

Current Membership

- ❖ Ascension Parish
- ❖ Euclid Ave. United Methodist
- ❖ Fair Oaks Presbyterian
- ❖ First United Methodist
- ❖ First United Church of Oak Park
- ❖ Grace Lutheran
- ❖ Oak Park Temple
- ❖ Oak Park Friends
- ❖ Pilgrim Congregational, UCC
- ❖ River Forest United Methodist
- ❖ St. Christopher's Episcopal
- ❖ St. Edmunds Parish
- ❖ St. Giles Parish
- ❖ Unity Temple Unitarian Universalist
- ❖ West Suburban Temple Har Zion

We welcome new member congregations

Contact:

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Interfaith Green Network



Interfaith
Green
Network



<https://www.facebook.com/Interfaith-Green-Network-208951019619778/>

Rooted in our faith, how can we amplify our collective voice to educate, inspire, and motivate others to engage in caring for our common home?



Introduction

The Interfaith Green Network (IGN) has been a network of faith communities in Oak Park and River Forest for 8 years. During that time, 22 congregations have participated in IGN activities.

We see the outcomes of our work as leveraging the core beliefs of faith communities in Oak Park and River Forest to do three things:

- ❖ to enable a dramatic increase in environmental work at the congregational level;
- ❖ to enhance the work of individual members as they work for sustainability across the broader community;
- ❖ to serve as an information exchange among members.

Our mission statement/question: *Rooted in our faith, how can we amplify our collective voice to educate, inspire, and motivate others to engage in caring for our common home?*



History

IGN marks its turning point as a 2016 strategic planning grant from the Community Foundation of Oak Park and River Forest. 17 congregations took 4 months to build a common vision and long term directions.

Actions:

❖ **Talking Trash**

- Educated our congregations about the importance of recycling, composting and reducing landfill
- Worked with Housing Forward to eliminate the use of Styrofoam at PADS homeless shelters

❖ **Plastic Bag ordinance**-16 pastors, priests and rabbis signed a letter of support and IGN members rallied at Oak Trustee meeting to convince trustees to approve a mandatory single-use-bag fee ordinance

❖ **Native Plant Tour**- 14 local gardens with almost 200 participants



❖ **One Earth Film Festival**-250 attendees viewed an environmental film as part of the Chicagoland festival

❖ **Earth Day weekend** -participated in bike/walk to church and around town events



Current Programs

❖ **Yearly Faith Community Breakfast**- to review the State of the Environment in Oak Park and River Forest and propose priorities for the coming year

❖ **Energy/Environmental Justice Team:**

- Encourage congregations to participate in Community Solar projects
- Track local government's sustainable energy policies



❖ **Food for All Species**

- Educate ourselves and the community about the impact of food waste and how to reduce it
- Chemical-free lawn care

❖ **Waste/Public Policy/Transportation:**

- Divestment from fossil fuels, de-carbonize economy
- Promote biking and the use of public transportation
- Pursue waste reduction, especially straws and Styrofoam;
- Promote One Earth Film Festival