

The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative  
Risk Assessment and Solutions Briefing  
(pdf file = featured resource on homepage of [www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org) )

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One of the most critical crossroads in the history of life on Planet Earth

A. The Climate Emergency

The Climate Emergency Era has begun, and it is not currently known how long it will last,  
*or if it will end.*

[References: [“Global Warming Awareness, Climate Change Awareness, and Climate Emergency Action--A Survey: 1961-2020”](#) (240 highlights) (316 pages; November, 2020) Compiled and Edited by Stefan Pasti, Founder and Resource Coordinator, The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative [www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org) --and more recent on pages 2 and 3 below]]

B. 6<sup>th</sup> Extinction

- a) “Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history--and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating, with grave impacts on people around the world now likely...”
- b) “... around 1 million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history.”

[from article [“UN Report: Nature’s Dangerous Decline ‘Unprecedented’; Species Extinction Rates ‘Accelerating’”](#)--about the report from The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (May 6, 2019) (paragraphs 1 and 10)]

C. Human Morality

We are at one of the most critical crossroads in the history of life on Planet Earth... and human nature, with its flaws and shortcomings throughout the ages, is now being asked to look at itself a little more closely than before.

[Reference: [“Do We Have Moral Compasses We Can Rely On?”](#) (147 pages; April, 2021) Compiled and Edited by Stefan Pasti, Founder and Resource Coordinator The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative [www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org) --with supplemental copy [“Table of Contents”](#) (13 pages) as Executive Summary (Section B: Concerns about the Leanings of Human Aspirations; Section C: “The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions....”)]

Businesses, governments, religions, news media, higher education, medical institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), etc.--in all countries--will *\*FAIL\** if--*and especially at this critical time*--they are drawn away from the basic requirements for Peace and Goodwill. And the #1 requirement for Peace and Goodwill is “that” *\*Must Be\** what these cultural entities are trying to accomplish.

**“... significant, largely unaccounted for, and unchecked social and environmental externalities.”**

“Most economic development and growth strategies encouraged rapid accumulation of physical, financial, and human capital, but at the expense of excessive depletion and degradation of natural capital, which includes the endowment of natural resources and ecosystems. By depleting the world’s stock of natural wealth--often irreversibly--this pattern of development and growth has had detrimental impacts on the wellbeing of current generations and presents tremendous risks and challenges for the future. The recent multiple crises are symptomatic of this pattern. *Existing policies and market incentives have contributed to this problem of capital misallocation because they allow businesses to run up significant, largely unaccounted for, and unchecked social and environmental externalities.*”

[From “Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication” UNEP, 2011 (1st and 2nd pages in introduction)]

**“... world is on edge of climate abyss”**

1. “Dr. Euan Nisbet (University of London)--Methane Climate Termination Event--Wetlands are turning on (summary version)” [[Interview on YouTube](#) (key highlights 11:50-16:40); October 17, 2023]
2. [“Fossil CO<sup>2</sup> emissions at record high in 2023.”](#) [Global Carbon Project; December 4, 2023]
3. [“Greenland losing 30 million tonnes of ice an hour, study reveals”](#) [Guardian; January 17, 2024]
4. [“It’s official: For the past 12 months, the Earth was 1.5 degrees Celsius higher than in preindustrial times...”](#) [Washington Post; February 8, 2024]
5. [“Experts issue warning after finding global average concentration in March was 4.7ppm higher than same period last year”](#) [Guardian; May 9, 2024]
6. [“‘The stakes could not be higher’: world is on edge of climate abyss, UN warns”](#) [Guardian; May 9, 2024]

**“Global warming above 1.5C could trigger ‘multiple’ tipping points”**

“... the study finds that six tipping elements could become ‘likely--and a further four ‘possible--if global temperatures rise to 1.5C above pre-industrial temperatures. And 13 tipping elements will be either ‘likely’ or ‘possible’ if the planet warms by 2.6C...” [in article [“Global warming above 1.5C could trigger ‘multiple’ tipping points”](#) by Ayesha Tandon (9/8/22) (paragraph 7 in section “Thresholds Crossed”)]

