

“The faith community has led every major movement in the US including the abolition of slavery, a woman's right to vote and most recently the civil rights movement. We are involved now, working for the health of Creation and I think we will succeed in creating a sustainable future. No institution is more suited to preach clean air, water and land than the institution that professes a love of God and God's creation.”

-Rev. Sally Bingham, Founder Interfaith Power and Light



COOL CONGREGATIONS

An Earth Stewardship Program



Presented by:

Kansas Interfaith Power and Light

Agenda

- Who is Interfaith Power and Light?
- What is climate change and why is it a faith issue?
- Measure Your Own Carbon Footprint and Find Ways to Reduce!
- How to Organize a Cool Congregations Program with your congregation

www.kansasipl.org




KANSAS INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT


"Together we can save energy, save money, and put our faith into action to address climate change"

JOIN US!
Sign the Covenant




Kansas Interfaith Power and Light...

 How cool is your congregation?




 Get started with an energy audit!

 Find energy efficiency tools for your congregation.

 Connect with congregants about energy stewardship.

 See how other Kansas IPL members are caring for Creation!

Recent News:

-  [Google Map of Member Congregations!](#)
by ehorn
-  [Wichita Eagle Op-Ed: People of Faith Must Care for Creation](#)
by ehorn
-  [Sisters of St. Joseph: Energy](#)

Upcoming Events:



 [Share kansasipl.org...](#)

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Interfaith Power and Light Campaign



- Founded in 1998
- 30 States
- 4,000 congregations
- 1.5 million people of faith

Kansas Interfaith Power and Light Mission Statement:

Seeks to engage faith communities in environmental stewardship and sustainable practices through the promotion of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. We believe the threat of global climate change calls us to action.

The General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) of the United Methodist Church:

“As a matter of stewardship and justice, Christians must take action now to reduce global warming pollution and stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world whose land, livelihood and lives are threatened by the global climate crisis.”

<http://www.umc-gbcs.org/site/apps/nl/content3.asp?c=frLJK2PKLqF&b=3631781&ct=3956191>

From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops:

“At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, nor about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God's creation and the one human family. It is about protecting both "the human environment" and the natural environment. It is about our human stewardship of God's creation and our responsibility to those who come after us.”

<http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/globalclimate.shtml#introduction>

From the 2006 Presbyterian Church General Assembly,

Resolution on Climate Change:

“(The Church) strongly urges all Presbyterians to immediately make a bold witness by aspiring to live carbon neutral lives (and) calls upon all Presbyterians to take this seriously, to pray asking for God’s forgiveness and guidance, to study this issue, to calculate your carbon emissions, to educate others, and to use less energy, striving to make your life carbon neutral.”

www.pcusa.org

The Episcopal Church, Response to Global Warming:

“Global Warming threatens the future of God’s good creation, and the effects of Global Warming disproportionately hurt the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable in the United States and around the world... Episcopalians and The Episcopal Church at every level support efforts that seek to reduce Global Warming, including national and international legislation that increase the supply of clean energy and reduce consumption of fossil fuels.”

http://gc2006.org/legislation/view_leg_detail.aspx?id=188&type=CURRENT

Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

“Preventing climate change is a preeminent expression of faithfulness to our Creator God. ...We pray that the wisdom, faith, and solidarity of the American people will bring us together - at this critical juncture - to redirect our national energy policy toward conservation, efficiency, justice, and maximum use of the perennial abundance of clean and renewable energy that our Creator brought into being by proclaiming, “Let there be light” (Gen. 1:3).”

<http://www.coejl.org/action/alert/energysecurity2.pdf>

Evangelical Climate Initiative:

“The same love for God and neighbor that compels us to preach salvation through Jesus Christ, protect the unborn, preserve the family and the sanctity of marriage, and take the whole Gospel to a hurting world, also compels us to recognize that human-induced climate change is a serious Christian issue requiring action now.”

<http://www.christiansandclimate.org/>

The Greenhouse Effect

Some of the infrared radiation passes through the atmosphere but most is absorbed and re-emitted in all directions by greenhouse gas molecules and clouds. The effect of this is to warm the Earth's surface and the lower atmosphere.

