



Greetings!

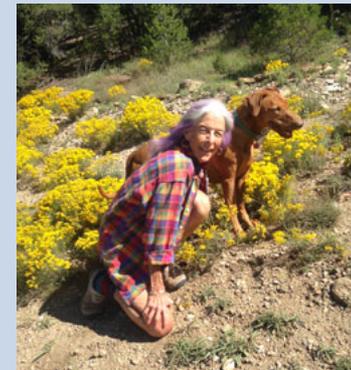
THE POPE AND THE PATRIARCH



For the World Day of Prayer (September 1) Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew 1 issued [a joint statement](#). The Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople is the head of several churches that make up the Eastern Orthodox Church. He is the representative and spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide. Here is an excerpt.

The history of the world reveals a morally decaying scenario where our attitude and behaviour towards creation obscures our calling as God's co-operators. Our propensity to interrupt the world's delicate and balanced ecosystems, our insatiable desire to manipulate and control the planet's limited resources, and our greed for limitless profit in markets - all these have alienated us from the original purpose of creation. We no longer respect nature as a shared gift; instead, we regard it as a private possession. We no longer associate with nature in order to sustain it; instead, we lord over it to support our own constructs.

The consequences of this alternative worldview are tragic and lasting. The human environment and the natural environment are deteriorating together, and this deterioration of the planet weighs upon the most vulnerable of its people. The impact of climate change affects, first and foremost, those who live in poverty in every corner of the globe. Our obligation to use the earth's goods



Good news, insights and action for positive change

~ ~ ~

PERSIST
INSIST
PROTECT
DEFEND
DEMAND
DEFY
DISRUPT
GUIDE
CREATE

~ ~ ~

"Imagine"
John Lennon

Justice is what love looks like in public.
Cornel West

We are determined to work and fight until justice runs down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream.
Martin Luther King Jr, 1955

~ ~ ~

Because I always have

responsibly implies the recognition of and respect for all people and all living creatures. The urgent call and challenge to care for creation are an invitation for all of humanity to work towards sustainable and integral development.

Read on to see how many are answering this "urgent call" for a caring society.

GOOD NEWS STORIES



Eco-friendly Gift Ideas

[Eco-Friendly Gift Ideas and 158 more good ideas for Earth citizens](#)

Many ideas we already practice and know about, but here's an extensive array of resources for going greener for just about everything you can think of: packaging materials,

clothes, shoes, furniture, household products, building materials, carpets, even jewelry.

[Scotland will get all its electricity from renewables by 2020.](#)

Over the past fifteen years, Scotland has gone from garnering 10 percent of its electricity from renewables to 60 percent. The country hit its emissions targets for 2020 five years earlier than anticipated. Ireland also wants to be a leader in the work to reverse climate change.



[Huge Reforestation Project Underway in the Brazil Amazon.](#)

A project led by Conservation International will become the largest tropical reforestation work in history. They will

plant 73 million trees and restore land to "former forested glory."

70,000 acres of cleared

[An Alternative US Presence at the Bonn Conference on Climate Change](#)

as US states, cities and businesses signed up to 'America's pledge' despite the Trump administration with combined economic power equal to the world's third-biggest economy.



LOVING & SAVING THE EARTH BY
LOVING THE STUFF WE HAVE

a choice, I choose love.
Deepak Chopra

Come, Come, whoever
you are.

Ours is not a caravan
of despair. --Rumi

[Like a Planet](#)

To survive
our minds must taste
redwood and agate
octopi, bat, and in
the bat's mouth,
insect. It's hard
to think like a planet.
We've got to try.
Jim Bertolino

Every single person
on this earth has
the power to
change the world.

Emma Thompson
Actress and Activist

When the people
lead, the leaders
follow.
Gandhi

~ ~ ~

FOR THE LOVE
OF EARTH

A LIVING EARTH
ECONOMY

CLIMATE CHANGE



Following up on last month's feature, ["The Story of Stuff,"](#) this article, ["Curing Affluenza,"](#) gives us a refreshing and different look at materialism and consumerism. If we loved our car, our kitchenware, our warm jacket, our couch, our rug, we would not rush out to

buy new ones. We would repair and maintain and take care of those things that we love. Imagine what a beneficial affect that would have on the Earth?! Instead of being a "consumer culture" we would be a "saving culture," a caring culture. This and related articles are first class.

Put simply, if we want to reduce the impact on the natural environment of all of the stuff we buy, then we have to hang on to our stuff for a lot longer. We have to maintain it, repair it when it breaks, and find a new home for it when we don't need it any longer. If we want to cure affluenza, we have to get more satisfaction from the things we already own, more satisfaction from services, more satisfaction from leisure time, and less satisfaction from the process of buying new things.

AGELESS WISDOM



An awake heart is like a sky that pours light.

--Hafiz



Someone I loved once gave me a box full of darkness. It took me years to understand that this too, was a gift.

--Mary Oliver



God came to my house and asked for charity. And I fell on my knees and cried,

"Beloved, what may I give?"

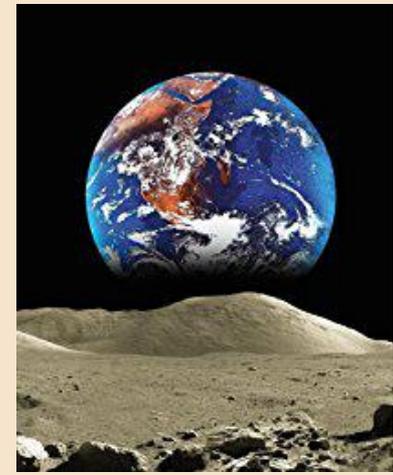
"Just love," He said.

"Just love."

--St. Francis of Assisi

YOUR FIDELITY TO LOVE

Your fidelity to love,



[For the Love of Earth](#)

David Korten

A new way to look at how we might heal and regenerate our Earth

Such a good article

[Our Global Ecological Footprint and Earth Overshoot Day 2017](#)

David Korten

[Climate Change or System Change?](#)

by Local Futures

UPLIFTING STORIES & INNOVATIONS



[What's Plasma Rock?!](#)

Plasma Rock is a new material made from 100% recycled landfill. The inventor wants to turn landfill junk into useful consumer products.



FAVORITE



*that is all you need.
No day will then match
your strength.*

*What was once a fear or problem
will see you coming,
and step aside. . . or run.*

--Hafiz



Advent is a significant time and event in the Christian faith and liturgical year when Christians await the birth of Jesus, the coming of the Christ. But the essence of this event can touch everyone regardless of his or her religious tradition or faith. In the bigger picture -- the symbolic picture -- Advent gives us a chance to bring something new into our own lives and into the world.

And even though we focus on Christmas, in reality this newness can be a continuous happening, or as someone said, "a continuous incarnation."

May this season be a joyous one for you,

Virginia - Gibi

RESOURCES

350.org

[Climate Reality Project](#)

[The Small Planet Institute](#)

[Local Futures](#)

[Network of Spiritual Progressives](#)

[Project Heaven on Earth](#)

[Yes! magazine](#)

[The Optimist Daily](#)

[The Shift Network, Catalyst e-zine](#)

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VirginiaMudd.com

[Desert Rose Press](#)

[Raventalk](#)

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Good reads to
nurture positive
spirits

[15 principles of hope](#)

[How to Resist from a Place of Love: Self-Care for the Long Haul](#) YES!

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[Thoughts about giving and receiving gifts, and gift ideas, in my monthly column](#)



