



Greetings!

What will it take?



How many official reports and warnings, and natural disasters, will it take for our government to take significant action to deal with the climate crisis? Climate chaos is one symptom of our growth-oriented, profit-driven consumer culture that is not viable on a finite planet. We need deep system change to nurture our planet, as well as true democracy, equality, social and environmental justice. The Green New Deal is one positive step that addresses the bigger picture.

The most recent consensus is that the next 18 months are critical for effective action needed to avert the worst climate destabilization. [Read the sobering BBC article here.](#)



Stories, 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*

*Come, Come, whoever
you are.
Ours is not a caravan of
despair. --Rumi*

*When the people lead,
the leaders follow.
Gandhi*

~ ~ ~

GLOBAL *Everybody!* CLIMATE STRIKE 20 SEPTEMBER

[Find an event near you.](#)

Climate Action for Everyone

We must take personal and collective steps to advance our vision for a healthy future: Here's a starter list which I elaborate on in my monthly column: **Personal action:** reduce energy use, slow down on buying and consuming stuff, cut meat consumption, drive and fly less. **Collective action:** support positive solutions such as campaign finance reform and the Green New Deal, withhold support from politicians who want to keep business as usual, support companies and people who are taking the climate crisis seriously. Two very helpful articles below:

As this *Yes!* magazine article, ["A Climate Action for Every Type of Activist"](#) says: "No matter your age, political persuasion or personal style, working with like-minded folks can validate your concerns, give you needed social support, and help you move from feeling helpless to empowered." Numerous resources listed here.

["What can I do to stop climate change?"](#)

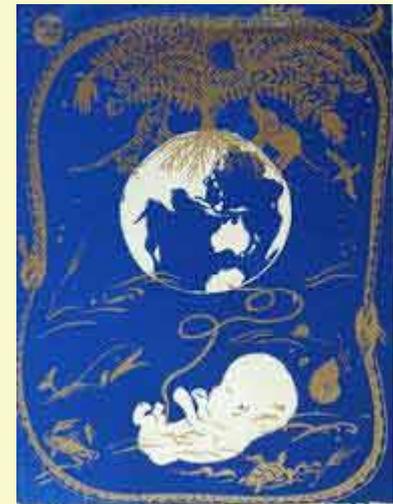
"Lifestyle changes are no substitute for collective action. But personal carbon-cutting still matters because it's a powerful way to signal the climate emergency to those around us, move the needle on policy and set bigger cultural changes in motion."

A Conversation with Two Climate Leaders

If you're inspired by the courage and commitment of these two young women, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Greta Thunberg, then you will appreciate this lively and thoughtful conversation between the two. They touch on despair, inaction, cynicism, hope and action, as well as their personal challenges as leaders in the movement to address the climate crisis



FOR THE LOVE OF EARTH



Print by Mayumi Oda

[Why I have hope in the Face of Human Extinction](#)

David Korten

When I ask an audience, "Who believes we are on a path to human extinction?" nearly every hand goes up. It's a sign of a growing awareness that humanity is on a path to self-imposed environmental and social collapse. For me, that awareness is a source of hope.

[Climate Change or System Change?](#)

by Local Futures

[For the Love of Earth](#)

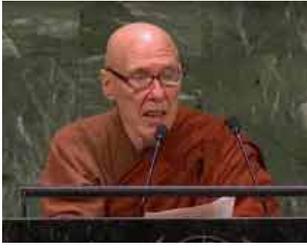
David Korten

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UPLIFTING STORIES & INNOVATIONS

and systemic change. Read how ["Hope is Contagious"](#).

Venerable Bhikku Bodhi speaks to the UN



"If we go on retreating into denial, go on drifting along complacently we will reach a point where all we can say is it is now too late. If we're to avoid that endpoint, we have to act effectively and we have to act without delay."