## Impacts of Floods, Wildfires, and Droughts

### 1. Floods in Pakistan, 2022

“around ‘one-third’ of the country was under water, affecting 33 million people” (lead paragraph) in section “Impact”; “546,288 people are living in temporary camps because of the floods” (paragraph 1) “at least US\$30 billion (or Rs. 6.7 trillion) of damage” (paragraph 1); “918,473 livestock have been killed” (paragraph 2) [From the Wikipedia webpage for “2022 Pakistan floods” (at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022\\_Pakistan\\_floods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_Pakistan_floods)) (paragraph 1; in section “Impact”)]

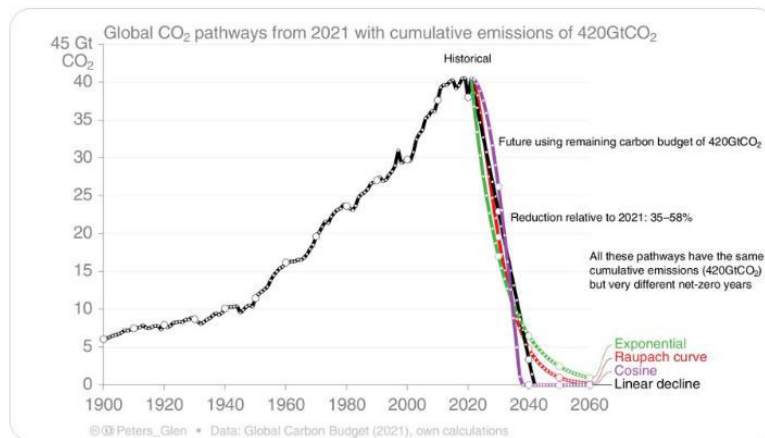
### 2. Wildfires, 2021

“Wildfires emitted 1.76 billion tonnes of carbon globally in 2021, Copernicus said (European Union's Copernicus Atmosphere Monitoring Service). That's equivalent to more than double Germany's annual CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.” [From article [“This is how much carbon wildfires have emitted this year”](#) by Kate Abnett (Reporter, Reuters) (December 10, 2021) at the World Economic Forum website (paragraph 2)]

### 3. Droughts (Ex: China, 2022)

“The record-breaking heat wave in China, which started back in June, has evaporated over half the hydroelectricity generation capacity in Sichuan, a southwestern province that usually gets 81% of its electricity from hydropower plants. That decreased energy supply, at a time when the need for cooling has increased demand, is putting industrial production and everyday life in the region on pause.” [From article [“China’s heat wave is creating havoc for electric vehicle drivers”](#) by Zeyi Yang (August 26, 2022) at the MIT Technology Review website (paragraph 3)]

**“How fast global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions would need to decline to be consistent with 1.5°C of global warming.”**



[From a tweet by Glen Peters (Research Director at CICERO--Center for International Climate Research, Norway) (May 14, 2022) (at [https://twitter.com/Peters\\_Glen/status/1525370674965008384](https://twitter.com/Peters_Glen/status/1525370674965008384))

**“More leaders are pursuing their ends militarily. More believe they can get away with it”**

“War has been on the rise since about 2012, after a decline in the 1990s and early 2000s. First came conflicts in Libya, Syria and Yemen, triggered by the 2011 Arab uprisings. Libya’s instability spilled south, helping set off a protracted crisis in the Sahel region. A fresh wave of major combat followed: the 2020 Azerbaijani-Armenian war over the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave, horrific fighting in Ethiopia’s northern Tigray region that began weeks later, the conflict prompted by the Myanmar army’s 2021 power grab and Russia’s 2022 assault on Ukraine. Add to those 2023’s devastation in Sudan and Gaza. *Around the globe, more people are dying in fighting, being forced from their homes or in need of life-saving aid than in decades.*” [from [“10 Conflicts to Watch in 2024: More leaders are pursuing their ends militarily. More believe they can get away with it”](#) (Crisis Group; January 1, 2024)]

**Local leaders of religious/spiritual traditions need to step up  
on every frontline possible to help people understand the urgent need to--**

- 1) sacrifice personal desires for the greater good
- 2) choose forgiveness, reconciliation--*and abstaining from violent conflict resolution*--as a way of bringing cycles of violence to an end
- 3) create community life and cultural traditions which “... bring to the fore how many good people there are, how many ways there are to do good, and how much happiness comes to those who extend help, as well as to those who receive it”

***“... abstaining from violent conflict resolution...”***

Re Conscientious Objector Status (World War II; United States)

