

INTERFAITH COALITION FOR EARTH JUSTICE

November Newsletter of ICEJ
icej.org



NEWS ITEMS

- **Faiths 4 Climate Justice Rally: Follow-up**
- **COP26: Our Last Best Hope?**
- **ICEJ November Meeting**
- **Ioana, ICEJ Intern: Departure & Reflections**



ICEJ meets

November 9th @ 3:00PM

[Join us!](#)

FAITHS 4 CLIMATE JUSTICE RALLY FOLLOW-UP

At a rally on Monday, October 18th, we rallied in front of the SD Administration building to call on the County Board of Supervisors to craft the best Regional Decarbonization Framework possible.

This framework must directly address those changes that we need to mitigate climate change, find ways to mandate these changes, and do both while advancing the welfare of environmentally impacted communities.

We urge you to **TAKE ACTION NOW** with our toolkit:
ICEJSD.ORG/ADVOCACY

To check out footage of the Rally, [click here.](#)



COP26- OUR LAST BEST HOPE?



By now I expect that we all know that the 26th annual Conference of Parties (COP26) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is meeting in Glasgow from Oct. 31 to Nov. 12. What are the key elements of this meeting?

- Countries who pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (ghg) in Paris in 2015 will report on their progress or lack of it. By UN estimates, current pledges would only reduce projected ghg emissions in 2030 by 7.5% rather than the 55% reduction needed to restrict global temperature rise to just 1.5 C degrees by the end of the century.
- Follow-through on the 2010 promise that rich countries pay \$100 billion per year to poorer countries (most of them in what is called the Global South) to help them address climate change.
- The finalization of the “Paris Rulebook” which would create a global carbon market to reduce emissions worldwide.
- A proposal that rich nations phase out coal by 2030 and developing nations by 2040.
- Two pledges will be proposed: a Global Methane Pledge to reduce methane (an extremely potent ghg) 30% from 2020 levels by 2030, and a pledge to reduce CO2 energy emissions to net zero by 2050.

ICEJ INVITES YOU TO OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

We would like to invite you to the next ICEJ meeting which will be held on **Tues., Nov. 9 3:00-4:30 PM via Zoom** ([link here](#)). Having had a successful Faiths 4 Climate Justice Witness at places of worship and Rally at the County Administration Building just two weeks ago (see the video in this newsletter), we are ready to examine where we will put our energies in the year ahead. We look to plan the next two events in both our Advancing Earth Justice speaker series and Cultivating Resilience workshops. And following up on our Rally, what are our next steps in eco-justice activism? We need your help to make all this happen--won't you join us?

Please RSVP to phil@icejsd.org if you plan to attend.



COP26- Our Last Best Hope?

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Whatever happens at COP26, it does signal that most world governments recognize the climate threat and are willing to come together to try to work out solutions. And the environmental organizations (including faith groups) who assemble there to pressure these governments to take real, enforceable actions are part of this massive global convening. At a time when our country seems to be on the verge of tearing itself apart, this collective effort is heartening. It may not be enough but it is a further step in creating a truly sustainable and accountable global civilization.

Phil Petrie
Coordinator, ICEJ

IOANA, ICEJ INTERN: DEPARTURE & REFLECTIONS

When I first joined the ICEJ team in October 2019, I had no idea how lucky I was and how many inspiring local activists I would meet in my two years working with ICEJ. I recall being asked in my interview, 'Why did you apply?' My answer, 'Being someone who depends on public transit everyday in a region with inefficient transit is frustrating, not only because of how it affects my daily life, but because I realize this poor transit development is a form of oppression on those who depend on it, predominantly marginalized populations. I feel frustrated, but I don't have an outlet to channel my passion for transportation justice to advocate for change.'

ICEJ provided this outlet for me to research transportation policies, have discourse with others interested in the topic, and make it easier for people to take action for transportation justice through outreach. I recently accepted a position at the North County Transit District as a Transit Planner, and I am so excited to continue channeling this passion into making transit systems in the San Diego region better.

Concurrently, I started a Masters Program in Sustainable Urban Development at Oxford University, with the intention for my Thesis to be on Microtransit.



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Microtransit pilot initiatives are growing in popularity around the globe as a potential solution for improving transit accessibility through demand-responsive transit. While this theoretical potential is tempting, we continue to see an increased number of failed initiatives both in the United States and in the United Kingdom. First and Last Mile solutions are critical in tackling transportation injustice and increasing accessibility to public transportation, and microtransit is a creative and innovative idea, but it is crucial to plan critically and holistically for it in order to avoid inequitable development (as we have seen in the past).

Because of ICEJ, I can confidently articulate why transportation justice is so important to me (and you!): Transportation is a public service, and therefore it should be developed with the intent of having equitable access that undoes the traditional, oppressive, inefficient systems that disproportionately affect marginalized populations. It is our moral duty to fight against this injustice.

Thank you ICEJ for giving me a place to channel my passions! I will miss you all!



MEET THE COALITION icejsd.org

We are clergy and laypeople from diverse faith backgrounds, working together to empower faith communities to advocate and educate around climate justice. We provide presentations, outreach, and educational materials.

We are building our coalition, and new members are always welcome to join us! To have you or your organization join ICEJ, please email our coordinator, Phil Petrie at petriep2@gmail.com.