



## Interfaith Power & Light

A Religious Response to Global Warming

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Susan Stephenson  
Interfaith Power & Light  
(510) 444-4891

[susan@interfaithpowerandlight.org](mailto:susan@interfaithpowerandlight.org)

Catherine Duffy  
614-288-5432

[catherineteresaduffy@gmail.com](mailto:catherineteresaduffy@gmail.com)

**All Saints Episcopal Church, New Albany, Ohio one of Five National Winners of \$1,000 in Interfaith Power and Light Cool Congregations Annual Award for Leadership and Sustainability**  
*Interfaith Power and Light Announces 'Cool Congregations Challenge' Winners as Faith Communities Prioritize Energy Efficiency, Renewables, and Sustainability*

OAKLAND, Calif., January, 2020 — All Saints Episcopal Church, New Albany, Ohio is one of the five national Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) 2020 Cool Congregations Challenge winners. The annual contest accepts applications from religious congregations around the United States who are doing work to address global warming by reducing their carbon footprint as they create models of sustainability within their communities.

All Saints Episcopal Church won a Community Inspiration award for inspiring members to make changes at home to save energy and care for creation by signing up 23 families for energy audits offered by the local utility company. They also contracted with a local composting company to pick up compost from the church and invited church members to bring their compost from home to the church for pick up.

Church members have learned how easy composting is and what a big difference it can make in reducing global warming emissions from the landfill. The Creation Care team has begun expanding the composting program to other faith communities and dreams of bringing it to the greater New Albany population. Their hope is to help people understand that they can make changes in their own lives outside the church that not only safeguard creation but also save money and stimulate the local economy.

“The people of All Saints are grateful to receive a first place award. We are convinced of God’s love of Creation and feel like we’re just getting started in our call to be good stewards of it. All Saints’ Creation Care team and the clergy, leadership, and people of the parish look forward to using the \$1000 prize award to continue this sacred work,” said Father Rob Rhodes, Curate at All Saints.



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“All Saints Episcopal Church and the other four national winning congregations are casting a vision for the kind of world in which they want to live, and then carrying out that vision with practical actions that make a real difference in creating lasting solutions to climate change,” said Rev. Susan Hendershot, President of Interfaith Power & Light.

In addition to the composting and home energy audit programs, in 2019 the All Saints congregation hosted a Creation Care day for its children, planted a pollinator meadow and four native trees on its grounds, and built raised garden beds that will supply produce to the New Albany Food Pantry. They also completed an in-depth energy audit of their building and are in the process of retrofitting all light fixtures to be with LED-compatible.

The *Cool Congregations Challenge* shows that people of faith are united by concerns about climate change and are taking action – with or without support of government policies. The winners provide strong moral role models for their communities, and their activities have a ripple effect with people in their own homes.

Interfaith Power & Light is mobilizing a religious response to global warming in congregations through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy.

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