



South Carolina Interfaith Power & Light is inspired by diverse faith perspectives to care for the Earth and all its inhabitants. SCIPL engages people of faith to work together for a just and sustainable future. SCIPL offers programs and resources for advocacy, action, energy conservation, education, networking, and worship. Please support us by signing this Covenant.

Earth Care Covenant

We, _____ (name of faith community or committee working within, and on behalf of, faith community), support the mission of SCIPL to engage people of faith in caring for the Earth through advocacy, action, energy conservation, education, networking, and worship.

We pledge to do one or more of the following: (please check all that apply)

- Promote a culture that encourages working together for a just and sustainable future.
- Educate our congregation about the moral, ethical, spiritual and religious requirements of caring for the Earth and all its inhabitants and about how we can best become effective witnesses for just and sustainable solutions.
- Educate our congregation and community how to live more sustainably including: energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy, climate change, healthy eating & lifestyles, and/or air & water quality.
- Conduct energy audit or assessment of our facilities to identify sources of energy/water waste, evaluate financial savings of related improvements and explore financial incentives.
- Initiate energy efficiency repairs and upgrades and energy conservation strategies.
- Commit to make our house of worship or congregation carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon zero by 2050.
- Help advocate for local, state and national policies related to the climate and environment.
- Establish or maintain an ongoing group (e.g. green team, earth care committee) within the congregation to advance environmental stewardship.
- Adopt environment-friendly practices of purchasing, using, and disposing of supplies and for transportation for congregation-related purposes.
- Establish a community garden, share resources about local food production, and/or assist in a local food pantry or farmer's market.
- Commit to preserve existing mature trees and plant additional trees where possible.
- Help advocate for local, state and national policies related to the climate and environment.
- Commit to divest from all fossil fuel investments within a defined timeframe.
- Support SCIPL financially with an annual or recurring donation and/or contribute a portion of energy savings back to Earth care activities.

This Covenant to work with other faith congregations through SCIPL is important because:

- Taking a moral, ethical and spiritual stand for Earth care is an act of love for our sacred planet and future generations.
- Working collaboratively as a participant with SCIPL demonstrates that your faith community wants to promote ecological justice for our brothers and sisters in South Carolina and all other parts of the world, especially those who are economically challenged and suffering most.
- All of the major religious traditions are calling their members to care for the Earth and a reduction in energy consumption.
- The SCIPL Earth Care Covenant constitutes a witness to other faith communities to consider acting in justice and consideration for environmental stewardship.
- Your engagement demonstrates to secular society that people of faith are engaged in addressing consumption, energy use, and policy advocacy.

- The Covenant recognizes and affirms the good things that your faith community and individuals within your congregation are doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, which can then serve as examples for others.
- Your Covenant supports the work of SCIPL staff, programs and growing the resources that are available to you.
- Having many faith communities and committees sign the Covenant increases the strength, scope and influence of SCIPL's ethical and justice voice when addressing policy issues appropriate for a 501 (c) 3 at the local, state, and national levels.



Congregation (or committee, team or group*): _____

Congregation address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Website: _____

Faith Tradition/Denomination: _____ Number of members: _____

Clergy Contact: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Pledge Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**If the joining group is a committee, team or group rather than the congregation as a whole, please provide the name of the committee, team or group committing to this covenant.*

SCIPL's ministry throughout the State depends upon donations and grants. Any contribution furthers our work together as partners caring for the Earth and the future. Donations are tax deductible. When possible, SCIPL asks those signing the Covenant to offer a financial donation to our work. Direct questions to scipl@sustainingway.com or call 864-688-9323.

Your completed Covenant can be emailed to scipl@sustainingway.com or mailed to:

South Carolina Interfaith Power & Light
 60 Baxter Street
 Greenville, SC 29607