



# *A Sacred Legacy*

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



This Littleleaf Linden Champion Tree at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church is the largest known tree of its species in Harford County. Numerous congregations lovingly and humbly steward Champion Trees on their grounds. These are legacies in the making.



# OUR LEGACY BY THE NUMBERS: 2022

We are all creating a legacy. A legacy of restoring creation, community, justice, health...restoring a future for those who will inherit this earth. Legacies are created by everyone in their own way: green team leaders, those who care for newly installed projects, those who advocate for just legislation, those who write the grants and those who manage them, IPC's board members past and present, and donors — big and small.

***This is our legacy, together.***

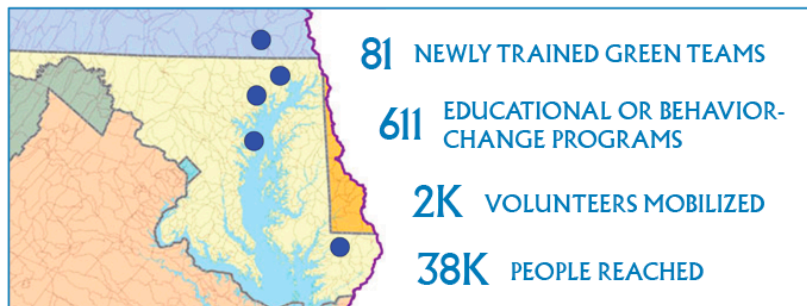


We launched a new strategic plan in January, and these statistics tie directly to those goals.  
Read more: [InterfaithChesapeake.org/StrategicPlan\\_2022](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/StrategicPlan_2022)

# RESTORING AND RECONNECTING

We successfully completed our three-year National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant that launched the One Water Partnership (OWP) collaborative. This \$1 million grant helped us mobilize 184 congregations in five hubs to complete 46 projects that will prevent more than 25,000 pounds of sediment and 420,000 gallons of stormwater from entering our local waterways.

## GRANT OUTCOMES 2019-2022



*One Water Partnership hubs sustain a legacy of projects that will serve communities for years to come.*



Peter Brooks,  
Thanksgiving Address

This year, congregations took the lead in hosting “Chesapeake Conversations,” a four-part discussion series. The virtual series unified people from Maryland and Pennsylvania around shared goals of increasing native plants, engaging and supporting youth in the face of the climate crisis, fighting transportation infrastructure that divides communities, and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

Over 420 people participated in the series. In June, the OWP hubs all jointly celebrated Juneteenth and the summer solstice in their regions — coming together in spirit though separated by miles. Baltimore’s event included a powerful rendition of the first people’s “Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address – Greetings to the World” by our friend, Peter Brooks, who explained that the Solstice is the highest of holy days to indigenous people. All around the watershed, people reconnected with the wonder of nature.



# COMMUNITY OF CONGREGATIONS



New Partner Congregations are Honored

This year, we passed a milestone: over 100 congregations have signed our Partner Congregation Pledge!

What does this mean? Congregations from all over the Chesapeake Bay watershed (and even one as far away as Zimbabwe!)

have pledged to *"honor our sacred bond with our Creator, serve as good stewards of the land and waters of the Chesapeake, and sustain the life and health of all creatures."*

By signing the pledge, Partner Congregations state publicly that they are fierce defenders of the natural world and commit to supporting their members who champion Creation Care at the congregation. Our interactive map and stories about each Partner Congregation inspire new partners and increase the visibility of committed congregations.

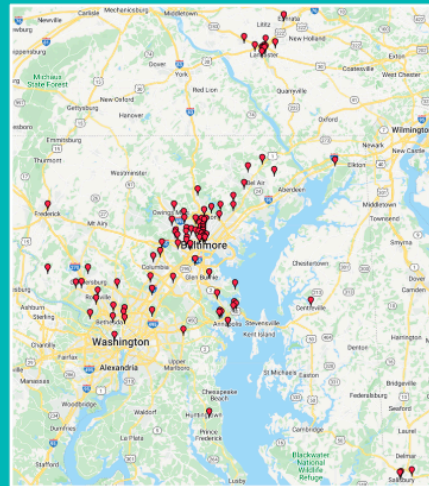
79%

OF PARTNER CONGREGATIONS HAVE TAKEN ACTION

*Signing the pledge is a great step toward meaningful change!*

View the Interactive Partner  
Congregations Map:

[InterfaithChesapeake.org/  
Congregations](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/Congregations)



Don't see your congregation  
on the map?

Visit [InterfaithChesapeake.org/](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/)  
[Sign Our Partner  
Congregation Pledge](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/Sign-Our-Partner-Congregation-Pledge)  
to sign the pledge!

# FAITHFUL GREEN LEADERS DRIVE LASTING CHANGE

IPC trained 39 new green teams this year, bringing our total number of trained teams to 161. The training featured prominent speakers, such as Sharon Lavigne (Goldman Environmental Prize 2021), Jeffrey Johnson (Chesapeake Earth Holders), and Sam Daley-Harris (Author of *Reclaiming Our Democracy:*

*Healing the Break Between People and Government*). Monthly Learning Labs enhanced the training with topics such as cross-cultural collaboration and the benefits of pollinator gardens. Congregations with trained green teams are better equipped, better connected, and better resourced to implement lasting environmental improvements in their communities.



