

The Mission of the Interfaith Coalition on Energy

The mission of the Interfaith Coalition on Energy is to inspire congregations to reduce the costs of operating their facilities. We guide congregations to use measurably less energy, to purchase energy at lower cost, and to anticipate and prevent problems with mechanical and electrical systems within their buildings. Our mutual goal is to create money for community service while practicing environmental stewardship.

Deregulated Electricity

Lower cost deregulated electricity in the Philadelphia Area seems to have peaked around 1999. Since then, the number of deregulated suppliers that can beat the PECO Energy prices and are actively seeking customers has dwindled to zero. The terms in their contracts have become more one-sided to their benefit and prices can be changed (increased) at any time. Contracts are month to month. So, we regretfully suggest that your congregation return to PECO Energy as your supplier of choice until something better comes along. ICE

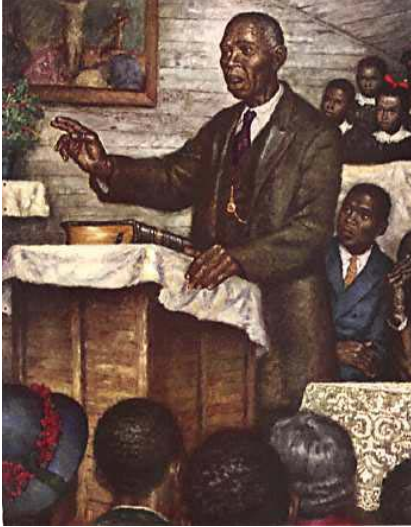


Technological Congregations

The July/August 2005 issue of Your Church magazine reported on some research they have done concerning how congregations relate to the digital world. Here is a list of such relationships, and the percentage of congregations that are so connected as of 2004:



Desktop computer and printer	95%
Internet access	85%
Congregation website	61%
Financial software	83%
Management software	75%
Scanner	72%
Bible software	69%
Local area network	59%
Laptop computer	52%
High speed internet connection	37%
Electronic books	37%



Helpful quote

To counter conservative, orthodox religious assaults on our environment, Calvin DeWitt, professor of environmental studies at the University of Wisconsin reminds us of a passage from Revelations 11:18 –

**THE TIME HAS COME FOR JUDGING THE DEAD...
AND FOR DESTROYING THOSE WHO DESTROY THE
EARTH.**

brought to our attention by *Philadelphia Inquirer* Staff Writer Paul Nussbaum on Sunday, May 22, 2005 in his article on “Preaching the Gospel of Green.” ICE

Should We Consider Electric Heat?

The prices for fuel oil and gas have increased dramatically. As we go to press with this newsletter, residential natural gas last month was \$1.267 per CCF. The lowest price we have seen for #2 fuel oil is \$2.13 per gallon for 20,000 gallons during the coming season. In mid-August 2005, the *Philadelphia Inquirer* published a misleading article comparing energy prices. ICE Board member Larry Spielvogel sent them a letter that they have not yet printed. So, we are going to print it here:



Friday, August 19, 2005 10:50 AM

Subject: Oil Heat

Dear Mr. Heavens:

Your comparison of \$2 per gallon oil with electric heat in the *Inquirer* today is not correct or complete. At \$2 per gallon and 138,000 Btu per gallon, the cost per million Btu for oil is \$14.49. However, oil furnaces and boilers are about 70 to 80% efficient in delivering heat to the occupied space. At 80% efficiency, the cost per million Btu **delivered to the occupied space** is \$18.12.

On the PECO residential electric heating rate, the cost in the winter (for all over 600 kWh per month) is \$0.0643 per kWh. The cost per million Btu is then \$18.84 **delivered to the occupied space**. However, with room-by-room temperature control of electric baseboard, one needs only to heat those rooms that are occupied, and then only to the temperature desired in each room. Thus, while a central heating system delivers heat to the entire house; room-by-room electric heat delivers less heat than a central system, so the consumption is lower. This can make the total heating bill lower than it would be for \$2 per gallon oil.

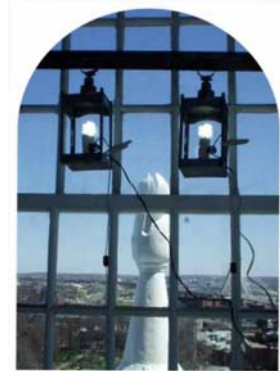
If a heat pump replaces the oil furnace, the heat pump Coefficient of Performance (COP) ranges from two to three. Thus, at a COP of two, the cost per million Btu **delivered to the occupied space** becomes \$9.42. This compares equally with an 80% efficient oil furnace at \$1.04 per gallon.

In addition, on the PECO residential electric heat rate during the eight winter months of October through May, all other electric use over 600 kWh per month for all other purposes is discounted by more than 50% compared with a house that does not have electric heat or a heat pump.

I believe you owe your readers a correction. ICE

The CFLs are coming! The CFLs are coming!

Thomas Nutt Powell of Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light sent us a picture of new lights in the tower of the Old North Church, from which Paul Revere saw ‘one if by sea; two if by land’ on April 18, 1775. The lamps are now the more efficient compact fluorescent variety. From Tom’s photo, looks like it’s by sea, which was the signal in 1775. Would compact fluorescent lamps work in your steeple as well? ICE



For Americans, Does Fuel Efficiency and Patriotism Go Hand in Hand?

From “THIS WEEK” March 29, 2005 on www.emagazine.com
Reported by Roddy Scheer



“In a recent poll conducted on behalf of the nonpartisan Civil Society Institute, two-thirds of participants, representing a wide socioeconomic and geographic range of Americans, said they considered driving a more fuel-efficient car to be patriotic in light of increasing U.S. dependence on Middle Eastern oil reserves.”

“In the survey of more than 1,000 adults in private U.S. households, 57 percent of self-described conservatives considered the purchase of a fuel-efficient vehicle to be patriotic, with 67 percent of NASCAR racing fans concurring as well. The poll also showed that nine out of 10 Americans agreed on the importance of government action to reach a 40-mile-per-gallon fuel efficiency level for American cars, both for curbing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing dependence on foreign crude sources.” ICE

From ICE Enthusiasts:

“Thank you for so much for all you do. We will be sending you a donation. Keep up the great work.”

Jonathan Brandt from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

“Thanks for your assistance and recommendations over the years.”

Ed Murphy, Parish Business Administrator of Corpus
Christie parish

INTERFAITH COALITION ON ENERGY



There are a number of reasons to give money to us:

- You may have extra money lying around, and you don't know what to do with it.
- Perhaps you want to support an energy conservation organization that solely represents the interests of people of faith.
- Maybe you like ICE; maybe one of our articles or a phone conversation saved your congregation money.
- Your contribution is tax-deductible.

Whatever your reasons, please send ICE a check so that we may continue to serve.

ICE, 7217 Oak Avenue, Melrose Park, PA 19027

Thanks. ICE