“During World War II, all registrants were sent a questionnaire covering basic facts about their identification, physical condition, history, and also provided a checkoff to indicate opposition to military service because of religious training or belief. Men marking the latter option received a DSS 47 form with ten questions:

- 1) Describe the nature of your belief which is the basis of your claim.
- 2) Explain how, when, and from whom or from what source you received the training and acquired the belief which is the basis of your claim.
- 3) Give the name and present address of the individual upon whom you rely most for religious guidance.
- 4) Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe in the use of force?
- 5) Describe the actions and behavior in your life which in your opinion most conspicuously demonstrate the consistency and depth of your religious convictions.
- 6) Have you ever given public expression, written or oral, to the views herein expressed as the basis for your claim made above? If so, specify when and where.
- 7) Have you ever been a member of any military organization or establishment? If so, state the name and address of same and give reasons why you became a member.
- 8) Are you a member of a religious sect or organization?
- 9) Describe carefully the creed or official statements of said religious sect or organization as it relates to participation in war.
- 10) Describe your relationships with and activities in all organizations with which you are or have been affiliated other than religious or military.”

**“... addressing and transforming root causes of conflicts...”**

“If indeed peacebuilding is about addressing and transforming root causes of conflicts, there is great deal of peacebuilding work to be done in those societies benefiting from the global system at the expense of generating injustice and crises in other societies.” [Dr. Hizkias Assefa, from article “Embody Peace” (see Lesson 4) in [“A Handbook of International Peacebuilding: Into the Eye of the Storm”](#) Eds: John Paul Lederach, Janice Moomaw Jenner; Jossey-Bass, 2002 (link references book, and page 287, at archive.org)]

A. “Duties of consumer—when buying an article of everyday use, one has to take into account the full repercussions of one’s transaction 1) one should know where the article comes from 2) who makes the article 3) from what material 4) under what conditions do the workers live and work 5) what proportion of the final price do they get as wages 6) how is the rest of the money distributed 7) how is the article produced 8) how does the industry fit into the national economy” (p. 58-59)

B. “If we feel it is beyond us to guarantee the concomitant results of all our transactions, it necessarily follows that we must limit our transactions to a circle well within our control. This is the bed rock of swadeshi... The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions, and (the) more conscientiously shall we be able to fulfill our obligations as trustees.” (p.60)

[From “Why the Village Movement?” by J.C. Kumarappa (economist who worked with Gandhi) The All India Village Industries Wardha, C.P, 1946 (at <https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.118819>)]

C. “The transition from an unsustainable fossil fuel-based economy back to a solar-based (agriculture and forestry) economy will involve the application of the embodied energy that we inherit from industrial culture: This embodied energy is contained within a vast array of things, infrastructure, cultural processes and ideas, mostly inappropriately configured for the ‘solar’ economy. It is the task of our age to take this great wealth, reconfigure and apply it to the development of sustainable systems.” [in [“Energy and Permaculture”](#) by David Holmgren (originally in The Permaculture Activist 4/29/94)]

Through workshops and other informal education (and associated local learning networks), citizens can gain greater awareness of how all the investments of time, energy, and money (the “votes”) each of us make in our everyday circumstances become the larger economy. People from every variety of circumstances can learn how to wisely cast such “votes”. Wisely directed, such “votes” can result in countless ways of earning a living which contribute to the peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts necessary to drastically reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions, and minimize other related challenges.

Once it becomes clear that local residents are “getting together” on #GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emission-free supply chains and #SRI (Socially Responsible Investing) enabling-peace supply chains; and that many local communities are going to “drive” economies from global to #Permaculture #Resilient #Ecosystems; changes many come more quickly in the upper echelons of governments, international corporations, international banks, etc., which have been--thus far--slow to respond to the Climate Emergency (and many other challenges).

As the ancient Chinese proverb says: “Many hands make much work light.”

**“... a very auspicious moment in time...”**

As a result of the unprecedented opportunities created by the expansion of the Internet, we have now arrived at a very auspicious moment in time... for at no other time in the course of history has so many people had access to so much in the way of time-tested guidelines, inspiring role models, and service-oriented initiatives relevant to peace, prosperity, and happiness for all humanity.