IMAAM Native Plant Sale

87%

OF TRAINED GREEN TEAMS HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST ONE ACTION

## *Spotlight on Mentors*

IPC has launched a mentorship program to support and guide newly trained green teams. This program pairs emerging green teams with an experienced green team leader to tackle some tough challenges together. In 2022, 10 people volunteered as mentors.



**Learn more and get involved at:**  
**[InterfaithChesapeake.org/Mentors](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/Mentors)**



# RESOURCES

Once we train green teams, it doesn't stop there! The "Resources" page of our website now offers **10 Action Kits** to inspire congregations and their members to pursue new environmental projects or programs.

Topics include Faithful Lawn Care, Blessing of a Waterway, nature walk guides, and example ceremonies to bless new plantings. An online Skills Matrix showcases projects and programs to help other congregations get ideas and access support.

## Explore Our Online Skills Matrix

Bio-Swale

Forest Buffer

Mural

Bioretention

Impervious  
Surface Removal

Pervious Pavers

Cistern

Invasive  
Species Removal

Rain Barrels

Conservation  
Landscaping

LED Conversion

Rain Garden

De-Pave

Microbioretention

Rainwater  
Harvesting



Web of Life Action Kit in Action

*"The divine does not belong to one group of people, and nor does the earth. It is up to us to honor Creation by ensuring that what we leave behind is safe and sustainable. Let us join together to make this so."*

— Peter Hoogstraten,  
IPC Intern and AmeriCorps Volunteer, 2022

Showcase your congregation's completed projects and activities to inspire others around the watershed.



Learn more: [InterfaithChesapeake.org/Resources](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/Resources)

# CREATE A LEGACY WITH A PLANNED GIFT

IPC's work is rooted in hope and manifested in action — and action can include donating. You can keep our shared priorities free from reliance on grants by including IPC in your planned giving.



## Have you considered a planned gift as a way to have a lasting impact?

### Make a Future Gift in Your Will:

In as little as one sentence, you can make a meaningful gift to ensure that IPC's work to protect and restore the Chesapeake continues well into the future. Consult with your estate attorney to add IPC to your Will.

### Tax-free Gift from Your IRA:

The IRA Charitable Rollover (also referred to as qualified charitable distribution) allows donors aged 70½ or older to make a gift to a charitable organization and receive tax benefits in return. You can give any amount up to \$100,000 per year to qualified organizations such as IPC and leverage the tax benefits.

### Give from Your Donor Advised Fund:

A donor advised fund allows funds to be invested and grow tax-free, while you take an immediate tax deduction. You then direct grants from the fund to any IRS-qualified public charity, like IPC. Your grant or recurring grant to IPC makes an immediate impact on our work!

### Other Ways to Give:

- **Corporate Matching Gifts:** Have you asked your employer about matching your gift to IPC? A dollar-for-dollar match is common, but some companies contribute two or even three dollars for each dollar an employee gives.
- **Monthly Gifts:** Many people already make monthly recurring gifts to IPC. For the price of a few cups of coffee, you can support our work every month of the year.



# MISSION

TO INSPIRE AND EQUIP PEOPLE OF FAITH TO HONOR, PROTECT, AND RESTORE OUR SHARED WATERSHED.



Interfaith Stream Clean in Lancaster, PA



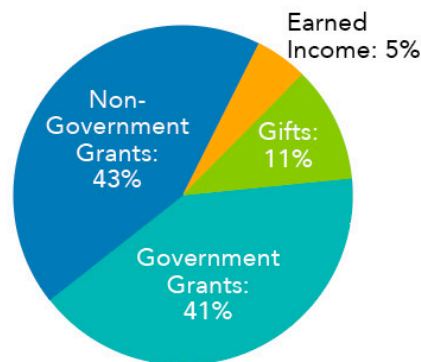
Tree Planting at Faith Presbyterian Church

## 2022 FINANCES

As of August 31, 2022

Total Income: \$529,295

Total Expenses: \$465,122



72%  
Programming

26%  
Administrative  
& Development

2%  
Fundraising

*"This is the first year I've been approached as a Green Team member about changes that were made to our annual festival that reduced plastic cup use and required more recycling cans. Progress!"*

— Mary Triandafilou, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church



# DONORS CREATE A NEW TOMORROW

*Thank you to all of our supporters  
who make our mission possible!*

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# LEAVE YOUR MARK

Join the movement in restoring our sacred waters,  
shared lands, and beloved communities.



## Ways you can donate:

- Online at [InterfaithChesapeake.org/Donate](https://InterfaithChesapeake.org/Donate)
- Become a monthly sustaining supporter
- Donate by check made out to "Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake" and mailed to the address at the bottom of this page.
- Planned Giving and donation of stock (contact Jodi Rose for details: [jodi@interfaithchesapeake.org](mailto:jodi@interfaithchesapeake.org))
- Corporate matching gifts: Ask your employer for details and scan the QR Code.



**Thank you for your support!**

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