



**Vermont Interfaith Power & Light**  
A faith-based response to global warming

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#### **VTIPL's Spring Letter**

Our Spring letter was sent to you by email 5 days ago. To respond with financial support, send a check to:

VTIPL

P.O. Box 209

Richmond, VT 05477

or donate online by clicking [here](#). Many thanks to those who have already contributed!

### **Update on VTIPL's 2019 Conference**

This year's conference, *Envisioning and Acting for the World We Want*, with Keynote Speakers Professor Molly Anderson and The Rev. Jim Antal, is going to be inspiring and motivating -- plan to come! Registration will begin in late August; more details will be in the August newsletter.

### **Redesign of VTIPL's Website**

VTIPL's website is being redesigned so it will be easier to maintain, and easier for you to use. The new site will likely be rolled out in August. Meanwhile, the existing [website](#) is still available.

### ***Paris to Pittsburgh* - Film Showing & Panel Discussion in Bennington**

This showing of the National Geographic documentary *Paris to Pittsburgh* will be at Bennington Free Library, 101 Silver St. in Bennington, on Thursday, August 8 at 6:30 pm. The film will be followed by a panel discussion on the climate action that's needed in the 2020 legislative session. The event is hosted by VT Interfaith Power & Light and VT Climate & Health Alliance. It's free and open to all. [Contact](#) VTIPL to arrange a film showing in your community.

### **Film Showing of *Broke: The Santa Barbara Oil Pipeline Spill of 2015***

Following the showing of the film, Gail Osherenko, the filmmaker, will be with us to speak about her award-winning film on the oil pipeline spill that occurred in Santa Barbara, CA in 2015. The event will be at Richmond Free Library on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 7 - 8:30 pm. It's sponsored by Richmond Climate Action Committee. A \$5 free-will offering is requested to help the filmmaker recoup some of the costs of making the film. For more information, contact [VTIPL](#). The film trailer is [here](#).

### ***Sun and Fun* Event in Bennington on August 24**

This *Sun and Fun* event will be at Bennington's Second Congregational Church on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 10 am - 3 pm. The festival celebrates

nature, sustainability, and community, and includes music, food, break-out sessions, kid's activities, and more. Information is on the [Facebook page](#).

### **Food Waste Weekend - Sept. 6 - 9, 2019 - Raises Awareness**

Clergy of all faiths are invited to participate in "[Food Waste Weekend](#)", an annual event of the Ample Harvest organization. This event raises awareness among congregations of the staggering 218 billion dollars worth of food wasted in the U.S. each year. Background information about food waste, faith-specific sample sermons, and a variety of "calls to action" are among the resources provided for clergy.

### **A Tale of Two Vermonts**

This piece from VPIRG tells of the wide gap between the perception of Vermont as a state that's a leader in climate and environmental action, and the reality of where Vermont stands today. It outlines what advocates, including VT IPL, had pushed for in the 2019 legislative session, what we got, and what we'll push for in the 2020 session. Read it [here](#).

### **Webinar Recording: Wrap-up of 2019 Legislative Session**

In this hour-long [webinar recording](#), Johanna Miller of VT Natural Resources Council, Ben Edgerly Walsh of VT Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG), and Lauren Hierl of VT Conservation Voters speak about what climate & energy advocates hoped for in the legislative session and what happened.

### **Pope Francis Declares "Climate Emergency" and Urges Action**

Pope Francis recently held a two-day meeting with some leaders of the global fossil fuel industry to impress on them the need for climate action. [Read](#) this article for details.

### **United Church of Christ Passes "Green New Deal" Resolution**

At this year's General Synod in June, the nationwide United Church of Christ (UCC) passed a "Green New Deal" resolution brought before the assembly, and became the country's first denomination to publicly support this level of broad action to address the climate crisis. The resolution was drafted by Vermont's Rev. Dr. Jim Antal and sponsored by the Vermont Conference of the UCC. More information is [here](#).

### **Higher Education Complicit in Climate Emergency**

Sterling College President Matthew Derr speaks out about higher education contributing to the catastrophic loss of the planet's biodiversity and the worsening effects of climate change by leaving a generation unprepared for the ecological and social crises ahead. Read more in this *Vermont Business Magazine* [article](#).

### **Congregational Watershed Manual Reminder**

The Christian edition and the Interreligious edition of VT IPL's *Congregational Watershed Manuals* are available for free download - scroll down to the attachments near the bottom of VT IPL's [website homepage](#). Also, there's information on the website about ordering bound copies. VT IPL will give presentations on the manuals for interested congregations.

### **Solarfest Reminder**

Solarfest will be on Sunday, July 21 at Earth Sky Time Community Farm in Manchester with Keynote address by Dr. Edward Cameron; workshops; art & music; renewable energy & transportation; sustainable living & activism; food & farming and more. Info is [here](#).

VT IPL helps people of faith and spirit better understand the climate crisis and take action to care for Earth.

Vermont Interfaith Power and Light

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