



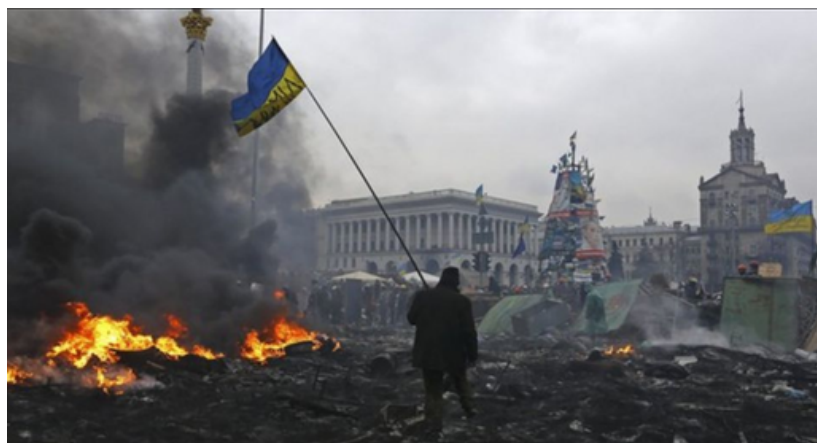
SAVE OUR FUTURE

Beloved Earth Community of Riverside Church

In This Issue

The Month in Crisis: Latest UN Climate Report

- In a major new report, scientists with the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) find that without immediate and drastic action it will be impossible to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The 1.5°C limit has long been considered the "red line" beyond which the Earth must not go.
- Temperatures in the Antarctic climbed to 70°F above normal in late March. The entire Conger ice sheet in East Antarctica has completely collapsed.
- The report "shows that we must abandon economic growth, which is the basis of capitalism," said the website www.scientificrebellion.com.
- "This report is terrifying; there is no other way of saying it," said Simone Stiell, environmental minister of Grenada.
- The world is currently on pace to warm 2–3 °C by 2100.
- Nearly half of humankind – 3.3 to 3.6 billion people – are "highly vulnerable" to climate change, says the report. Poor and developing countries face the highest risks.
- The report says to keep to 1.5 °C wealthy, high carbon-emitting nations will have to substantially increase their financial support for the development of poorer nations.



REUTERS



Daniel Acker | Bloomberg | Getty Images

Gas Prices, Ukraine, and the Climate Crisis

"Everything is Interconnected"

- Inflation is hitting everyone, from food prices to rents and housing prices to the price of gasoline. In March 2020 gas was \$2.80/gallon, in 2021 \$3.41, and now \$4.30.
- The war in Ukraine is closely tied to fossil fuels, from financing the Russian military, to Europe's dependence on Russian oil and gas, to the pipelines running through the Ukraine, to fossil fuel companies using the war as an excuse to do more drilling and get excess profits.
- The military is the worst emitter of greenhouse gases of any institution-on both sides of the war. The military budget is eating up funds desperately needed to build renewable energy infrastructure and to create social justice.

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Steps We Can Take at Riverside

Ways we can act...

Make lifestyle changes to fight inflation and global warming at the same time:

- Buy an electric vehicle, use public transit, ride a bike, if able, reduce your air travel.
- Eat one or more meatless meals a week.
- As your gas stove wears out, buy an electric (preferably induction) one.

Email President Biden and Congress protesting Postmaster-General Louis DeJoy's reckless purchase of gas-guzzling trucks instead of electric ones.

Consider an alternative perspective on the war in Ukraine and of NATO's involvement by visiting the feminist peace organization Codepink at www.codepink.org.

Write Congress and President urging (a) an immediate ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia, and negotiations to ensure the legitimate security concerns of both countries, and (b) increased humanitarian aid to countries in Africa and the Middle East who depend on the Ukrainian and Russian grain harvests.

Participate in Extinction Rebellion's "Spring Uprising" (through April 23).

Go to www.xrebellion.nyc/campaign.

Beloved Earth Community

We call Riversiders to protest the climate crisis and care for the Earth through educational programs, greening the church, changing our lifestyles, and courageous political actions.

For more information, or to join, contact Alan Bentz-Letts <alanbentzletts@gmail.com>
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"Everything is Interconnected"

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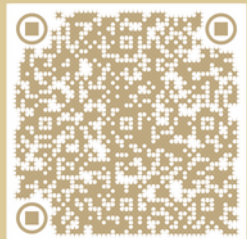
- The war in Ukraine has distracted the U.S. and the whole world from the climate crisis, whereas actually the war is a perfect opportunity to move from fossil fuel to renewable energy. That cannot happen quickly. Short-term energy security (replacing Russian gas) cannot be allowed to undermine the climate struggle.
- The war is hurting the global cooperation needed for progress on climate and starting perhaps a new Cold War. Cooperation is especially needed to help the global South.
- Today, humanity stands under the dual threat of global broiling and global war. Either is MAD (mutual assured destruction).



Offshore wind turbines, such as these giants, are envisioned as the cornerstone for "green" energy production in New York. Michael Betts

A Plant-based Recipe

[Try a quick, few-ingredients recipe that only needs garlic, red pepper, red lentils, OJ and spinach \(fresh or frozen\)!](#)



Scan above

Coming up...

- **Next Beloved Earth Meeting**, Saturday, May 7 at 3 – 5 p.m. via Zoom. To join contact Alan or Regina.
- **Earth Day Sunday, April 24**, guest preacher from Creation Justice Ministries
- To view this issue online: www.trcnyc.org/belovedearthnewsletter