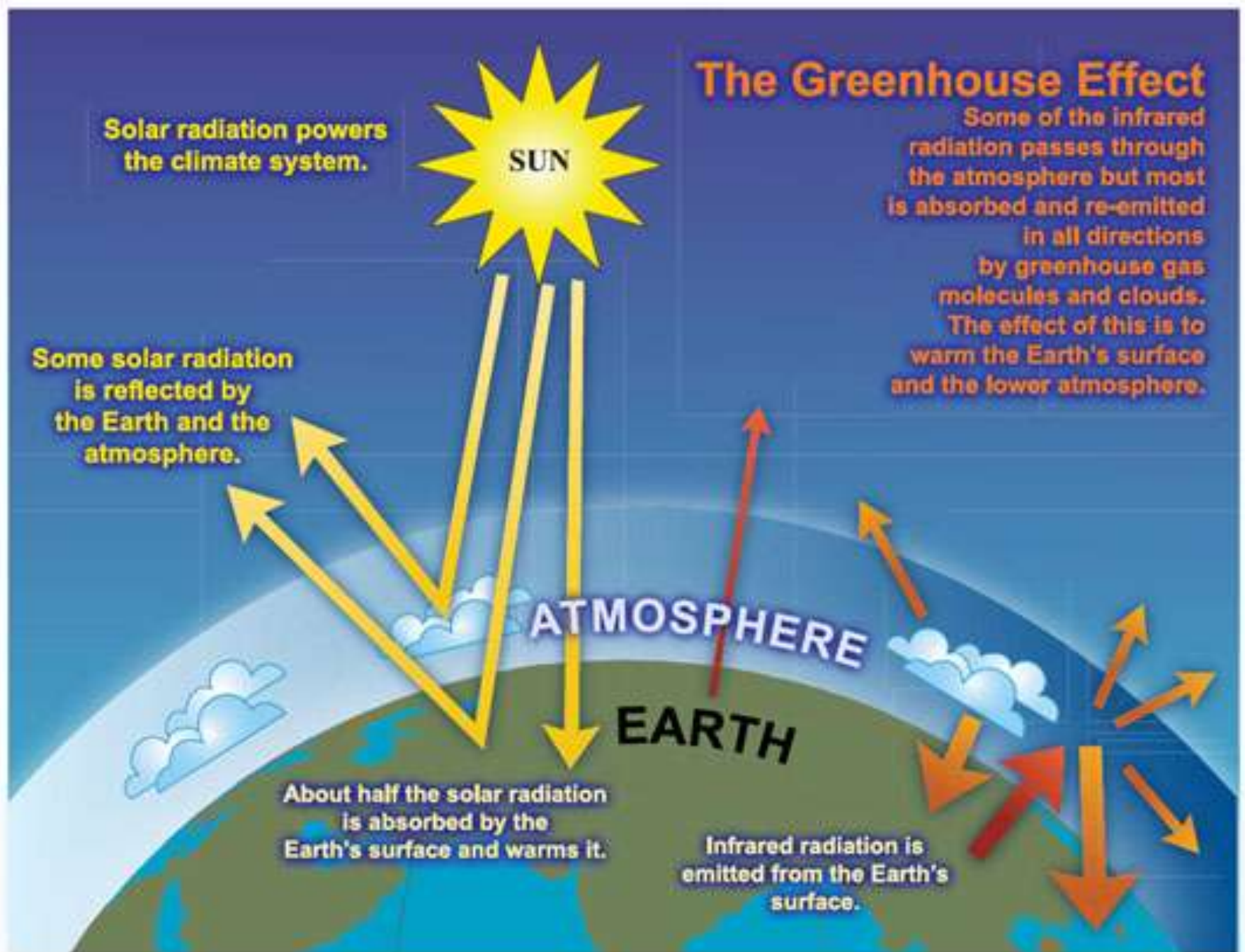
Solar radiation powers the climate system.



Some solar radiation is reflected by the Earth and the atmosphere.

About half the solar radiation is absorbed by the Earth's surface and warms it.

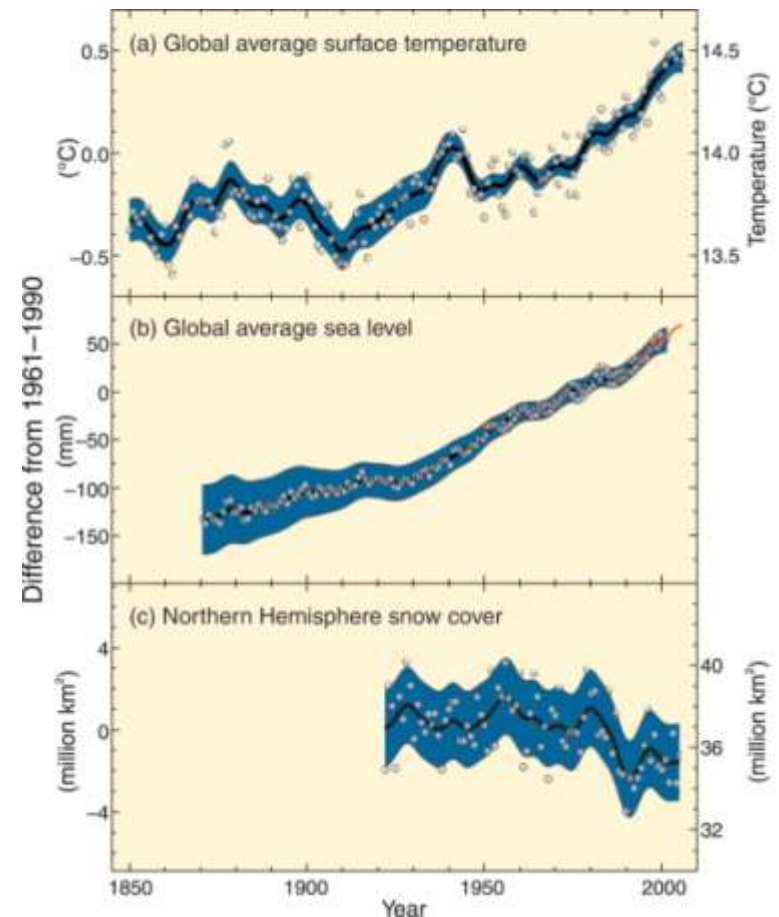
Infrared radiation is emitted from the Earth's surface.

