



## Zero Waste Program

### Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") made as of this day of (the "Execution Date"),

**BETWEEN:**

Georgia Interfaith Power & Light (GIPL) 701 S. Columbia Dr., Campus Box 326, Decatur, GA 30030  
and (congregation name and address) \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person – please identify one contact person who will serve as principal liaison for the Zero Waste program: (name & email)** \_\_\_\_\_

**BACKGROUND:**

- A. GIPL was founded in 2003 and incorporated in 2009 as a Georgia non-profit organization that engages communities of faith in stewardship of creation. GIPL offers Zero Waste, a program to help congregations and their members reduce the amount of waste they generate and incorporate environmental stewardship into the entire life of their congregation. GIPL and the congregation wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.
  
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ wishes to enter into this relationship with GIPL in order to reduce the amount of waste generated and incorporate environmental stewardship into the life of its congregation. To achieve this purpose, this congregation and GIPL wish to enter into a relationship of mutual support.

**UNDERSTANDING OF THE PARTIES**

GIPL will enter a cooperative relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ with the following understandings:

- A. GIPL will offer a professional zero-waste assessment for a fee of \$300 - \$500 depending on the congregation's operating budget, although this fee may be waived under special circumstances. Please check the fee at the bottom of this document, based on the congregation's budget.
  
- B. GIPL will assist congregation's zero-waste efforts in the following ways:
  - a. Provide a professional zero-waste audit at a large congregational event and/or provide a professional waste on-site assessment of the facility
  - b. Work with the congregation to design and print recycling/waste/compost signs

- c. Assist the congregation in developing a sustainability policy
  - d. Offer a training to members of staff and the congregation on zero-waste practices
  - e. Work with the congregation on plastics advocacy
- C. GIPL will come to a public meeting at the congregation and report the general findings of the waste audit and/or discuss other available resources and programs.
- D. GIPL may share the congregation's waste audit results/recommended waste reduction measures with other congregations in the program and with Drawdown Georgia.
- E. GIPL will post on its website the congregation's name, audit date, the solutions implemented, and a brief summary of the experience of the congregation. This helps promote the Zero Waste Program to others and furthers our goals of caring for Creation.

\_\_\_\_\_ will enter into this agreement and provide the following:

- A. The Congregation will pay a small administrative fee as discussed in A. above.
- B. Congregations will provide relevant facility information about congregation size, building use, and waste practices as outlined in the online Zero-Waste Questionnaire that will be provided to the congregation prior to scheduling the audit.
- C. Congregations will make their buildings and appropriate personnel available to GIPL and partners during the on-site waste assessment and/or zero-waste event audit. Appropriate personnel should be familiar with the history of the congregation and buildings in addition to having keys to access all areas.
- D. If the Congregation starts an on-going recycling/composting program on-site, they will provide GIPL with monthly data on waste diversion.
- E. The Congregation will work with GIPL to schedule two educational events related to zero-waste training/education within the first year of enrolling in the zero-waste program. Examples of training include a workshop led by GIPL staff on zero-waste practices, a tour of a local municipal recovery facility, a sustainability tour of Mercedes-Benz stadium, etc.
- F. The Congregation will work with GIPL staff to write and implement a sustainability policy that establishes zero-waste guidelines and preferences for daily worship facility use and congregational meals and events.
- G. GIPL has also developed a number of educational classes and workshops and practical climate solution programs related to the 20 high impact solutions from Drawdown Georgia. Congregations are encouraged to explore additional programs that will help them reduce their carbon footprint and enhance environmental stewardship on site.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Head of Staff/Clergy of the Church

The payment can be made by a check payable to Georgia Interfaith Power & Light at the address above. Failure to make timely payments will necessitate a review of GIPL's relationship with the Congregation and could adversely affect future collaborations. Either party can terminate this agreement without cause at any time.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Hannah Shultz, Program Director, Georgia Interfaith Power and Light

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of Congregational Lay leadership of the Congregation

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Head of Staff/Clergy of the Church

Non-Binding - This MOU is entered into in good faith by each of the parties and so does not create a binding enforceable agreement between the Parties.

Please check the following box below to determine the cost of your audit: (If this fee is cost prohibitive, please speak with our Program Director, Hannah Shultz, hannah@gipl.org about discounted audit options..)

- \$300: Congregational Budget is \$0 - \$250,000
- \$400: Congregational Budget is \$250,000 - \$750,000
- \$500: Congregational Budget is >\$750,000

**Please submit this document and background information to:  
Hannah Shultz, Program Director, 404-377-5552, hannah@gipl.org**