

The Sun is Shining on First United Methodist!

Our rooftop array of 66 solar panels went live on Tuesday, October 11. First United Methodist Church now generates electricity!

Shortly thereafter, we connected with SolarEdge's website, which displays out installation's power production stats – minute-by-minute, daily, monthly and yearly. Bar graphs compare one month (and year) to the next. Infographics describe our system's environmental benefits -- how much carbon we've kept out of the atmosphere, for example.

And because we want to share that knowledge with every member of First Church's congregation, the Green Team has installed a computer monitor in the Narthex that displays our SolarEdge page. We're excited to see First Church's solar power light up the monitor. Our system's annual production will be about 34,000 kWh – enough to supply at least 80 percent of our building's electricity. And the more we can conserve electricity, the higher that percentage will go!

Alongside the Narthex monitor are two beautiful new plaques – the first thanking the many donors who financed our solar array so it was paid-in-full from Day 1. The largest contribution came from NorthWestern Energy, which awarded our church a \$46,323 renewable energy grant. The second plaque displays First Church's Climate Covenant, unanimously adopted by our congregation last November. It guides our lives and work.

On the small table beneath the computer monitor, First Church's Green Team will provide brochures describing our solar project and history, and information on how homeowners and businesses can go about placing a solar array on their rooftops. We hope you'll take a look at all this information the next time you're in our Narthex.

First Church's Green Team needs you! We are seeking new members to help us continue working to fulfill our congregation's Climate Covenant. Please join the Team today. Just email Carole Addis or Sherry Devlin at cjeanaddis51@gmail.com or sherrydevlin@gmail.com.