



Becoming S.A.G.E. Certification Program

supported by Arizona Interfaith Power & Light

By becoming a S.A.G.E. Congregation you will be joining a partnership between your congregation and Arizona Interfaith Power & Light and other S.A.G.E. Congregations in Arizona. We will help you form a congregational S.A.G.E. Team and guide you and your congregation as you answer the call to care for Creation. Every other month we will offer a S.A.G.E. Roundtable where you can join with other S.A.G.E. teams in Arizona to support, encourage and inform each other about relevant activities and ideas.

AZIPL suggests that S.A.G.E. Congregations adopt the following process to meet your congregation's needs.

1. **Form a congregational creation-awareness/care group.** These groups may consist of two or three individuals or a larger ad-hoc group concerned about environmental care.
2. **Gain acceptance within the congregation for becoming a S.A.G.E. Congregation.** Make sure you have the support of your governing body (such as your board, trustees, council, vestry, rabbi, imam, or pastor). We encourage you to become a Congregational Member of AZIPL if not already. We invite all S.A.G.E. Congregations to make an annual donation to support our shared mission.
3. **Adopt a mission statement to guide your group's vision and ongoing efforts.** A mission statement serves as a touchstone for how your group envisions fostering environmental awareness and action in the congregation. You are welcome to develop your own statement or use the mission statement template provided here. Short and memorable mission statements are better than long and complicated. Check out these ideas: [50 Example Mission Statements](#)
4. **Write a summary of past activities, if applicable.** This summary serves as both a record of your past accomplishments and a chance to celebrate what you have already done. It is not a requirement for admittance into the program but is a helpful tool for forming your annual plan.
5. **Develop an annual plan that brings your mission statement to life.**
6. **Submit your completed application materials:**
 - a. A signed statement of intent
 - b. A mission statement
 - c. An annual plan for the upcoming year
 - d. Email your application to info@azipl.org
7. **Once you've completed the process of becoming a S.A.G.E. Congregation, invite AZIPL Staff to join a worship service so we can present you with a S.A.G.E. Congregation certificate.**