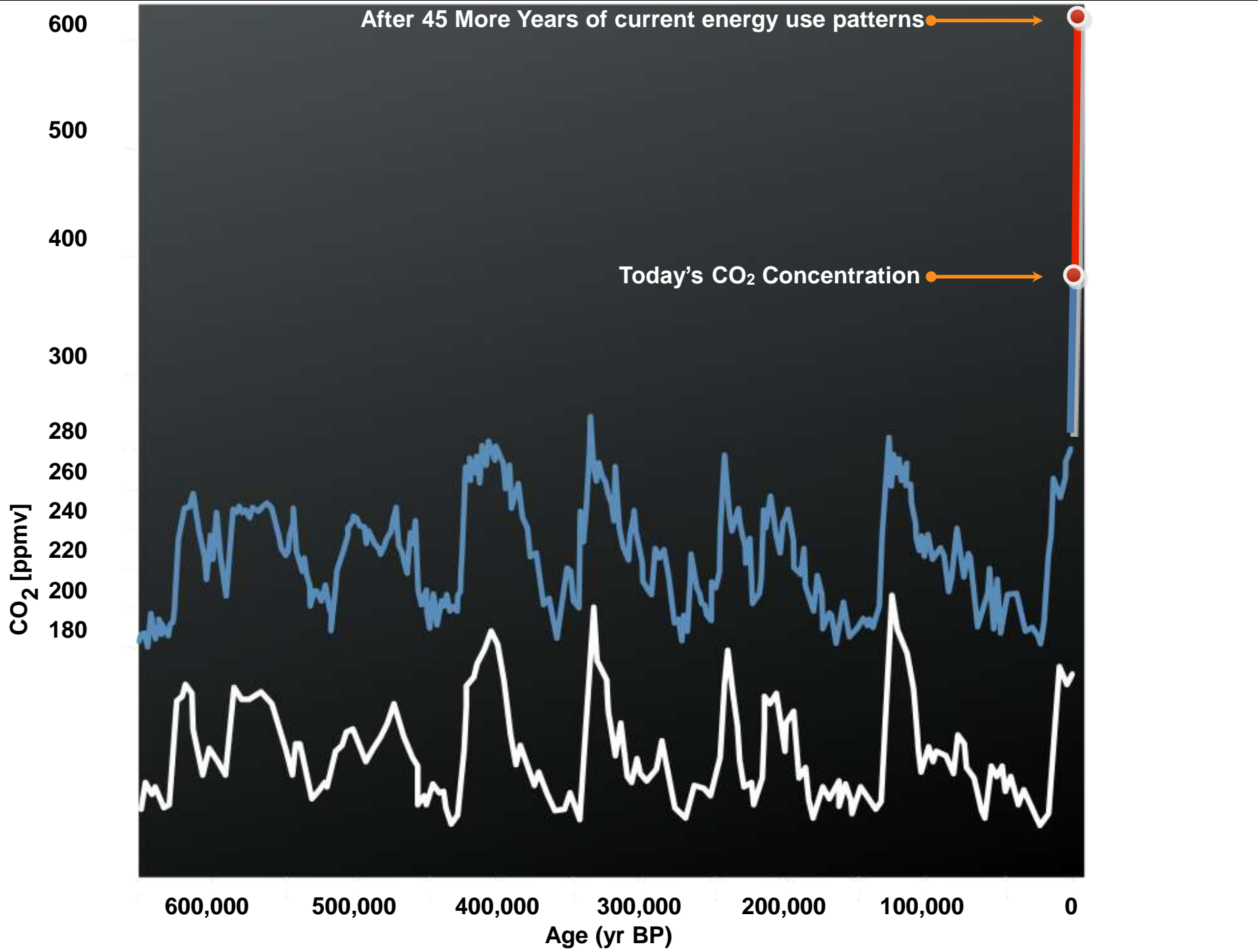


Observations of Climate Change

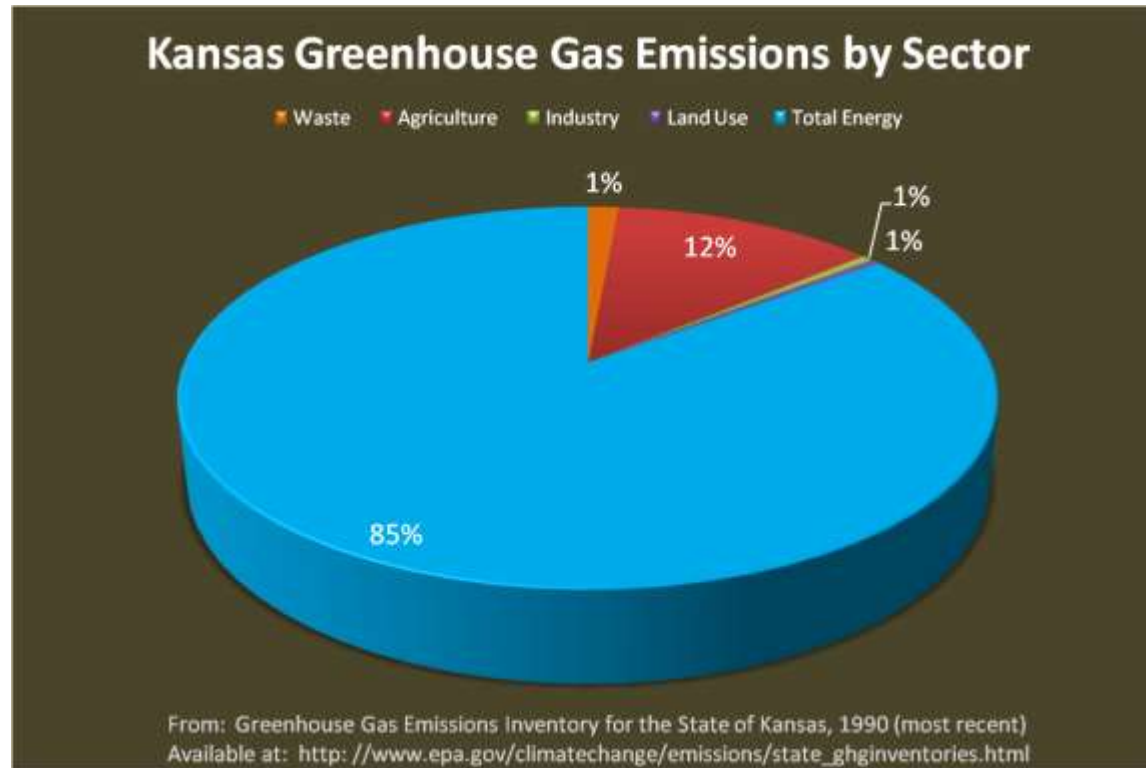
“Warming of the climate system **is unequivocal**, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice and rising global average sea level.”