1. **There are thousands of positive tipping point organizations and institutions**, which are--
  - a) making significant contributions in their fields (especially Climate Mitigation and Sustainable Biodiversity, but also many other fields)
  - b) well known in their fields for the integrity and reliability of their work (["Sample List of 231 positive tipping point organizations and institutions"](#)).

The CPCS Initiative advocates for accumulating 5-10 page overviews on how to achieve Net Zero ASAP (in small cities, towns, and villages--see "CPCS Initiative Vision" on p. 10)--*and also how their field of activity can contribute to resolving other critical challenges*--from thousands of such positive tipping point organizations and institutions.
2. Such 5-10 page overviews, organized for easy access on clearinghouse websites, can--
  - a) provide a clear visualization of transformations needed in every aspect of our lives--since different organizations will focus on priorities in their fields of activity (food systems; water scarcity; migration, housing; land rights; biodiversity; civic engagement; peacebuilding; emergency assistance, etc.)
  - b) provide the equivalent of a needs assessment for local communities, of the kind which precedes local Community Visioning ([many overviews of visioning best practices](#); [excellent example of visioning in 13 minute documentary](#)) [Note: Community Visioning Initiatives can be described as a series of community meetings designed to maximize citizen participation in identifying challenges, and in solution-oriented activity.] (this text box is an excerpt from <https://www.cpcsi.org/constellations-of-initiatives-approach>)

Opportunities for **Universities, Colleges, and Community Colleges**  
re Exponentially Accelerating Solutions in the Climate Emergency Era

- 1) assist in facilitating and providing clear guidance on key fields of activity (food systems, water scarcity, migration, housing, land rights, biodiversity, civic engagement, peacebuilding, emergency assistance, etc.)
- 2) accelerate **\*\*Civilian Climate Corps\*\*** into key fields of activity
- 3) create curriculum resources, classes, workshops, and teacher training to maximize the identification of challenges and solutions during **\*\*LOCAL\*\*** Community Visioning Processes (and other **\*\*local\*\*** stakeholder engagement, collaborative problem solving approaches)
- 4) accelerate the training of organizers and facilitators for **\*\*local\*\*** collaborative problem solving
- 5) demonstrate how all the investments of time, energy, and money (the "votes") each of us make in our everyday circumstances become the larger economy. People from every variety of circumstances can learn how to wisely cast such "votes"
- 6) **make better use of teachings which inspire and encourage people to:**
  - a) **sacrifice personal desires for the greater good of the whole**
  - b) **find contentment and quality of life while using less material goods, ecological services**
  - c) **support community life and cultural traditions which "bring to the fore how many good people there are, how many ways there are to do good, and how much happiness comes to those who extend help, as well as to those who receive it"**

### Creating Many Neighborhood Learning Centers

Creating the knowledge base and skill sets necessary to resolve the challenges of our times will require encouraging as much formal and informal meetings as possible between neighbors--and people living in the same local community. Carrying out local Community Visioning, and creating many Neighborhood Learning Centers can provide local residents with a variety of *in-person learning centers*--for discussion, information sharing, mutual support and encouragement, fellowship and friendship—so that the exchanging of information and resources will also include the building of a close-knit community of people with a healthy appreciation for each other’s strengths.

We can leave enabling #genocide and #ecocide economies

We can

create #GHG (Greenhouse Gas) emission-free supply chains

create #SRI (Socially Responsible Investing) enabling-peace supply chains

and live in #Permaculture #Resilient #Ecosystems

(re [“Energy and Permaculture”](#) (highly recommended!) by David Holmgren)

“... in a highly developed civilization... every person of good will can in some way or other succeed.”

1. **Community Visioning Initiatives** (CVIs) are series of community meetings designed to maximize citizen participation in identifying challenges, and in identifying solution-oriented activity. The 13 minute documentary “Chattanooga: A Community with a Vision” <https://vimeo.com/9653090> is highly recommended as an inspiring example of the potential of Community Visioning Initiatives.
2. **Neighborhood Learning Centers** (NLCs) can provide places--in local neighborhoods--for discussion, information sharing, mutual support and encouragement, fellowship and friendship—so that the exchanging of information and resources will also include the building of a close-knit community of people with a healthy appreciation for each other’s strengths
3. **Local Currency**--People (especially unemployed people) who deliberately direct their investments of time, energy, and money towards assisting with Community Visioning Initiatives, and Neighborhood Learning Centers could receive, as encouragement, local currency. Such local currency can, in its turn, be spent in ways which are particularly helpful to building stable and sustainable local economies.
4. The **Neighbor to Neighbor Community Education** (NTNCE) Project advocates for a new section in local newspapers. The new section (NTNCE section) would be used to highlight and accumulate stories, personal experiences, and other forms of reader contributions which identify helpful people and valuable resources, and reinforce important community goals.

