

Press Release

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia

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Unitarian Fellowship Gives Light - Literally

The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Visalia is donating a thousand light bulbs to the small rural community of London (population ~2000) in Tulare County.

"We wanted to create a pilot project that would help directly reduce global warming emissions," said April Hill, President of the congregation. The congregation is a member of the California Interfaith Power & Light program for churches and other faith communities. Interfaith Power & Light believes that global warming is the moral issue of our time. The Fellowship wanted to find a way to help reduce global warming directly - which it did by providing two compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) to each household in the community of London.

Hill said many people are unaware of the cost-saving benefits of CFLs. They cost more than old-fashioned incandescent light bulbs, but can save up to \$30 or \$40 in energy costs

over the lifetime of the bulb. To help educate people, the Fellowship is providing information sheets from P G & E in both English and Spanish to the community.

Hill said, "Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) use up to 75% less energy than conventional bulbs. CFLs save \$60 a year or more in energy costs if you replace five regular incandescent light bulbs! We wanted to provide these cost-saving devices to help directly reduce global warming emissions."

"We're a small congregation, so we chose a small community," said Hill. "Bigger churches could undoubtedly make a much bigger impact by targeting larger areas."

The Interfaith Power and Light group encourages faith communities of all denominations to help fight global warming, while maximizing their energy savings by replacing the most frequently used lights with CFLs. The Interfaith group believes "All major faith traditions call us to be good stewards of the earth; therefore, we must work together to address the grave threat to humanity and all of Creation posed by global warming."

For More information:

www.uuvisalia.org/justice/energy.html

www.interfaithpower.org