

The conventions are almost over. What comes next?

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Thu, Aug 22, 2024

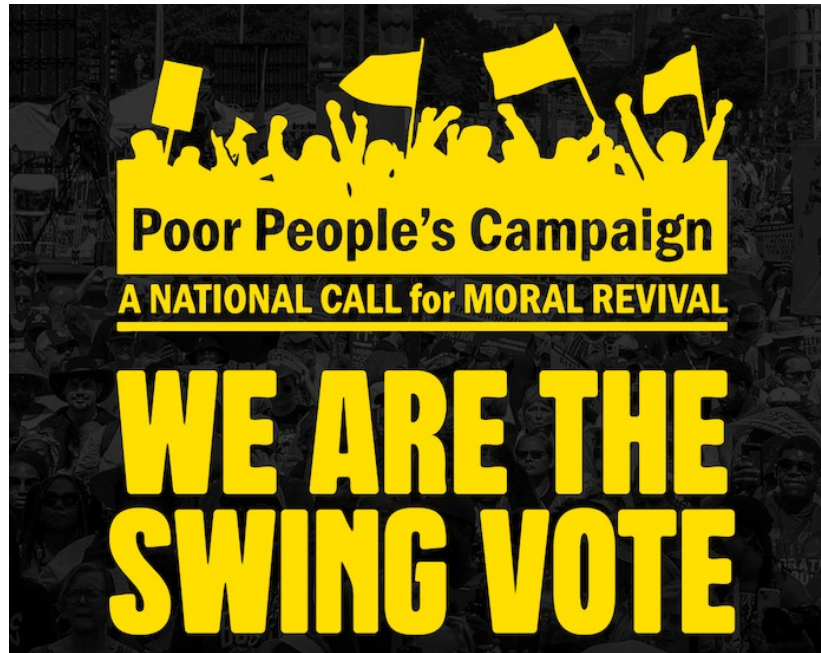
# CALIFORNIA



**Good morning! In this issue...**

- GOTV update: We need you!
- Civil disobedience in L.A.
- A course on spiritual issues and the election ▪  
Meetings, events and articles galore

## Announcements



### Join us

With less than 80 days remaining before this year's elections, and with both major political party conventions nearly behind us, it's time to get out the vote!

### Why?

Because despite living in the richest nation in the history of the world, 800 people die every day due to poverty and low wealth. We remain the only rich country that doesn't guarantee everyone the right to health care. And all over this country, women's rights and voting rights are under attack.

It is a national scandal that there's not a county in this country where a person working at the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 can afford a basic two-room apartment. It is unacceptable that we have poor and low-income families deciding whether they'll pay for prescription drugs or food.

When we vote, we are demanding that candidates running for office embrace a moral agenda that lifts from the bottom to make sure nobody is left behind. By working together, organizing together and voting together, we can save the heart and soul of our democracy.

In California, our GOTV work will include educating our communities on state ballot measures, the logistics of voting (do you know when early voting starts?) and developing campaigns to reach young people, Spanish speakers and those who are unhoused. We are mobilizing 15 million poor and low-wage workers and people to the polls this November. **You can be part of this effort. [Sign up here.](#)**

Are you ready to vote? [Visit Vote.org](#) to check your registration, register to vote, request an absentee ballot, check what's on your ballot and get election reminders to make sure you're where you need to be on election day.

**Join CA PPC Bay Area activists: GOTV, Art Build & Song Circle**  
**Sat August 31, 12:30–3:30pm | [Details](#)**  
**BFUU Fellowship Hall (1924 Cedar St, Berkeley)**

Come learn about the California Poor People’s Campaign GOTV work! Join local activists in a rousing GOTV resource fair that will include an art build and song circle.

The event will be held at the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists (BFUU) Fellowship Hall, located at [1924 Cedar St.](#) in Berkeley, near the AC Transit lines 79 and 18 and the North Berkeley BART.

**News**

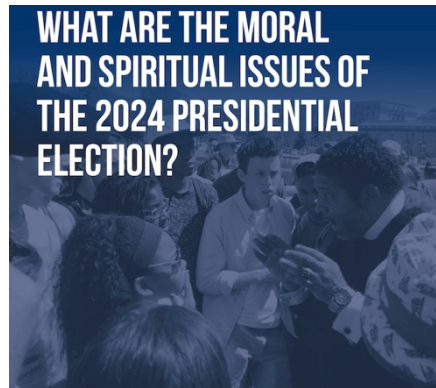


**No worker left behind! Beverly Hills hotel employees demand better wages**

On August 15, Los Angeles PPC activists stood in solidarity with workers at the Cameo Beverly Hills, a hotel that is a holdout in giving fair contracts to its workers. The protest outside the hotel was loud and spirited, with drums, vuvuzelas, singing and chanting, as cooks, dishwashers and housekeepers demanded that they be paid a living wage.

To drive the message home, 20 workers, clergy and [CLUE](#) members, elected leaders and PPC members engaged in nonviolent direct action. (The photo above depicts Los Angeles PPC activists Van DeShields, Tina Mata and California quad chair Nancy Berlin, among others.) Our message: No worker left behind! Because after a year of strikes and significant victories at 70-plus other hotels, the Cameo Hotel continues to deny their workers fair compensation and conditions.

