

Thu, Nov 14, 2024

# CALIFORNIA



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

- Post-election stocktaking and action
- We Are California gatherings this weekend
- Keep the pressure on for equitable housing
- Bishop Barber to lecture at Stanford
- In the media: Democracy Now, The ReidOut

## Announcements



### **From grief to action**

At last Sunday's post-election listening circle, 60 people came together to voice their disappointments and their anxieties for what comes next. We remembered that many of our people have been through hard times and yet we still continue to fight for justice. As CA PPC quad chair Nell Myhand put it, "The spell has been broken, and clarity is available for people who didn't have clarity before."

We'll be taking time to process and analyze our work, to celebrate our actions together, to reflect on what we learned and determine how to integrate that into our work going forward. But that doesn't mean we're not taking action as well. Check out the meetings, gatherings and other actions we're participating in below.

### **We Are California: Unite and Defend Our Communities!**

**In-person gatherings in 5 cities, plus livestream**

**Saturday Nov. 16, 10am | [RSVP](#)**

The We Are California org is bringing together thousands of community members across the state to organize, build power and advance policies that protect our communities and defend our values. Actions are being planned in San Diego, Orange County, Los Angeles, Fresno, the Bay Area and online.

We are struggling with the harsh reality of what a second, more vindictive and emboldened Trump administration will mean for our communities and how to protect the most vulnerable among us.

Still, we remember that for generations our ancestors survived the worst of white supremacy and we are still here. This is an opportunity for us to join with others, including many of our partner organizations, to unite and defend our communities. [RSVP](#) for details.

### **Tell the Governor: Housing Not handcuffs!**

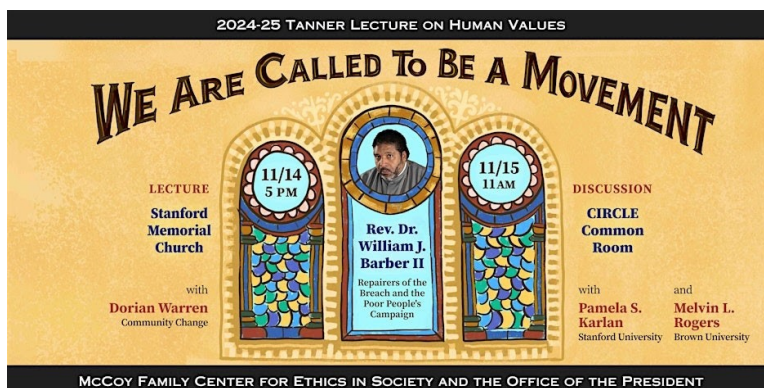
A second Trump administration represents an existential threat to unhoused people. Trump has a [history](#) of trying to cut federal funding for affordable housing. He demonizes unhoused neighbors and has [pledged](#) to ban "urban camping," relocate unhoused people to "tent cities" and institutionalize unhoused people with disabilities.

Prior to the election, the Equal Rights for Every Neighbor coalition, of which California PPC is a member, sent a [letter to Governor Newsom](#), telling him that California must lead on housing and houselessness—not [further crack down](#) on houseless Californians. The

letter was in response to the [Grants Pass decision](#) and Governor Newsom's [Executive Order N-1-24](#), which ordered the state and urged local governments to displace encampments. We have not received any response from the Governor.

Let's keep raising our collective voice to send a message to the Governor's office: California must lead, not follow. Use [this toolkit](#) and let the Governor know: Housing solves houselessness, not handcuffs and fines.

## Meetings & events



### **We Are Called to Be a Movement** Lecture and discussion at Stanford University Thursday Nov. 14, 5–7pm | [RSVP](#) Stanford Memorial Church

For this lecture, Bishop Barber will deliver a message that could not be clearer: It's time for change, and these times need you.

A note from the event organizers: "Now more than ever, it's time for everyone who cares about the state of our nation to heed the call and join forces to redeem the soul of America. We must unite and renounce the politics of rejection, division, and greed, lift up the common good, move up to higher ground and revive the heart of democracy."

The day after the lecture, at 11am, commentators Melvin S. Rogers and Pamela S. Karlan will participate in a discussion seminar at the Center for Inter-Religious Community, Learning and Experiences (CIRCLE) Common Room. More details on the [event page](#).

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## 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**

## In the media

### **“America has often chosen wrong and had to pay for it later”**

#### **Bishop Barber makes the post-election press rounds**

In the last week, Bishop Barber has spoken with two prominent journalists: MSNBC’s [Joy Reid](#) and Democracy Now’s [Amy Goodman](#).

In discussing the conflicting choices Americans made around the country in last week’s election, Bishop Barber told Reid that “this country has a history of making the wrong decisions. Power unrepentantly used to hurt others brings judgement on the nation; it destroys its moral foundation. We must challenge Christian Nationalists, not be distracted by MAGA extremists and keep our focus on the policies. And in this moment, we have to do something our foreparents did. In 1877, when they had a bad election, or in 1896, after Plessy v. Ferguson, they cried, they were angry and then they got up and began to fight.”

In his discussion with Goodman, he spoke of the deep questions we must ask ourselves. “Many Americans just did not vote,” he said. “We have some serious questions to wrestle with. Why is it that the issues that the most of the public agrees with—healthcare, living wages, voting rights, democracy—why is it that those issues weren’t more up front? And why is it that persons would choose to vote for someone who’s diametrically against the very things that the percentage of the people say that they are for? We have some serious issues. What we don’t have is the option to give up. We have to get up every morning, with every nonviolent tool in our disposal, and challenge any form of regression, regardless of who is in office.”

### **Who Are Our Leaders?**

#### **Freedom Church of the Poor's election-week service**

Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis shared the [livestream](#) of the latest Freedom Church of the Poor service. “In the wake of a deeply divisive election, we gather as a movement community to support and care for each other,” she wrote. “We also gather to prepare for the struggle ahead. We do this by sharing experiences, resources, and by drawing lessons from the struggles of the poor and dispossessed who came before us. This week we turn to the Hebrew scriptures (Kings and Samuel) and to the early biblical communities who struggled to organize their society in a way that didn’t mimic the systems of domination that God had helped free them from—an all too relevant story for our times.”

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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).*