



Long Island Interfaith Environment Network (LIEN) News

Vol. III, Issue 3 Fall Newsletter 2010

Fourth Annual "Greening Your Place of Worship" Workshop A Great Success

On Sept. 23, 2010, over 100 people of different faiths came together to learn and exchange ideas on how to make their places of worship "greener." The event featured expert speakers and 20 exhibitors of products & services geared towards saving energy and reducing toxins in buildings.

The day opened with a prayer from each faith represented, and introductions from Long Island Interfaith Environment Network (LIEN) co-chairs Beth Fiteni and Keith Mainhart. This was followed by a motivating talk from Rev. Fletcher Harper of Greenfaith, a New Jersey based organization that is a leader in helping places of worship to reduce their environmental impacts. He spoke of the moral importance of taking action, because what we do affects other people in our area and around the world, given the global problem of climate change.

This year, LIEN co-sponsored their annual event with Abundant Communities Together (ACT), a faith-based community development corporation. ACT's leader, Rev. Patrick Duggan, joined a panel with Walter Hofer, LIPA, and Ken Camilleri, National Grid, to discuss work he has done at his own church in Hempstead. The utility companies again reminded the group of incentive programs, technical assistance, and rebates available to help lower the costs of retrofit work.

Other speakers:

- Tom Baccarella, Habitat for Humanity of Nassau, spoke about the importance of insulation for saving money on heating and cooling.
- Dyami Plotke, Roof Services, described how white painted roofs and green planted roofs both are options for keeping roofs cool.
- Brian Tyman, Sunstream, spoke about power purchase agreements whereby a place of worship can have solar panels installed at not cost, and purchase the electricity generated at a lower rate through a third party.
- Paul Silverman, Snacktime Services, explained the benefits of bottle-less water coolers: water is run from your plumbing through a filter, so no more plastic bottles creating waste and potentially leaching chemicals into your drinking water.

If you missed the event, contact Beth Fiteni at 516-678-5000 x7561 or efiteni@molloy.edu to receive materials.

LED Holiday Lights

Remember to look for L.E.D. holiday lights this season!
They use 90% less energy than standard bulbs!



LIEN co-chairs and ACT say "thank you" to our sponsor Empower Solar!



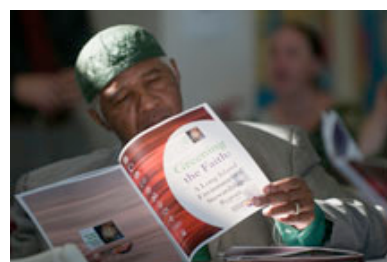
Opening Prayers



Rev. Harper, Greenfaith, addresses crowd



A full room!



Taking time out to learn

Photos by Frank Koester

Take the Stewardship Pledge

Showing your place of worship's commitment to sustainability and good stewardship is very important in terms of creating awareness among your congregation. LIEN has therefore created a standard Stewardship Pledge that you can adopt (or modify) which we can send you electronically for your leadership to review. Once you adopt the pledge, let us know and we will send you an official printed copy on certificate paper in a frame for you to sign and hang in a visible place. Contact Beth Fiteni at 516-678-5000 x7561 or efiteni@molloy.edu to receive your copy.

LIEN News

• Send in Your Success Stories

LIEN is updating its Greening the Faith report for 2011. This report documents the efforts being made towards energy efficiency and reduced toxins in our local places of worship. Be counted in! Contact Keith Mainhart, 631-264-4840, smtoutreach@optonline.net.

• LIEN featured in the Media!

1. LIEN's work was featured in a large Newsday piece featuring committee member Steve Kaplan of The Community Synagogue on Wed 9/22/10!
2. LIEN Co-chairs Beth Fiteni and Keith Mainhart were interviewed by Dr. Drew Bogner of Molloy College on Telecare (Channel 29). The show aired in early October. Thank you to Telecare for helping us get the word out!

• **Field Trip to Wales Darby Energy Learning Center** In July 2010 the LI Interfaith Environment Network held an exciting outing to the *Wales Darby Energy Learning Center* in Islandia. LIEN committee members and friends toured the showroom demonstrating modern and super efficient water heaters, radiant heat flooring systems, and central air conditioning systems. It was an educational and inspiring day to see what is possible. If you'd like to visit Wales Darby on your own, contact them at (631) 585-6800 and see www.walesdarby.com for directions.

• Presentations Available

If you would like LIEN to do a presentation at your place of worship on how to save energy and "go green," please contact us at 516-678-5000 x7561 or efiteni@molloy.edu.

Local Church Recognized for 10% Energy Savings

On Oct. 22, the national Interfaith Power & Light recognized 50 places of worship around the country for their efforts in energy conservation as part of their "10% Challenge." One of the winners is the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School in Plainview, thanks to the efforts of dedicated parishioner Odd Sanglesand – Congratulations!

There were 250 applicants all who had taken such actions as upgrading lighting along with heating and cooling systems; planting native trees, and inspiring members to go green at home. The top 5 winners won \$1000 each – something to try for next year! See the website: <http://interfaithpowerandlight.org/get-involved/campaigns/10-challenge/>

Upcoming Events

- **Sun. Nov. 7th**, "Our Waterways & Keeping them Healthy," UUCSR, 48 Shelter Rock Rd, 1-2:30pm.
- **Fri. Nov. 19th** Vision LI Smart Growth Summit, 8-4pm, Melville Marriot, visionlongisland.org.

LIEN's Mission

"To work with places of worship of all faiths on Long Island to encourage the education of their congregations to the benefits of energy conservation, efficiency and renewables, and to urge places of worship to lead by example by making improvements in their own buildings and practices."

See **LIEN.org**

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