– IPCC, 2007





Causes of Climate Change

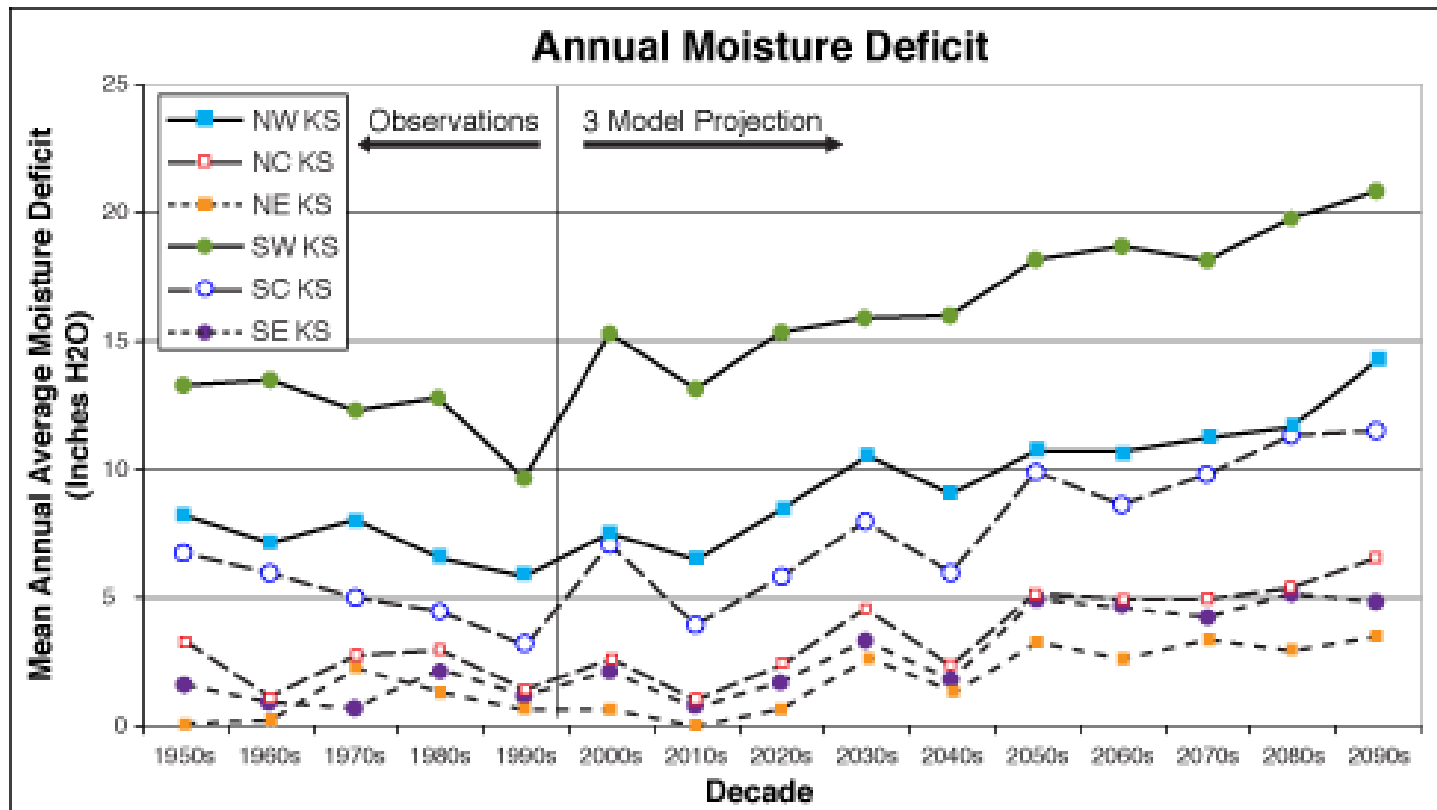


Climate Change Hits Home: The Risks to Kansas

What climate change means for Kansas by 2100

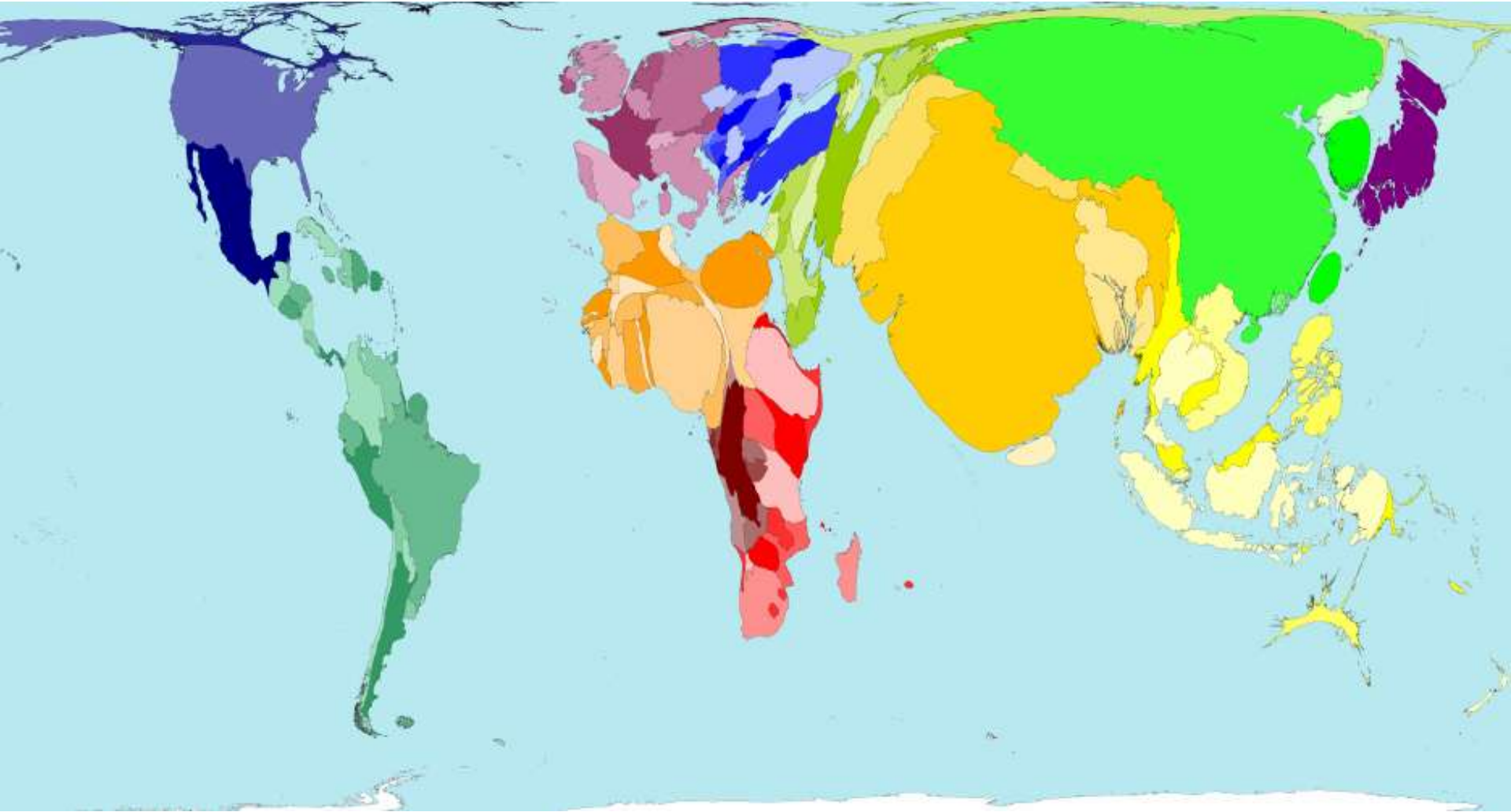
- Increased temperatures
- Fewer frost days
- More heat waves
- Lower heating costs, higher air-conditioning costs
- More intense storm cycles – precipitation intensity increases, while frequency decreases
- Higher probability of flooding
- Less predictable precipitation cycles
- Higher evapotranspiration rates
- Decreases in soil moisture and annual moisture surplus
- The state will need more water, but less total moisture will be available

