Foster Dale  
William Dawe  
John Delurey  
Brad Dezur  
Frank Dinovo  
Chaplain Peter Dyck  
Rev. Dr. Linda Eastwood  
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Laura Erbe  
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Allan Lindrup  
Jean Linsner  
Amy Little  
Sarah Livesay  
Penni Livingston  
Alison Lopez  
Lorena Lopez  
Lorena Lopez  
Elder Sharon Louis

Several faith communities planted trees in the form of a Council Circle at Bowen Park in Waukegan to honor Native American traditions of the area.
Eco-Ambassadors from Chicago, Markham, and North & West Suburbs gathered together for a camping excursion to Camp Sullivan in the Forest Preserves of Cook County.
REGISTER
FOR THE 2019 GREEN TEAM SUMMIT

Saturday, September 14, 2019  |  The Field Museum, Chicago, IL

Whether your house of worship is just starting to think about sustainability or has a long history of going green, you are invited to join us for this event that will give you the tools, resources, and inspiration needed to spark meaningful change in your community.

Join us for a special celebration of 20 YEARS OF FAITH IN PLACE at this event!
www.faithinplace.org/get-involved/green-team-summit
(Spanish translation will be available.)

To become a sponsor, please contact Greg Tisher at greg@faithinplace.org or 312-733-4640 Ext. 124.