

Thu, