GET CONNECTED

2017 ANNUAL REPORT
GET CONNECTED!

Faith in Place connects people of diverse faiths to the environmental movement because we are a powerful force for change.

When we connect the beliefs of our faith traditions with the problems facing our neighbors and the planet, we are deeply motivated to act.

In 2017, our growing network of 111 Green Teams gathered at their respective houses of worship each month and connected their faith with their place by implementing our Earth care programs across the state of Illinois.

In the next pages, you will see how these connections made an impact, thanks to your generous support!

We empowered thoughtful reflection about how our energy choices today impact our neighbors across the world tomorrow.

We introduced faith communities to energy conservation resources. We helped four houses of worship connect solar panels to the grid.

We went outdoors to connect further with the land. We considered the distance that our food traveled. We built relationships with our local farmers.

We took steps to preserve water quality, because what happens upstream affects those downstream.

We connected social justice with environmental justice. Race, socioeconomic status, and environmental degradation are all interconnected.

We were moved to action by our moral obligation to care for the land and each other. We partnered with other advocacy organizations to connect returning citizens and foster care alumni with jobs in the clean energy economy.

And we connected with one another.

Our Second Annual Green Team Summit drew over 400 people of diverse faiths from across Illinois together for a day of sharing ideas and listening to speakers to inspire further change in their communities.

We look forward to continuing to collaborate with people of diverse faiths to listen, learn, and lead for environmental justice in 2018.

In connection,

Rev. Brian J. Sauder
President

Dr. Ashlynn Stillwell
Board Chair

Faith in Place is the Illinois Affiliate of Interfaith Power & Light
In 2017, Faith in Place launched a new initiative to help houses of worship move beyond simply learning about opportunities for energy efficiency to enacting them.

Faith in Place regularly offers basic free energy audits to faith communities across Illinois. However, over the years, we noticed that many faith communities struggled to make the suggested changes because they lacked the funds upfront or banks refused to lend money – even though the savings on utility bills would pay for the upgrades relatively quickly.

Faith in Place connected with the Illinois State Treasurer’s Office and Everence Credit Union to launch the Nonprofit Green Lending Program in 2017.

This program provides low-interest loans to nonprofits, such as houses of worship, for sustainability improvements.

With this loan, our church will be able to invest in energy efficiency to be greener, save money on utility bills and rent, and use the money that we save to expand our involvement in the neighborhood.”

- Pastor Anthony Wright, Just Christ Ministries, Chicago (Pictured above, first row, second from right)

An energy audit and lighting upgrades at First United Methodist Church in Normal helped the congregation significantly reduce their electric bill and make the sanctuary look brighter. Pictured above: Pastor Kent King-Nobles and Pastor Kathy King-Nobles.

“4 partner houses of worship installed solar panels
6,116 individuals educated about smart energy
182 metric tons of greenhouse gas reduced, the equivalent of 199,352 pounds of coal
$29,166 savings on utility bills
4,722 trees planted

2017 IMPACT

RESULTING IN: 244,832 kWh saved
(A 54% increase from last year)
Last year, our series of indoor Winter Farmers Markets at 17 different houses of worship throughout Chicagoland connected people with local farmers and vendors to support sustainable foods during the slower winter months and helped consumers learn about the source of their food.

Recognizing that access to fresh, local foods is a justice issue, we secured funding to match purchases of customers using Link/SNAP benefits (previously known as food stamps) at all markets.

Link Match customers had the opportunity to take home up to $25 worth of additional fruits and vegetables. Link sales increased by 22% in 2017!

“Having the Link & Link Match programs enabled us to publicize our Winter Farmers Market to ALL of our community members. It was an important way to enable some of the clients of a neighboring food pantry to participate in our wonderful market!

-Pastor Carla Thompson Powell, United in Faith Lutheran Church
Our efforts were to help protect not just the water from pollution, but the wildlife that resides in the Great Lakes, who are threatened by the trash and plastics that infiltrate their habitat. Learning about the deep impact water has on our lives as human beings challenged the whole group to rethink how important water conservation should be to us.”

- Sydney Guillory, student leader in the Eco-Ambassadors program

WATER PRESERVATION

Twelve student participants in our Eco-Ambassadors youth program spent six weeks during the summer learning about environmental topics and career paths and doing service learning projects to care for the Earth. The Eco-Ambassadors learned about a wide range of issues, including water preservation, through activities and field trips.

The students toured the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to learn about environmental science careers and how our water use affects the health of the people and ecosystems around us.

One of the Eco-Ambassadors’ many projects was an afternoon spent picking up 45 pounds of litter from a beach on Lake Michigan.

Rain Barrels Deployed and/or Re-Deployed

Rain water diverted from the combined sewer systems from rain gardens installed at 5 houses of worship in 2016 and rain barrels.

2017 IMPACT
Speakers at the 2017 Advocacy Day Rally for clean energy jobs and environmental justice in Illinois.
At our annual Advocacy Day to the State Capitol in 2017, people of faith educated their legislators about the importance of creating clean energy jobs. They connected the issues of economic opportunity, job creation, violence prevention, and addressing climate change for environmental justice.

