



## Energy Management Success Story



### Hillside Tabernacle Church Brings New Light to a Labor of Love with Express Efficiency and SCE

**R**enovating an old building is always a test, but Hillside Tabernacle Church of God In Christ faced some especially daunting challenges in transforming its headquarters into a house of worship for a young and growing community. Built in 1963, the church used to be Altadena's United States Post Office. In the two decades since Hillside bought it, Pastor Frances E. Harris and her congregation have worked room-by-room to rebuild, repaint, and renew their home. The overwhelming obstacle was literally hanging over their heads. The Express Efficiency (EE) Program from Southern California Edison (SCE) was the answer.

"Over the years, we made every change we could to this building, but we felt the old lighting fixtures were something we just had to live with," Pastor Harris says. "They were institutional-type fluorescent lamps, suspended from the ceiling in those cage-shaped wire housings. They looked horrible! Worse, they were so old that we couldn't replace the antiquated ballasts, so when a fixture failed, we had a dead spot in the lighting. And the most serious issue was safety. We didn't feel secure with such old equipment. Our church is a twenty-year labor of love. We didn't want to lose it overnight in a fire."

"We knew we needed to make a change," Pastor Harris continues.

"But we had contractors giving us information that just didn't seem reliable. We finally got help from Southern California Edison."

#### Express Efficiency from SCE: A Cost-Effective Investment

A chance encounter with an SCE representative led to an on-site evaluation and a relamping plan offering firm incentives under SCE's Express Efficiency Program. "A group from the church was out to breakfast, and an SCE representative happened to be there," Pastor Harris says. "He introduced himself, and we got talking about our electricity bills, which at the time were eating us up. He promised to come back to us with better ideas." She laughs as she recalls, "He visited the church soon after that, and he told us, 'I haven't seen lamps like this in years!'"

SCE's Express Efficiency Program was the answer. Open to all customers regardless of size or energy usage, SCE's Express Efficiency offers cash incentives to help replace inefficient hardware with new energy-efficient models that will help lower monthly electric bills. Customers save immediately on installation costs, and over the long term save on their energy bill with more efficient equipment for lighting, refrigeration, food service,

#### Savings by Managing Energy:

- An estimated **\$9,000 annual potential savings on electricity** and **approximately \$2,000 in incentives** by replacing inefficient lighting and climate control equipment under **SCE's Express Efficiency Program**

Pastor Frances E. Harris,  
Hillside Tabernacle  
Church of God in Christ





**“We have better control over electricity usage—we’re lighting where we need it, when we need it, and we’re not wasting power on unoccupied spaces. Now that our new lights are on, we’re looking for savings.”**

Pastor Frances E. Harris, Hillside Tabernacle Church of God in Christ



climate control, agriculture and motors.

### Raising the Ceiling and Lowering the Bills

Hillside’s relamping project changed the character of their main room, the church sanctuary. The new fixtures were installed in just ten days, and, says Pastor Harris, “The congregation was amazed at the difference it made—the new lights made everything look like new. People ask if we repainted and recarpeted, and we haven’t—the room just looks brighter and more cheerful. The old lights hung so low they interfered with wedding photos. Now the ceiling is bright and high, so it photographs beautifully. We have better control over electricity usage too—we’re lighting where we need it, when we need it, and we’re not wasting power on unoccupied spaces. We all feel more comfortable about safety, too, given that we use the building four or five days a week for services, rehearsals and meetings. And now that our new lights are on, we’re looking for savings.”

### Savings Ahead

SCE estimates that Hillside Tabernacle Church of God in Christ will achieve about \$9,000 in savings annually with their new more energy-efficient lighting. Their cash incentive under

SCE’s Express Efficiency Program helped offset the cost of the upgrade. They received an additional incentive to replace an aging air conditioning unit, and now that the church leaders are comfortable with the process, they’re planning improvements to the external lighting for the church’s pre-school. “We’d rather spend our resources on serving people and growing the church than on electricity,” says Pastor Harris. “What we’ve learned from SCE has been a blessing to us.”

### Like Hillside Tabernacle Church of God in Christ, you can save money on electricity:

- **Take free SCE classes** in lighting, HVAC, energy management and more at an Edison Energy Center. [www.sce.com/ctac](http://www.sce.com/ctac) 800-336-2822; [www.sce.com/agtac](http://www.sce.com/agtac) 800-772-4822
- Leverage the benefits of your hardware improvements with long-term savings using **SCE Demand Response Programs**, which reward you for reducing your electricity usage. Learn more at [www.sce.com/drp](http://www.sce.com/drp).
- **Use Web-based tools** such as **SCE EnergyManager<sup>®</sup>**, **SCE Cost Manager<sup>®</sup>** and **SCE Bill Manager<sup>®</sup>** to monitor your electricity usage in real time and over the long term.

### For More Information

Southern California Edison offers a range of programs such as cash incentives, energy surveys, and payment options to help you better manage your electricity costs. To learn more, please contact your SCE account representative, call (800) 990-7788, or visit us at [www.sce.com](http://www.sce.com).

Learn more about how to save energy and save money:

**SCE Energy Management Classes**  
[www.sce.com/ctac](http://www.sce.com/ctac) 800-336-2822;  
[www.sce.com/agtac](http://www.sce.com/agtac) 800-772-4822

**Express Efficiency**  
[www.sce.com/express](http://www.sce.com/express)  
800-736-4777

**Demand Response Programs**  
[www.sce.com/drp](http://www.sce.com/drp)  
626-302-8320

**Energy Manager<sup>®</sup>**,  
**Cost Manager<sup>®</sup>**, **Bill Manager<sup>®</sup>**  
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LargeBusiness/EnergyManager/](http://www.sce.com/RebatesandSavings/LargeBusiness/EnergyManager/)

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