Join the conversation!

#GreenTeamSummit

@faithinplace
Moderator:

Steven Huels, Outreach Volunteer

Presenters:

Karen Lewis, Temple Sholom of Chicago
Velma Pate, Covenant UCC, South Holland, IL
Cindy Shepherd, Outreach Director, Central Illinois
Faith in Place’s Mission:

Faith in Place empowers Illinois people of all faiths to be leaders in caring for the Earth, providing resources to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.

*Faith in Place is the proud Illinois Affiliate of Interfaith Power & Light.*

Since 1999, Faith in Place has worked with over 1,000 houses of worship throughout Illinois to protect our common land, water, and air. With outreach staff working across the state and offices located in Chicago, Lake County, and Central Illinois, Faith in Place inspires faithful people to care for the Earth through our four program areas: Energy & Climate Change, Sustainable Food & Land Use, Water Preservation, and Advocacy.
**Our Model**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educate</th>
<th>faith partners on the ways to bring the message of environmental consciousness to their communities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Connect</td>
<td>faith communities to one another and to important resources such as funding and green experts</td>
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<td>Advocate</td>
<td>with local and statewide environmental partners for accountability</td>
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Our Organizing Model

Green Teams  Green Team Coach
2017 Green Team Coaching

- 93 Current Active Green Teams on Website
- Each Green Team Assigned Staff Coach
- Included in Job Descriptions
- Minimum Contact Required Twice/Month
The Power at Covenant UCC

Green Ministry – Keeping the Faith  Sustaining the Vision
TABLING AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
Green Movies at Covenant UCC
Native Plants / Kickapoo Woods / Creation Sunday/CSA
Tower Hill / C3I Connection Project / Black History
The Power of Recycling/Paper Drive
“Push Back” on the Power of a Green Team
The Importance of Hospitality!

- Hospitality is important to God
- Hospitality manifest within the Church is equally important for we are our brothers’ and sisters’ keeper.
The Staying Power of a Green Team!
Getting our Green Team Going

Eco Chavura
“Greening Our Sacred Community”
Powering Up the Green Team

Holistic approach

- Stewardship
- Education
- Community
- Spirit
Faith in Place – Getting Local

Connecting the Dots and Providing the Resources
Mishpacha - Young Families

Adopt-A-Beach:

Green Tot Shabbat

Starved Rock “Hike”
"Can you describe how food sustains you in your life— not just biologically, but also culturally and spiritually?"
High School

Environmental Justice Tour in Neighboring Pilsen

Environmental Action at Lobby Day in Springfield
The Power of Partnerships

Faith in Place: Indoor Farmers Market

Lakeview Chamber of Commerce

Documentary Film Preview
The Power of Persisting
The Journey to Become Energy Efficient

- Form a Green Team
- Utility Assessments
- Benchmarking
- Level 1 Energy Audit
- Transportation: Bike to Worship
- Level 2 & 3 Energy Audits & Retrofits
- Solar Panels
- Smart Energy Workshop
Allow the Ebb...& ride the flow!
Powerful Patience

• Eco-tips
• Composting
• Adopt-A-Beach
• Sermons
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<th><strong>Connect to Faith</strong></th>
<th><strong>Find Allies</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Greening is an act of love, faithfulness, and praise.</td>
<td>Do not try to do this alone. There are people around you who care deeply about the issues. Support one another as you do this important work.</td>
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<th><strong>It's About Justice</strong></th>
<th><strong>Don't Scold</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>In order for it to have relevance to people's lives, it needs a human face.</td>
<td>Because we are people of faith, our job is to fix ourselves, not fix other people. No one is blameless, so there is no need for finger-pointing.</td>
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<th><strong>Celebrate!</strong></th>
<th><strong>Be Tenacious</strong></th>
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<td>Don't forget to have fun! Let people rejoice together in the good work that your faith community is doing.</td>
<td>Faith communities can move at a glacial pace. Be patient, stick with it, and ask for help when you need it.</td>
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Green Team Coaching

Green Teams are groups of 3 or more people from a house of worship who provide cooperative leadership to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.

Faith in Place will provide you a Green Team Coach upon declaring yourself a Green Team. This coach will serve as a mentor to your group, and will keep you updated with programs and opportunities for Earth care in your area. They will reach out at least twice a month and attend your meetings and events as their availability allows. Coaches can help you create goals, and connect you to resources, all at no financial cost.

Read this PDF document for more information about Green Teams and Green Team Coaching
What is a Green Team?

Green Teams are groups of 3 or more people from a house of worship who provide cooperative leadership to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.

**Green Teams:**
- Meet regularly;
- Set goals for their house of worship to create a more environmentally-conscious community;
- Connect spiritual traditions with concerns for Earth care and justice for our neighbors;
- Plan activities and encourage eco-friendly behaviors within their house of worship;
- Educate and connect with the community at large to expand impact and advocate for Earth care policies;
- Actively recruit new members and empower each member to use their gifts
- Measure benchmarks and celebrate accomplishments

Do you have a Creation care, landscaping/maintenance committee, or similar group at your house of worship? If so, you are well on your way to forming a successful Green Team! If not, our staff can help you get started with one of Faith in Place’s many programs.
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What is a Green Team Coach?

A Green Team Coach is a Faith in Place staff member who serves as mentor to the Green Team at your house of worship.

Coaches will help your Green Team get involved in programs and events to care for the Earth, and help you determine the best strategies for engaging other members of your house of worship, all at no financial cost!

**What can we expect from our Green Team Coach?**
Your Green Team Coach will connect with your team by phone, email, or in-person meeting at least twice a month. Coaches can attend meetings and events, help you create and accomplish goals, assist in planning green events, and connect your house of worship to resources and Faith in Place programs. They will also assist with benchmarking and celebrating your accomplishments. Coaches will bring tools and lessons learned from other Faith in Place Green Teams and help connect you to other Green Teams in your region.

**How often should we ask our coach to come to our meetings and events?**
Help us connect you with the right information!

Your Interests:

- Start a Green Team / Learn More

Energy & Climate Change
- How to save money with peak time rebates
- Reducing energy usage and cost with hourly pricing
- Free Energy Assessment & Energy Saving Products for your House of Worship

Sustainable Food & Land Use
- Nature Outings
- Community Gardens
- Winter Farmers Markets

Water Preservation
- Rain Barrels
- Rain Gardens
- Interfaith Water Curriculum

Advocacy
- Faithful Citizen Workshops
- Annual Advocacy Day to Illinois State Capitol

*Faith in Place does not share our list with anyone. Information gathered is used for program emails and as a consent to photos taken at this event.*
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