Little pitchers have big ears.

**"... original premise of #permaculture concept"**

"It should be possible to design land use systems which approach the solar energy harvesting capacities of natural systems while providing humanity with its needs. This was the original premise of the permaculture concept."

[from article "[Energy and Permaculture](#)" (highly recommended!) by David Holmgren at [www.resilience.org](http://www.resilience.org) (originally published by The Permaculture Activist April 29, 1994)]

**"The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions..."**

"... every article in the bazaar has moral and spiritual values attached to it... hence it behooves us to enquire into the antecedents of every article we buy..." (p. 53)

If we feel it is beyond us to guarantee the concomitant results of all our transactions, it necessarily follows that we must limit our transactions to a circle well within our control. This is the bed rock of swadeshi... *The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions, and (the) more conscientiously shall we be able to fulfill our obligations as trustees.*" (p. 60)

[from "Why the Village Movement?" by J.C. Kumarappa (economist who worked with Mahatma Gandhi) The All India Village Industries Wardha, C.P, 1946 (at <https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.118819> ) (using page numbers in the book)]

**CPCS Initiative Vision**

The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative ([www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org) ) believes that priority actions \*\*for urgently and drastically cutting Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions\*\* would be more constructive if they were focused on **small cities, towns, and villages**, which--

- 1) are more sustainable-friendly in the long run
- 2) have less complex vulnerabilities
- 3) create more emphasis on downsizing and focusing on what basic necessities are most needed and
- 4) where it is easier to see the results of our actions
- 5) where a truly natural circular economy (sewage treatment; food miles; less packaging; zero waste; etc.) is much easier to implement, and more likely to actually happen.

[see "[Large Cities are Not Sustainable, and will not help us get to Net Zero ASAP](#)" (148 pages; May, 2022) (accessible on [www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org) homepage)]

**Key Indicator:** the small size of habitats caps energy consumption and toxicity at levels much more near the #ZeroFootprints we need

The CPCS Initiative also believes it is possible for local communities and regions to include parts or all of the [constellation of initiatives approach](#) advocated by the CPCS Initiative into their local/regional specific action plans, and for all continents, regions, and local communities to achieve Net Zero in ten years.

"The function of work should be to practice our ideal of life." (J.C. Kumarappa)



**“... energy intensive lifestyles which are wholly inappropriate  
for the problem solving we must accomplish...”**

One of the keys to achieving the unprecedented cultural transformation to Net Zero ASAP is for a significant majority of the people who have “way too much” to understand that they can get by “with much less”, and still have high quality of life (thus making possible the sharing of more and more resources).

For example, how many of us--who are aware of how urgently and quickly we need to achieve Net Zero --would be most appreciative to arrive in the year 2040, and find out we are living in places which have:

- A clean and beautiful environment
- Adequate provision of clean drinking water
- Adequate provision for safe sanitation
- Minimal supplies of clothing
- Adequate and balanced nutrition
- Simple housing
- Basic health care
- Basic communication facilities
- A minimal supply of energy
- Holistic education
- Satisfaction of intellectual and cultural needs

[Above list of 11 items is from an overview of the development model of the Sarvodaya Shramadana Movement (at <https://www.sarvodaya.org/2004/12/27/the-development-model> )]

Again, one of the dangers for “developed” countries, in trying to reach Net Zero, is the irrational insistence on trying to maintain energy intensive lifestyles which are wholly inappropriate for the problem solving we must accomplish to achieve Net Zero ASAP (and further--encouraging “less developed” countries to become just as “advanced”).

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“... there are truths which none can be free to ignore, if one is to have that wisdom through which life can become useful. These are the truths concerning the structures of the good life and concerning the factual conditions by which it may be achieved...”

