

2015 Green Grant Story

Grace, Bainbridge Island

BCE Grant + PSE Rebate = Successful LED lighting installation!!!

The Grace Bainbridge, Building and Property Manager, was advised by the churches Earth and Spirit Committee in February of 2015 of the deadline to submit Grant requests to the Bishops Committee for the Environment which were due in March. The Property Manager had done some research on LED troffer lighting panels for the Grace kitchen as well as sensor switches to automatically turn on and off the lights in the Kitchen and two restrooms. The Property Manager was also aware of potential Puget Sound Energy Grant funds.

Since the maximum BCE Grant is half of the churches cost for labor and materials up to \$500, the Property Manager worked with a PSE Energy Advisor and one of their Business Lighting Team members to submit an application for a PSE rebate based on the lighting that was currently installed and the new LED troffer lights, as well as automatic switches to be installed by the Property Manager. Based on the PSE rebate that was approved, Grace received a \$305.40 rebate so the total cost of the project of \$942.07, there was reduced to \$636.67.

Working with Nancy McConnell, Chair of the Bishop's Committee for the Environment, the Property Manager completed the BCE Green Grant Documentation form. The grant was awarded for \$338.00 bringing the TOTAL cost to Grace of ONLY \$298.67 or 32% of the overall cost of the project.

My advice to all of the churches in the Diocese of Olympia, DIVE IN, get your research done now for potential BCE grants and PSE rebates and be ready for the upcoming February 2016 deadline to submit your BCE grant requests!!!