

Energy Conservation Measures Will Save the Niantic Community Church Over \$100,000

Niantic, CT (April 26, 2016) – The idea of implementing energy upgrades at the Niantic Community Church, in order to show environmental responsibility while saving money, began in 2013. Angela Lomanto learned about financing opportunities for green energy upgrades with the Connecticut Green Bank. She brought the information for cost savings to the senior church leadership.

An ad hoc committee was formed in early 2014 to study proposals on energy upgrades and how they could benefit the church with lower energy costs. After learning more about financing and finding a contractor, the energy upgrades began at the church in June 2015.

The new technology at the Niantic Community Church, located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Niantic, Connecticut, went live late in 2015. The senior church leadership has begun seeing the decline in the Church's electric bills and are thrilled.

The upgrades consist of energy conservation measures such as new windows in the sanctuary, energy-efficient lighting throughout the building, lighting controls, and a 26kW solar PV system.

Financing for 100% of the project was made possible through the Connecticut Green Bank's Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program. These upgrades are expected to provide \$176,260 in energy cost savings and 3,626 mmBTUs in energy savings over the life of the upgrades.

C-PACE is an innovative program that is helping commercial, industrial, non-profit and multi-family property owners access affordable, long-term financing for meaningful energy upgrades to their buildings. By enabling building owners to finance qualifying energy efficiency and clean energy improvements through a voluntary assessment on their property tax bill, more comprehensive energy improvements that would otherwise be difficult to afford are made possible. Financing for the solar installation came through a solar power purchase agreement, under which the Connecticut Green Bank funded the installation of the solar PV system for no money down with the church receiving a discounted electricity rate for the clean energy generated over 20 years.

"The Connecticut Green Bank is committed to making green energy accessible and affordable to everyone in Connecticut", said Bryan Garcia, President and CEO of Connecticut Green Bank. "The new energy efficiency measures and the solar installation at the Niantic Community Church are innovative ways for the organization to cut down on their energy costs. As a community church, many people will reap the benefits of the upgrades. The church's focus on clean energy clearly demonstrates their desire for a better quality of life, a better environment, and really, a better future for all of us."

The Niantic Community Church members are excited about the savings they will see with the energy upgrades. The money saved will help with the overall church budget.

"Over the next twenty years, Niantic Community Church will benefit from this program and use clean energy along the way. There are many members of our church who want the environment to be safer for the coming generations," said Angela Lomanto, member of the church's Green Team.

About the Connecticut Green Bank

The Connecticut Green Bank (formerly the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority) was established by the Connecticut General Assembly on July 1, 2011 as a part of Public Act 11-80. As the nation's first full-scale green bank, it is leading the clean energy finance movement by leveraging public and private funds to scale-up renewable energy deployment and energy efficiency projects across Connecticut. The Green Bank's success in accelerating private investment in clean energy is helping Connecticut create jobs, increase economic prosperity, promote energy security and address climate change. For more information about the Connecticut Green Bank, please visit www.ctgreenbank.com (<http://www.ctgreenbank.com>).

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