In Kansas, Climate Change = Water

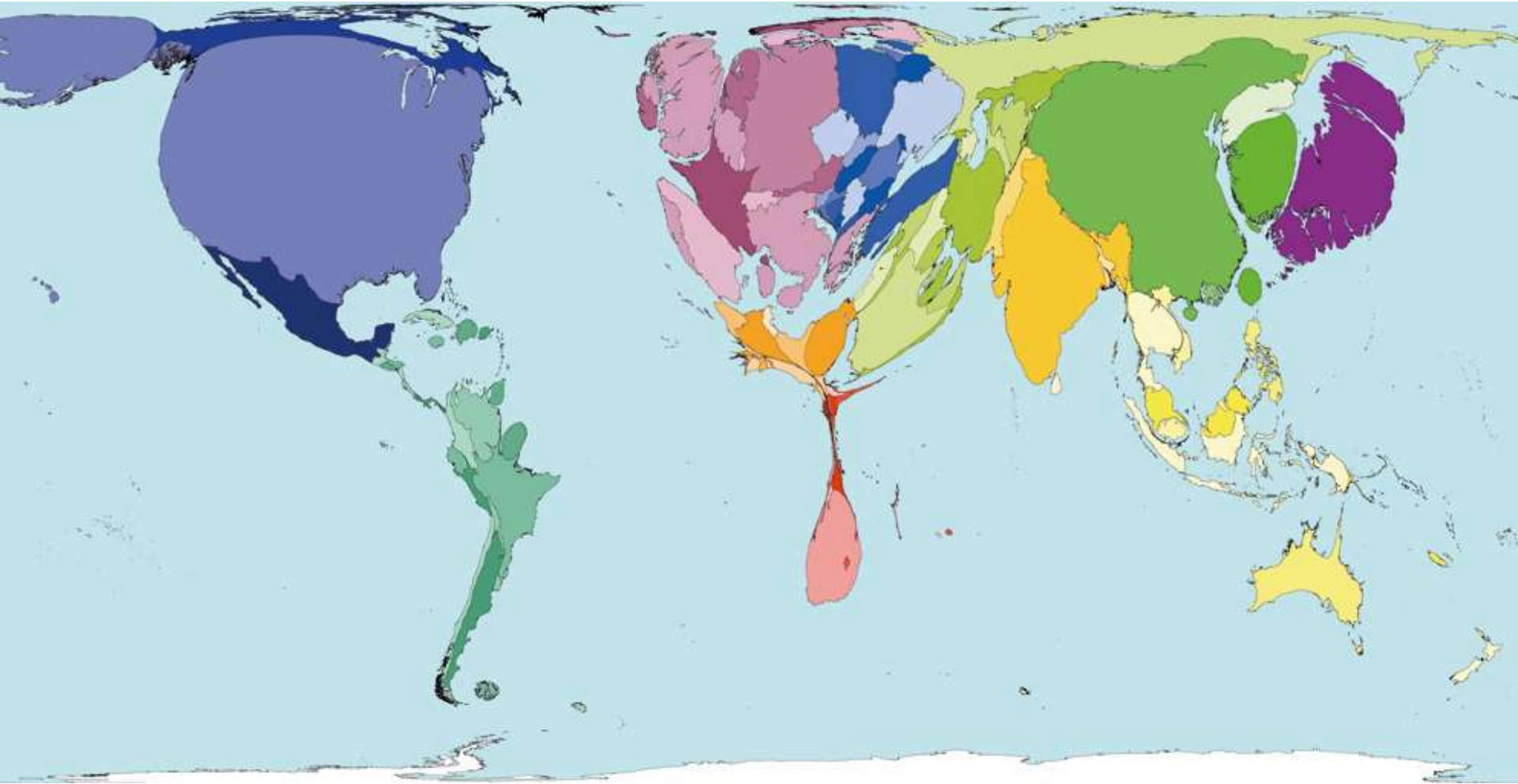


Moisture deficit is projected to increase by an equivalent of **2-8 inches** for different locations.