"Above all, we have to turn away from a social system driven by greed, by the quest for limitless profits, by competition, exploitation, and violence against other people and the natural world, social systems that allow a few to flourish while millions, even billions, live on the edge of survival. Instead, we need to envision new collective systems of global integration that give priority to cooperation and collaboration, to living in harmony with each other and with nature, systems that will enable all people to flourish economically, socially, and spiritually." [Transcript and video of his talk.](#)

Thoughts, Prayers AND Action



"While all that we do as Christians should be rooted in worship and prayer, it should not stay there. It is like breathing: worship and prayer is the in-breath, and action is the out-breath."

Rev. Deanna Hollas, Minister of Gun Violence, Presbyterian Church USA

An Uprising of Kindness, Decency, Civility . . . Love



One of the many things that shocks me these days



[The InterContinental Hotel Group will ditch mini toiletries,](#) joining other countries and companies reducing plastic waste.



[Coke & Pepsi abandon the plastics lobby](#) which, among other things, works to stop states from banning single-use plastics.



[High-end apparel company to make all its clothes from sustainable fabrics by 2025](#)

"We need to be a force for change, not only in the company but in the whole sector." CEO of Inditex

FAVORITE RESOURCES

**[350.org](#)
[Climate Reality Project](#)
[Next System Project](#)**

is the absence of human decency at the highest levels of government. What gave me hope the other day was that leadership of the [Washington National Cathedral](#) not only condemned abusive language from the President but called on the congregation [that would be all of us] to speak up.

"When does silence become complicity?"

Here are two other related articles

(Coincidentally they both reference Marianne Williamson. Citing these does not mean I am promoting her candidacy for President, but I am wholeheartedly supporting her message.)

From the *NY Times*, ["We need an uprising in decency"](#)
Looking for unity, sympathy, honesty, diversity, opportunity.

An interview with Marianne Williamson by Anderson Cooper:

["We don't do this in America."](#)

WISDOM FOR OUR TIMES



When one must, one can.

Charlotte Whitton,
first female mayor of Ottawa, Canada



I feel there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people.

Great things are done by a series of small things brought together.

Vincent Van Gogh



Life has no remote. . . get up and change it yourself.

Mark A. Cooper

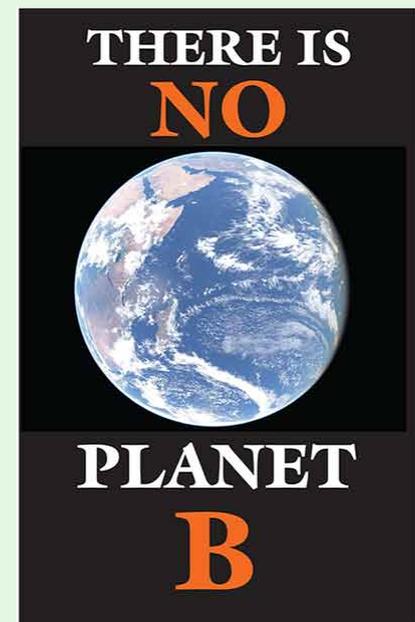
Let kindness and respect for life prevail!

[The Small Planet Institute](#)
[Local Futures Network of Spiritual Progressives](#)
[Project Heaven on Earth](#)
[Yes! magazine](#)
[The Optimist Daily](#)
~ ~ ~
[VirginiaMudd.com](#)
[Desert Rose Press](#)

My Column

this month is more about all the many ways we can address climate change and system change in our personal and collective lives.

[Read more here](#)



[9 ways you can help the Amazon Rainforest during the fires and after](#)

PASS IT ON

If this newsletter has contributed to your life in some way, please send it along. We all



Brighten your day with [this video](#) of a line of cars stopped while over 40 ducks crossed this road. No one honked.

*Honk for Life, unless ducks are crossing the road!
Virginia / Gibi*

have a unique part to play in making change so that there is a healthy Earth for ourselves, our kids and grandkids.