Thanks to the efforts of everyone who voiced their concern for environmental justice from a perspective of faith, funding for important solar development and job training programs created by the Future Energy Jobs Act was maintained.

Advocacy Day participants also met with State Treasurer Michael Frerichs to voice their support for the Nonprofit Green Lending Program.

“You can wake up in the morning and look at everything that’s wrong with the world and want to crawl back into bed. Or you can wake up and think about the things that you have the power to change, listen, find partners, and create solutions to make a difference.”

- State Treasurer Michael Frerichs
GREEN TEAMS

These dedicated groups of people meet regularly to plan and implement sustainability initiatives at their houses of worship. The 111 Green Teams are the key to growing healthier communities across the state.

Abraham Lincoln Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Ascension Catholic Church
Baha’i Center of Champaign-Urbana
Bethany Lutheran Church
Bethel Lutheran Church
Beverly Unitarian Church
Broadway Presbyterian Church
Calvary Episcopal Church
Calvin Christian Reformed Church
Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship
Chicago Community Mennonite Church
Chicago Sinai Congregation
Chicago Theological Seminary
Christ Episcopal Church, Waukegan
Church of Our Savior Episcopal
Church of the Good Shepherd
Countryside Church Unitarian Universalist
Covenant United Church of Christ
Destiny Church
Douglas Avenue United Methodist Church
Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ
Effingham Centenary United Methodist Church
Ellis Avenue Baptist Church
Euclid Avenue United Methodist Church
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, 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 of Waukegan
First United Methodist Church, Normal
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Oak Park
Grace Lutheran Church, Champaign
Grace Lutheran Church, Evanston
Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest
Greater St. Paul AME Church
Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Bloomington
Iglesia Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation
KAM Isaiah Israel
Latin Pentecostal Church of God
Lutheran Church of Mahomet
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
McKinley Presbyterian Church
Most Blessed Trinity Parish
Neoga Grace United Methodist Church
New Deliverance Presbyterian Church
North Shore Unitarian Church
Old St. Patrick's Church
Old State Road Christian Church
Our Lady of the Snows Parish
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Parroquia Luterana Sagrado Corazón Church
Plainfield United Methodist Church
Power Circle Congregation
Prairie Avenue Christian Church
Prairie Circle Unitarian Universalist Congregation
Prince of Peace United Methodist Church
Resurrection Lutheran Church
Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church
Salem Baptist Church
Second Presbyterian Church of Chicago
Sinai Temple of Champaign
Sisters of St. Benedict at St. Mary Monastery
Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church
St. Benedict the African Catholic Church
St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church
St. Clare Friary
St. Clare of Montefalco Parish
St. James Parish
St. John Lutheran Church
St. John's Episcopal Church
St. Joseph Catholic Church
St. Luke Union Church
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
St. Mary of the Annunciation Catholic Parish
St. Matthew Lutheran Church
St. Nicholas Roman Catholic Church
St. Patrick’s Church
St. Paul of the Cross School
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
St. Simon's Episcopal Church
Stone Temple Missionary Baptist Church
Temple Sholom
Trinity Lutheran Church
Trinity United Church of Christ
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
University of Chicago Divinity School
Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting
Vernon Park Church of God
Waukegan Hispanic Seventh-day Adventist Church
Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ
Wesley United Methodist Church, Naperville
Wesley United Methodist Church, Urbana

• 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 Citizen and engage in our advocacy efforts

For more information, contact Veronica Kyle
veronica@faithinplace.org    |    312-733-4640 Ext. 114
2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2017 REVENUE: $1,258,621
2017 FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES: $1,186,297

- CORPORATE 5%
- INDIVIDUALS & HOUSES OF WORSHIP 15%
- OTHER INCOME 2%
- GOVERNMENT 6%
- IN KIND 6%
- FOUNDATIONS 66%

- FUNDRAISING 9.9%
- MANAGEMENT & GENERAL 9.5%
- PROGRAM EXPENSES 80.6%

Members of the Eco-Ambassadors youth program go for a Nature Walk at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest, IL.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 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
ISEIF (Illinois Science & Energy Innovation Foundation)
The Joyce Foundation

$30,000 - $99,999
The Crown Family
Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation
Grand Victoria Foundation
United States Forest Service

$10,000 - $29,999
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Illinois Department of Natural Resources’ Coastal Management Program and the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
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JOIN US
FOR THE 2018 GREEN TEAM SUMMIT

Saturday, September 22, 2018 | The Field Museum, Chicago, IL

This exciting event will connect hundreds of people of diverse faiths from neighborhoods across Chicago and cities across Illinois with one another and with resources for taking action for the environment and people in our communities.

Please plan to join us! To register, visit [www.faithinplace.org/get-involved/green-team-summit](http://www.faithinplace.org/get-involved/green-team-summit)

To become a sponsor, please contact Ramont Bell at ramont@faithinplace.org or 312-733-4640 Ext 120.