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Wednesday, December 27th, 2017

Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WNY Gathering

Monday, January 22, 2018 7:00 PM

St. Joseph's University Church

3269 Main St, Buffalo 14214

Guest Presenter: Rev. Peter Cook, Executive Director, NYS Council of Churches

The NYS Council of Churches participates in the *Divest NY* campaign and Rev. Cook will help ICJC focus on ways that we might become involved. The Council of Churches also advocates for the *NYS Climate and Community Protection Act,* legislation which would allow NYS to reach 100% renewables by 2050 or before. *Please plan to attend this important meeting.*

GOOD NEWS (from Rev. Merle Showers and Bob Ciesielski: see

below): Governor Cuomo recently announced that he supports divesting New York's public pension funds from fossil fuel companies. This is a great victory, but we have a ways to go because NY Comptroller has DiNapoli has not committed to divesting the funds <u>so continued grassroots advocacy is critical.</u>

New York City and State plan to #DivestNY's \$390 billion pensions from fossil fuels: "an undeniable victory for the global divestment movement"

New York, NY — Today, after over five years of community campaigning for New York to divest from fossil fuels, City Comptroller <u>Scott</u> <u>Stringer</u> and <u>Governor Andrew Cuomo</u> each released separate proposals to freeze all current fossil fuel investments, divest New York's public pension funds fossil fuel companies, and reinvest in renewable energy. Together, New York's pension funds are among the largest in the world, representing a combined \$390 billion.

This comes after a year of traumatic climate impacts — from hurricanes

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New York's elected officials are stepping up.

Bill McKibben, <u>350.org</u> **co-founder**, issued the following statement: The dam has broken: after years of great activism, New York has taken a massive step towards divesting from fossil fuels. Coming from the capital of world finance, this will resonate loud and clear all over the planet. It's a crucial sign of how fast the financial pendulum is swinging away from fossil fuels."



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