You can watch coverage of the action [here](#).



### **New online course on “the Moral and Spiritual Issues of the 2024 Election”**

Bishop Barber announced a new online course, “[What are the Moral and Spiritual Issues of the 2024 Election?](#)” Sharing on social media, he wrote, “I’m excited to share an online course we’ve developed at the Center for Public Theology & Public Policy based on our inaugural conference.... Free videos & study resources available now.”

## Meetings & events

### **Immigrant Rights Forum / Foro Sobre Derechos de Inmigración**

**Saturday August 24 / Sábado Agosto 24, 10am**

**Pacoima Charter Elementary Auditorium (11016 Norris Ave. Pacoima 91331)**

**Contact/Contacto: [nevalleyppc@gmail.com](mailto:nevalleyppc@gmail.com)**

This forum will center on issues facing the undocumented community. Discussion topics will include legal status, DACA, Biden’s Executive Immigration Order, Project 2025, protecting our human rights and asserting the conditions we need to thrive. We are the Swing Vote!

La discusión se centrará en temas de inmigración que afectan a la comunidad indocumentada. Temas incluirán estatus legal, DACA, orden ejecutiva de inmigración de Biden, Proyecto 2025, proteger nuestros derechos humanos y afirmar las condiciones que necesitamos para prosperar. ¡Somos el voto decisivo!

### **Bad Faith screening to mark March on Washington anniversary**

**Wed August 28, 5pm | [Online](#)**

To honor the 61st anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, Repairers of the Breach is hosting two national [screenings](#) of the documentary *Bad Faith* for moral activists and audiences across the country. The screening will be followed by a call for clergy, communities of faith, and other moral activists to join forces to mobilize 15 million poor and low-income voters who make up the largest swing vote in this election.

## Faith All-Call meeting

Wednesday Aug 28, 6:30pm | [Online](#)

Our Faith All-Call meetings are a space especially for those who are moved to take action through the lens of faith. This month we'll be discussing how faith communities can work to get out the vote among poor, low-propensity voters, especially young people, Spanish speakers and homeless and unhoused folks. We'll hear examples of work that's already underway and organize to amplify and grow our efforts. All are welcome!

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We are the swing vote! Join our GOTV team!

*"A multiethnic moral fusion coalition of America's poor people & low-wage workers is the largest swing vote in the 2024 election. We have power to elect leaders who will pass policies that lift from the bottom so everyone does better."*

–Bishop Barber

*We are mobilizing 15 million poor and low-wage workers and people to the polls this November. You can be part of this effort.*

**SIGN UP**

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In the media

### **Bishop Barber on winning “the swing vote”**

When Connell McShane of NewsNation Now asked whether North Carolina is becoming a swing state, Bishop Barber spoke about a fusion coalition and what candidates need to do to win the poor and low-wage swing vote. Sharing the video on [social media](#), he wrote, "Moderate candidates don't win swing votes, candidates that double down on what's right win. Run on living wages. Run on better public education. Run on expanding the Child Tax Credit."

### **“Kamala Harris isn't just listening to workers...”**

In an opinion piece in [MSNBC](#), Bishop Barber and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove write about the workers' movement and economic policy ideas that have been developing for some time, with solutions developed by workers themselves.

“In our work to organize poor and low-income Americans through the Poor People's Campaign,” they write, “we've seen how politicians who embrace the language of fusion movements for economic justice have the power to both tap into the moral concerns that drive millions of Americans and multiply the energy of grassroots organizing.”

They conclude, “As we witness the groundswell of enthusiasm for the Harris-Walz ticket, we see more than good vibes. This is a campaign that has already tapped into the hopes of working people who, for decades, haven't had a fair shot and is promising an agenda that could inspire them to show up for races down the ticket. We look forward to hearing the details, but we can already celebrate what low-income people across the nation see: A worker's vision for the economy is already at the heart of this campaign.”

**“‘Poverty’ is a dirty, ugly, word in politics. We must move forward”**

An opinion piece in the [Columbus Dispatch](#) by Rev. Tim Ahrens, senior minister at First Congregational Church, UCC in Columbus, Ohio, was shared on the Kairos Center Facebook page, with the quote: “In the first presidential debate, there were no questions about poverty in America. Neither candidate chose to mention the poor. Now we have a reset.” In his piece, Rev. Ahrens writes about the importance of speaking up and addressing poverty, as well as the PPC’s moral fusion movement and its GOTV mobilization efforts.

**“How a movement to resist Christian nationalism took on Project 2025”**

In an opinion piece in [Religion News](#), Ruth Braunstein, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Meanings of Democracy Lab at UConn, writes about the emerging resistance movement against Christian nationalism. She highlighted Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis’ work with the PPC and her recent article about Project 2025, sharing her quote that “the wholesale capture of the state is the ultimate goal of its Christian nationalist architects.”

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*Thanks for reading. If you have any questions, you are welcome to reply to this newsletter or email [california@poorpeoplescampaign.org](mailto:california@poorpeoplescampaign.org).*