U.S. 4% of world population



U.S. 28% world's CO2 emissions





Bangladesh



India



Paraguay



New Orleans

Your Story...

- What is it you love about life that will be/is already affected by climate change?
- How has your religious tradition/spiritual beliefs compelled you to care for creation?

Carbon Footprint



- Your carbon footprint is the measure of how much global warming pollution you produce in your daily activities.

- Measured in **pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂)**.



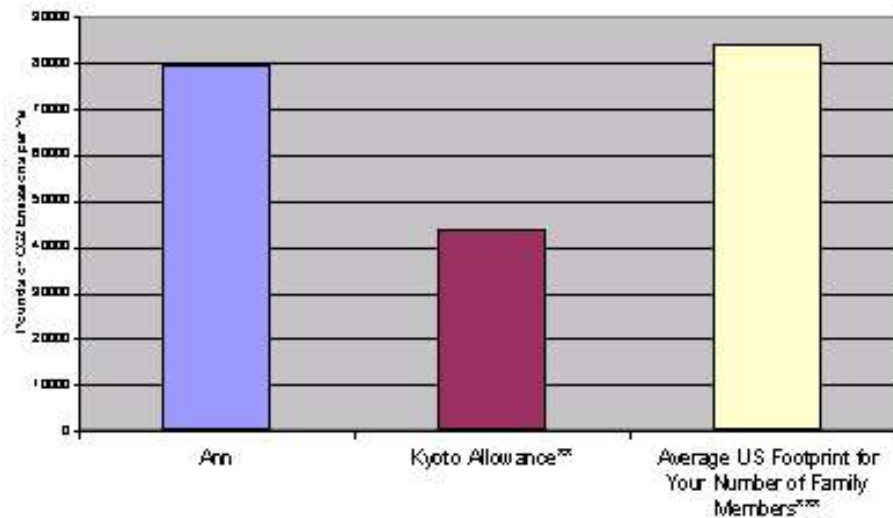
Ann's Family

Their carbon footprint

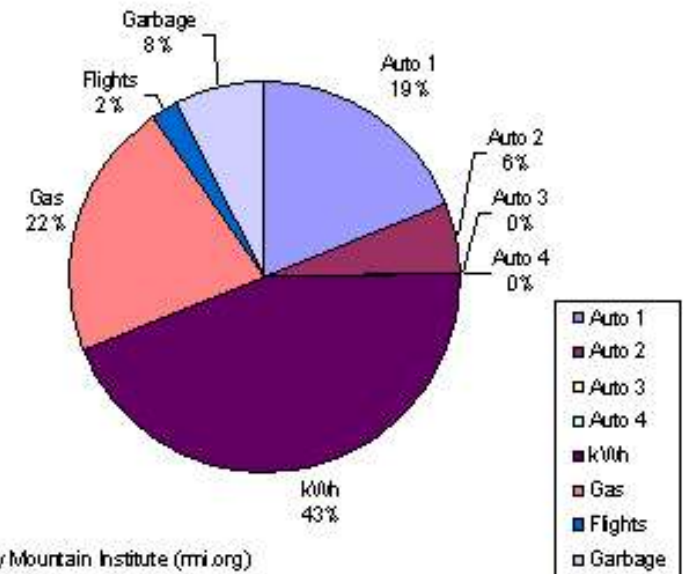
Cool Congregations Pledge

Name: Ann

Annual CO2 Emissions



CO2 Breakdown



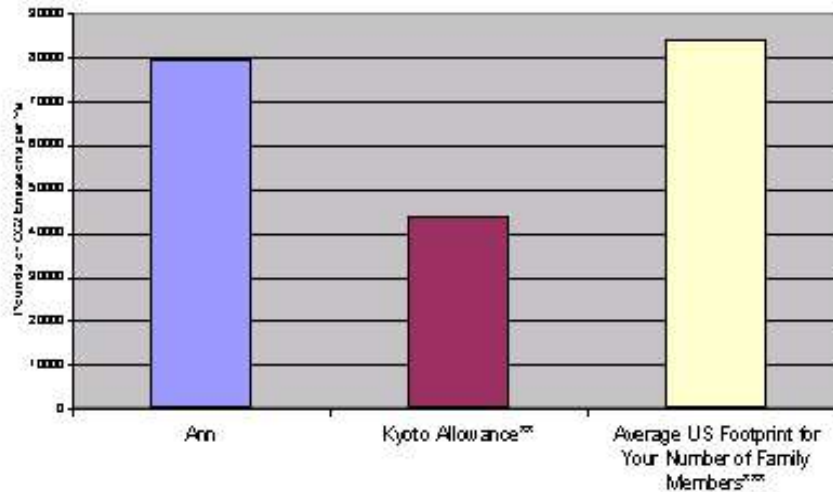
* Vermont carbon calculator (vtearthinstitute.org), ** UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), *** Rocky Mountain Institute (mi.org)