[From “General Education in a Free Society”, The Harvard Committee (1945)]

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**“One of the most persistent ironies in life...”**

One of the most persistent ironies in life is that with so many opportunities to provide real assistance to fellow human beings, there are still many, many people in this world who cannot find a way to earn a living providing such assistance. [p. 4-11 in this briefing identify countless ways of providing such assistance]

[“Key Sources of Inspiration”](#) (51 pages; September, 2021) 31 key sources of inspiration, with highlights from a variety of sources, and links (contents below)

Sri Sathya Sai Baba; Kuan Yin; Nature; I Ching; “Ramacharitamansa (‘The Holy Lake of the Acts of Rama’); Prayer Room at Kunzang Palyul Choling (KPC), a Tibetan Buddhist Temple; Amma (Mata Amritanandamayi--“the hugging saint”); J.C. Kumarappa (economist who worked with Mahatma Gandhi); Mahatma Gandhi; Lester R. Brown; Intergovernmental Platform for Climate Change (IPCC); Zero Carbon Britain [a project of the Centre for Alternative Technology in Wales (UK)]; Chattanooga, Tennessee (USA)--Community Visioning; “Building America” Series (1935-48)--Community Education; William E. Rees (co-creator of the “ecological footprint”); Findhorn Ecovillage (and Gaia Education); Permaculture; Green America; Low Impact Living Initiative; Booker T. Washington; Appropriate Technology Library--1050 Books on 1 USB Drive (by Village Earth); Local Currency; The Hunger Project--Epicenter Strategy; Landesa; Habitat for Humanity; Teachers Without Borders; Engagement Hub; Beyond Intractability; Food Sovereignty--Michel Pimbert; “The Spirit of the Sacred Hoop” (short story by this writer); “Do We Have Moral Compasses We Can Rely On” (by this writer)(13 page Table of Contents) (links to last two on p. 12)

["An Arrangement of Quotations from 'Sathya Sai Speaks' \(Vol. 1-15\)"](#) (301 pages; 1997, 2006)

Vol. 1-15 are collections of discourses made by Sri Sathya Sai Baba (1926-2011) during the years 1953-1982. [Supplementary [Table of Contents](#) (5 pages) = Executive Summary]

“God can do anything...” (p. 166); “Love is My Highest Miracle.” (p. 166); You may believe it or you may not, but Sai Sakthi can transform earth into sky, the sky into earth.” (p. 166); My Grace is showered wherever you are through My infinite Love, without even calculating or measuring the readiness of your sub-conscious to receive it and benefit by it. The Grace itself will confer on you the faith and the strength, the wisdom and the joy.” (p. 178); “... every name is but a facet, a part, a ray, of the Supreme. The spiritual discipline consists in recognizing and becoming aware of the One that supports and sustains the many. That is the precious gem of wisdom that one must secure and treasure.” (p. 270); “Do not be under the impression that I will be angry with you if you do not accept Me as (your) Dhyana-rupam! I am not concerned at all; you have perfect freedom to select the Name and Form that gives you the necessary encouragement.” (p. 162); I answer to whatever Name you use; I respond to whatever request you make, with a pure heart and a sanctified motive.” (p. 291); “By the examples of your lives, you have to restore confidence among the people in the higher values of life.... Have the picture of the happy, united, love filled human community in your heart. That will give you enough encouragement in your mission.” (p. 51)

**“... choose forgiveness, reconciliation--and abstaining from violent conflict resolution...”**

Local leaders of religious/spiritual traditions need to step up on every frontline possible to help people understand the urgent need to--

- 1) sacrifice personal desires for the greater good
- 2) choose forgiveness, reconciliation--and abstaining from violent conflict resolution--as a way of bringing cycles of violence to an end
- 3) create community life and cultural traditions which “... bring to the fore how many good people there are, how many ways there are to do good, and how much happiness comes to those who extend help, as well as to those who receive it”

**Interfaith Prayer Vigils**

One way practitioners of religious and spiritual traditions can make a significant contribution during this Climate Emergency Era is by encouraging and supporting Interfaith Prayer Vigils. One possible goal for an Interfaith Prayer Vigil would be for all the different faith traditions in a local community to have at least one person participating in the Prayer Vigil at all times designated for the Prayer Vigil.

