



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

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**May 2018**

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#### **More on George Lakey, Keynote Speaker at VT IPL Conference**

George Lakey, our Oct. 13, 2018 conference Keynote Speaker, was in Vermont in March and spoke several times, both in Middlebury and Burlington. Here's the [video](#) of his speech at Middlebury College. Please plan to come to our October conference at Faith United Methodist Church in South Burlington. More details will be in the newsletter in coming months.

#### **Congregations Statewide Participate in Faith Climate Action Week**

Over two dozen congregations statewide took part in the National Interfaith Power & Light program *Faith Climate Action Week* in April, and more will participate in early May -- over 35 congregations participating altogether. They received information and resources from national IPL, VT IPL, and

Efficiency Vermont, and members of the congregations also received the offer of a free home energy visit or consultation from an energy expert at Efficiency Vermont. We're looking forward to next year and hope even more congregations will participate!

### ***Turn the World Around Video with Music by Counterpoint***

Watch this five-minute [video](#) featuring actions we can take to address global climate change with music by Vermont's acclaimed vocal group *Counterpoint* singing a Robert De Cormier arrangement of the song *Turn the World Around* written by Harry Belafonte.

### **Catholic Institutions Announce Move Away from Fossil Fuels**

Catholic Institutions from around the world including *Caritas International* and three Catholic banks are shifting their funds away from fossil fuel investments. The 35 organizations join 60 other Catholic organizations that previously decided not to invest in fossil fuels. The announcement came from the Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM). This [article](#) provides more information.

### **Carbon Markets Pay Off for These States**

The nine northeastern states participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) had a \$1.4 billion economic benefit, no harm to electric grid reliability, and long-term benefits for residents according to a recent study. Read the details [here](#).

### **Defending Customer Access to Renewable Energy**

Renewable Energy Vermont (REV) recently did an analysis of the trends resulting from the 2016/2017 overhaul of Vermont's net metering rule. They found that the rule changes had a negative impact on the deployment of solar. They sought out independent economists to help create an overview of the benefits and impacts of net metering and engaged Synapse Energy Economics to do a report, which was then submitted to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). The PUC is now issuing an order on it's first biennial review of net metering. This REV [article](#) has more information.

### **States Sue to Defend Clean Car Rule**

Vermont Attorney General T.J. Donovan just announced that Vermont is joining a coalition of 17 states and the District of Columbia in suing the

Environmental Protection Agency over the rollback in greenhouse gas emission standards for vehicles in model years 2022-2025. Details are [here](#).

### **Climate Ride: Pedal Your Bike; Power the Movement**

Climate Ride is a non-profit organization that runs bike trips all over the country and around the world. The people participating not only have great cycling experiences, they also raise funds that help a variety of organizations, including Interfaith Power & Light. Find out more about this great organization and this year's bike trips [here](#). This [page](#) tells of a woman who cycled around her home state of Nebraska.

### **Reminder: Clean Water Network Meeting on May 15**

This meeting of the Clean Water Network will be from 8:30 am - Noon on May 15 at ECHO, Leahy Center for Lake Champlain in Burlington. Find out more and register [here](#).

*We hope this newsletter provided some useful and interesting information. Your donation supports this and all of VT IPL's work. You can donate online [here](#) or send a check to the address below. We are grateful for your support!*

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

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