

Thu, Feb 1, 2024

CALIFORNIA



We're excited to announce three events that will bring attention to our March 2 Mass Assembly in Sacramento. On top of those, we have planning meetings and opportunities to donate and learn why we're marching. Get involved! And check out our recap of the billboard unveiling in Oakland and a petition calling for a ceasefire in Israel-Palestine.

Announcements



Join us in Sacramento—and be a part of the lead-up

On March 2, California will be joining states across the country in simultaneous actions that will call on our elected officials to address the needs and concerns of 140 million people living in poverty, including a shocking 18 million in California. We'll be bringing our demands for living wages, healthcare, housing, education, environmental justice and voting rights directly to our lawmakers at the Sacramento State Capitol. Together we are taking back the mic!

Are you in? Let us know by signing up!

I'M IN

While you're at it, save the following dates (more info coming soon).

National press conference launching 40 weeks of action

Monday Feb 5

Watch the national announcement and rollout of our campaign. Updates to come on the PPC [website](#) and [X account](#).

National virtual pep rally

Monday Feb 12, 5:30pm PT

Get energized for March 2 at this livestreamed event.

State press conferences and meetings with elected leadership

Tuesday Feb 20, 11am PT

We'll be meeting with our state elected leadership in Sacramento to outline our demands and our campaign from now to the November election.

Want to help plan and organize the Mass Assembly? Join us each [Wednesday at 6:30pm](#).

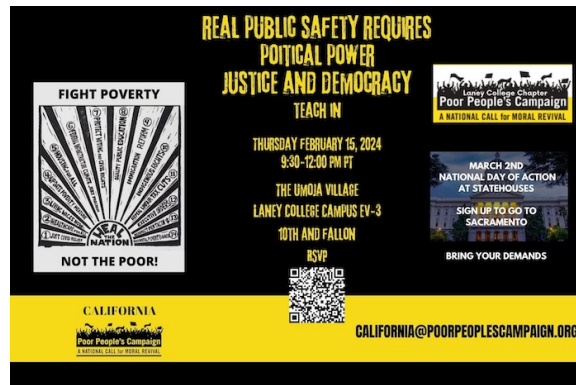
You can also help by [donating](#) to help pay for these actions. A \$100 donation will...

- Pay for one impacted person to travel by bus from L.A. to Sacramento
- Buy lunch for 10 rallygoers



Mass Assembly promo video launches

Need more reasons to join us on March 2? Watch this [promotional video](#), which premiered just last week. You'll see a montage of past PPC gatherings and a pageant of beautiful activists and impacted people (including some you might recognize) as they explain to large, lively crowds why we march. Check it out, share with your friends and colleagues and [sign up for the Mass Assembly!](#)



Laney PPC Chapter teach-in: Real public safety requires political power, justice and democracy

Thursday Feb 15, 9:30am–12:00pm PT | [RSVP](#)

Umoja Village, Laney College Campus, EV-3 at 10th and Fallon, Oakland

Join the Laney CA PPC chapter as they continue their powerful series of teach-ins. This first session of 2024 will focus on what is required for true public safety and inform and educate participants ahead of March 2. Join in person or via Zoom. More details coming soon.

Meetings

Los Angeles regional meeting Sunday Feb 4, 3pm | [RSVP](#)

Help Los Angeles get organized to join CA PPC activists from across the state on March 2 for the Mass Assembly. We'll be planning transportation and logistics and discussing the demands we want to deliver to our elected officials. Who do you know who could go to the Assembly? If you can't go yourself, there will be lots of other ways to help, including phone banking, media and social media work, signs and banners. Join us to learn more and add in your ideas. Invite your neighbors, families and friends—all are welcome.

Statewide faith organizing meeting Wednesday Feb 7, 6:30pm | [RSVP](#)

Our next statewide organizing meeting will focus on organizing our faith communities to be involved in our March 2 Mass Assembly. Every faith tradition tells us that the health and vitality of a society is judged on how it treats the most vulnerable and cares for people impacted by systems of poverty. Get to know faith leaders and activists from around the state who are committed to fighting the interlocking systemic evils of poverty, racism, ecological devastation, militarism and the warped narrative of Christian Nationalism. If you believe these are the moral issues of our time, please join us.

Recap



Bay Area billboard unveiling amplifies outcry against military spending

Over 100 people gathered at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Oakland's First Congregational Church, where conveners announced the placement of six billboards in the Bay Area that challenge the U.S. government's immoral military spending. As Congress continues to invest 62 percent of our discretionary budget in war, devastating nations around the globe—as well as our own—and creating unparalleled death and suffering, these neon yellow billboards, sponsored by World Beyond War, state a simple fact: Three percent of US military spending could end starvation on Earth.

A reception followed, planned in partnership with CODEPINK and other organizations. Speakers included David Hartsough (pictured below), lifelong peace activist and founder of World Beyond War; Jackie Cabasso, nuclear disarmament activist and executive director of Western States Legal Foundation; and Paul Cox of Veterans for Peace. They reminded us that billions of dollars in so-called military aid actually stay in the U.S., since the money goes to war profiteering corporations, while the recipient countries receive bombs, guns, bullets and other weapons of war.



Nell Myhand, quad chair of the California Poor People's Campaign, acknowledged the recent passing of Dexter Scott King, who took on the work of protecting Dr. King's legacy through his management of the King Center for Nonviolent Social Change. She spoke about solutions offered by the PPC's [Jubilee Policy Platform](#), which calls on policymakers to create and implement a moral agenda. Nell proposed this as a path that would take us toward the world without war we are working for.

Support the California PPC!

When over 140 million Americans are poor or living with low-wages, it's time for systemic change. We are building a movement led by poor and impacted folks, building across all lines of division, in order to topple the interlocking pillars of racism, poverty, militarism, environmental destruction and this country's distorted moral narrative. Please help us achieve this goal by clicking below and chipping in whatever you can.

DONATE

News

“Evangelical appeal to moral case for cease-fire”

Bishop Barber recently posted a link to a November 2023 [petition](#) he had signed along with Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove (a frequent collaborator of Bishop Barber's) and others representing an array of religious institutions. Their call for an end to the violence in Israel and Palestine took on a novel form: an acrostic. They write, “While ‘cease-fire’ is a technical term of international law, our faith demands that we outline a basic moral call to CEASE-FIRE.” Here it is:

Confront and stop immediately indiscriminate violence against any civilian, especially women, children, and the sick.

End the denial of basic necessities to any population, including food, water, electricity, fuel, internet, and medical supplies.

Affirm the image of God in every human being.

Stop the practice of holding hostages and ensure the safe return of all hostages and prisoners home.

Exercise nonviolent power to build a just peace for all people.

Faithfully work as Jews, Christians, and Muslims to support a viable alternative to the brutality of Hamas and to challenge the Netanyahu administration's practices of occupation and apartheid.

Insist that human rights for all people are non negotiable.

Raise a moral cry against murder, indiscriminate violence, war, and public policies rooted in vengeance, no matter which faith is used to justify violence.

Engage nonviolently to interrupt the violence that is being carried out against fellow human beings.

Read the whole petition on the [Red Letter Christians](#) website.

Thanks for reading. If you have any questions, you are welcome to reply to this newsletter or email california@poorpeoplescampaign.org.