With an emphasis on silence, participants could silently pray for a compassionate response to all forms of suffering; forgiveness, reconciliation and abstaining from violent conflict as a way of bringing cycles of violence to an end; pathways for attaining wisdom and compassion which are accessible to all--and/or bring into being any kind of silent practice or silent spiritual discipline which is relevant and appropriate for--

*a sacred space dedicated to appealing to a Spiritual Entity higher than ourselves when we are at one of the most critical crossroads humanity has faced since the dawn of civilization.*

**“The Prayer Vigil at Kunzang Palyul Choling (KPC) began in April, 1985...”**

One inspiration for Prayer Vigils in a sacred place is the 24 Hour Prayer Vigil for World Peace at Kunzang Palyul Choling (KPC), a Tibetan Buddhist Temple in Poolesville, Maryland (USA). The Prayer Vigil at Kunzang Palyul Choling (KPC) began in April, 1985 and has continued 24/7 all year round ever since. Some details about the KPC’s Prayer Vigil are at <https://www.tara.org/virtual-prayer-room/> (scroll down to “A Place of Ceaseless Prayer”)

“... bring to the fore how many good people there are, how many ways there are to do good, and how much happiness comes to those who extend help, as well as to those who receive it”

## Highlights from

The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative website at [www.cpcsi.org](http://www.cpcsi.org)  
(all accessible on the homepage)

1. [“Global Warming Awareness, Climate Change Awareness, and Climate Emergency Action” A Survey: 1961-2020](#) (240 highlights from reports, websites, articles, books, etc.) (316 pages; Nov., 2020)
2. [“Quick Reference to 10 Key Graphs and Charts”](#) (6 pages) (last six pages from “Survey” in #1 above)
3. [“Unprecedented Challenges Ahead—March 2024”](#) (4 pages)
4. [“Do We Have Moral Compasses We Can Rely On?”](#) (147 pages; April, 2021) with supplemental [“Table of Contents”](#) (13 pages) as Executive Summary (Section B: Concerns about the Leanings of Human Aspirations; Section C: “The smaller the circumference, the more accurately can we gauge the results of our actions....”)]
5. [“61 Indicators of a Convergence of Unprecedented Challenges”](#) (3 pages; January, 2023)
6. [“‘Holding Together’ During the Climate Emergency Era”](#) Climate Emergency Questionnaire (14 questions; 10 pages) (August, 2019)
7. [“17 Tweet Series”](#) (summarizing challenges and solutions) (10 pages; June, 2020) (pdf file)
8. **The CPCS Initiative “Constellations of Initiatives” approach** to maximizing citizen participation and accelerating solution activity in a time of unprecedented challenges (at <https://www.cpcsi.org/constellations-of-initiatives-approach> )
9. [“Sample List of 231 positive tipping point organizations and institutions”](#) (12 pages; December, 2020)
10. [“Key Sources of Inspiration”](#) (51 pages; September, 2021) 31 key sources of inspiration, with highlights from a variety of sources, and links.
11. [“Triggering Positive Social, Environmental, Economic, and Cultural Tipping Points”](#) (20 pages, Sept., 2022)
12. [“Growing Wisdom and Compassion in Small Communities \(13 Steps\)”](#) (78 pages; May, 2017)
13. [“An Arrangement of Quotations from ‘Sathya Sai Speaks’ \(Vol. 1-15\)”](#) (301 pages; 1997, 2006) (with supplementary [Table of Contents](#) as Executive Summary)
14. [“Notes on the I Ching”](#) (5 pages) (March, 2009)
15. [“An Introduction to Kuan Yin: Goddess of Mercy and Compassion”](#) (8 Pages) (September, 2009)
16. [“The Spirit of the Sacred Hoop”](#) (10 pages) (A short story about a tribe of people who are experiencing great challenges, and who go on a great journey to find the tree at the center of the sacred hoop.)
17. [“30 Propositions and Premises of The CPCS Initiative”](#) (4 pages) (May, 2017; December, 2021)

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This “Risk Assessment and Solutions Briefing” has been compiled and edited by Stefan Pasti, the founder and resource coordinator for The Community Peacebuilding and Cultural Sustainability (CPCS) Initiative. Beginning in the early 1980’s, Mr. Pasti developed a “compilation of excerpts” (from books, articles, etc.) style as a way of synthesizing complex information into an organized format which seemed to make “connecting the dots’ moments more likely to occur. In the 40+ years Mr. Pasti has been an \*independent\* researcher and educator, he has given special attention to the fields of risk assessment, ecological sustainability, peacebuilding, education, and community organizing.