Ann's Pledge Sheet

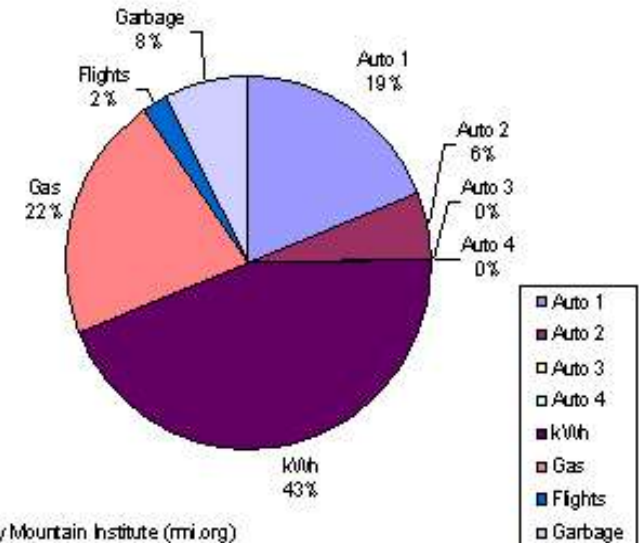
Cool Congregations Pledge

Name: Ann

Annual CO2 Emissions



CO2 Breakdown



* Vermont carbon calculator (vtearthinstitute.org), ** UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), *** Rocky Mountain Institute (rmi.org)

Pledged Actions & CO2 Pounds (Enter CO2 Pounds in Yellow Boxes):

1 <u>6 compact fluorescents</u>	1080	4 <u>dry 1/2 summer clothes on rack</u>	390
2 <u>switch 10 loads over to cold / wk</u>	2500	5 <u>turn up AC thermostat by 4 deg</u>	1000
3 <u>turn off unneeded lights</u>	380	6 <u>use less hot water in general</u>	

Total Pounds Emitted = 79834.33
Total Pounds Pledged = 5350 7.20%
Percentage Pledged (10%) = 7983.433

25 Simple Steps *Under \$25*

Lighting



- Buy compact fluorescent light bulbs for your most-used lights.
180 pounds each/yr
- Turn off unneeded lights:
380 pounds/yr

25 Simple Steps Under \$25

Home Appliances



- Line dry clothes in summer: 780 pounds CO₂/yr
- Line dry all year: 1400 pounds
- One less load/wk in dryer: 200 pounds/yr

25 Simple Steps *Under \$25*

Home Heating and Cooling



Adjust your thermostat
(lower in winter, higher in
summer)

CO₂ reduction (for each 2-
degree adjustment):

500 pounds a year.

25 Simple Steps *Under \$25* Water



Wash clothes in warm or cold water, not hot.

CO₂ reduction
(for two loads a week):
500 pounds a year.

Ann's Energy Use



- Electricity down **17%**!
- Gas down **15%**!

Ann's Carbon Footprint



- Reduced by 9 %!
- Invested \$12 on CFLs
- Saving \$100/mo on utility bills

(APPLAUSE!!!)

Next...

1. Break!

(And calculation of our carbon footprint)

2. Return to table. Absorb Footprint. Eat a snack.

3. Choose actions from "25" Lists.

“We’ve got to get organized!”

- Green team
- Guinea pig
- Involve Congregational leaders
- Educate congregation
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Measure your reductions and celebrate!

Green Team

- Measure your footprints
- Find ways to reduce
- Make a pledge



Guinea Pig



Involve your Faith Leaders: Step 1



- Talk to your faith leader
- Make a plan to go before the board together

Involve your Faith Leaders: Step 2



- Collect data from each board member ahead of the meeting.
- Calculate their footprints.

Involve your Faith Leaders: Step 3



- Religious response to global warming
- Explain Cool Congregations Stewardship program
- Share Guinea pig's case
- Show board members their footprints
- Invite them to make a pledge

Small is Beautiful



House Party

Small is Beautiful



Meeting 1

Small is Beautiful



Meeting 2

Small is Beautiful



Meeting 3



Small is Beautiful



Small Group Ministries

Small is Beautiful



Small Group Ministries

End of year...



**Measure Your
Reductions**

CELEBRATE!



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