

# ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

## *Media Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Workshop helps Congregations Go Green:**

#### **St Andrew Lutheran Church invites other congregations into the rewarding process of building green**

The reason St Andrew Lutheran Church's pastor Rev. Mark Brocker is so excited to host Oregon Interfaith Power and Light's Green Building workshop is that the Beaverton congregation is in the process of planning a green re-model. Not only will his congregation receive valuable information, but they will lead by example as stewards. "Green Building and Renovations for Congregations" will be offered on **Tuesday, October 2, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Beaverton.** This workshop is co-sponsored by Oregon Interfaith Power and Light (OIPL), a project of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO), the Energy Trust of Oregon, Oregon Department of Energy.

Architect Tom Bender, of Neahkahn Mountain, will explore how green and spiritual principles for sacred architecture intermesh using the beautiful design of St. Catherine's of Alexandria Episcopal Church in Manzanita as an example of his architecture of spirit. Owner/Developer Steven Ribeiro of ALDEIA, LLC., will talk about LEEDS certification using as example his company's award winning development, Independence Station, a community design in Independence, Ore.

Sr. Pat Nagle, IHM, of Earthhome Ministries and co-chair of OIPL, will tell the story of her order's motherhouse in Michigan and the in-depth process rooted in the order's values and reinterpretation. Doug Boleyn, P.E., owner of Cascade Solar Consulting and Energy Consultant for OIPL, will provide a framework for energy efficient building.

Oregon Interfaith Power and Light has helped many congregations retrofit their buildings to be more energy efficient and improve their daily energy conservation practices. Recently, OIPL has increasingly focused on encouraging religious communities to build using methods that translate into less need for energy the first place.

OIPL encourages that congregations send a team including trustees, environmental committee members, facility managers and clergy to attend together so they can follow-up. Green building works best when there is collaboration and input from different stakeholders in the congregation. Topics will include an overview of energy-efficient building; why energy is a spiritual issue; integrated design; case studies; getting the results you want—how to work with contractors and architects; OIPL programs and resources; generating energy on-site; financing and rebate opportunities available to congregations through Oregon Department of Energy and Energy Trust of Oregon; and integrating energy efficiency with aesthetic and spiritual concerns.

Also presenting will be **Jenny Holmes**, EMO's Environmental Ministries director; **Will Miller**, technical manager for Building Efficiency program at Lockheed Martin for Energy Trust of Oregon; and **Roland Gilchrist**, energy analyst for the Oregon Department of Energy.

Registration is \$30; lunch is provided at each workshop for a suggested donation of \$8 (payable at the event). To register for the workshop, please call (503) 221-1054. A complete brochure is available at [www.emoregon.org](http://www.emoregon.org).

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Environmental Ministries connects, informs and empowers individuals and congregations to work for justice and the care and renewal of the earth. EMO is a statewide association of 16 Christian denominations including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

#### MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church ■ American Baptist Churches ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren  
Community of Christ ■ Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches