



[Sign up now to participate in the 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast!](#)

Thank you for your participation in the 2011 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast. We hope you found it engaging, informative and transformational. We're writing to invite you to renew your commitment to reducing your carbon footprint by joining us again in the 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast.

Similar to last year, participants like you will receive daily email messages from Ash Wednesday through Easter with carbon reducing suggestions for you and your church or community group. There are many new suggestions-often the result of your feedback- as well as updated links and information in those suggestions which have been carried forward from 2011.

Participating last year does not automatically sign you up to participate this year. To join the 2012 fast, please click [here](#). (If you've already signed up through our Facebook page, you don't need to sign up again.)

We will not sell or share your email address or other information with anyone else or use it for any purpose except the 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast.

We hope you'll join us again!

The 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast is a project of NEREM (New England Regional Environmental Ministries).

[Save the date](#)

Boundary Training: - March 8th- 9-3

[Faith Leaders Press Conference In Favor of Tolerance and Civility](#)

The Rhode Island State Council of Churches and our Betsy Garland, as Council President, joined with other faith leaders from Cranston and the rest of Rhode Island to speak in support of Jessica Ahlquist's right to challenge the banner at Cranston High School West, the need for a thoughtful discussion of the issues involved and to condemn the inappropriate language used by some to describe Jessica Ahlquist.

[National Youth Event - Be a Part of the Journey!](#)

Join us for this summer's National Youth Event Mission Trip! More details about the trip, including registration information, can be found at www.centralchurch.us/nye. Whether you choose to go to NYE or not, you can **be a part of the journey by supporting our youth with prayers and sponsorship money**. Give online at www.centralchurch.us/givenye or via Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/pages/Help-RI-Youth-Get-to-National-Youth-Event/166869726752946?sk=app_4949752878. Unfortunately, many students are unable to afford the cost of this life-changing trip. **Please pass the donation links along to your friends and ask them to give generously. Include in your message a few sentences about why you believe youth trips make a difference in students' lives (and in the future of our churches!).** Consider sending messages to groups of people who have supported you in your own life and ministry-- church small groups, fellowship groups, family members, college friends, and business partners. **Taking just 5 minutes to send an email to your contacts may make all the difference in the life and faith of a child!** All donations are tax deductible and will be used to support students going on this summer's trip. Donors will receive a receipt and a thank you note from participating students. Checks can also be mailed to the Conference Office: 8 Summer Street / Pawtucket, RI 02860 Please specify "NYE Scholarships" in the memo.

We are also still looking for adult leaders 25 and older for the trip. Interested adults should contact Kat Townes: kat@centralchurch.us to set up a time to meet with Kat Townes and/or Megan Weymouth before the February 28 leader training. Please include in your email a brief description of your experience working with young people and why you'd like to be a part of this summer's trip. We will be selecting the leaders for the trip very soon, so please get in touch ASAP if you are interested. We will be holding a required training for all leaders at Woodridge Congregational Church on February 8, from 7-8:30PM.

Also coming up - **Edgewood Congregational Church in Cranston is hosting a Bible Read-a-Thon on February 11** beginning at 9PM to raise money for the trip. All youth grades 8-12 are invited to attend (registration for this summer's trip is not required).

CE Support Staff Person

Rev. Elizabeth Barnum has presented a proposal on behalf the CE Leaders and Chuck Barnes to the personnel committee to create a Part time CE Support Staff Position. The committee received the proposal and will be working on the details

Announcing: Preach-In and Conference on Global Warming

Clergy:

Preach-In: On the weekend closest to Valentine's Day, hundreds of faith leaders of different religious traditions from around the country will express their love of Creation and their concern about climate change. The New England Regional UCC Environmental Ministries joins with Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) to encourage you to give a sermon on the environment or climate on February 12, Click [here](#) to sign up and receive a variety of resources as soon as they become available:

- Denomination-specific liturgical and thematic notes
- Ready-to-go sample sermons on global warming
- Global warming fact sheet and bulletin insert
- Selected DVDs on request with companion discussion guides

Clergy and Lay people:

Conference on Global Warming: The Preach-In will serve as a great motivator and segue for RI-IPL's "Ethics of Climate Change" conference to be held February 28th at the Open Table of Christ Methodist Church, 1520 Broad Street, Providence, RI.

The conference will feature as keynote speaker, world-renowned philosopher, author, Prof. Roger S. Gottlieb (for more information about Prof. Gottlieb, click [here](#).) Prof. Gottlieb, a clear, dynamic and engaging lecturer, will develop a convincing argument that the sacred teachings of the world's major religions compel an ethical response to the climate-change problem. The conference will include informational exhibits, interactive workshops and a low-carbon-footprint fair (for more conference information, and to register, click [here](#)).

For More information:

Ray Frackelton, Home Phone: 401-438-0391, Cell Phone: 401-580-9141, Email: A.Frackelton.Jr@Brown.Edu

Honored Lay Men's Breakfast

March 10, 2012 at 8:45, Central Congregational Church, UCC

\$15.00 per person

Please make reservations by Monday, March 5th, by sending checks payable to RICUCC (note LMB in memo line) to Central Congregational Church, UCC, 296 Angell Street, Providence, RI 02906 or calling them at 331-1960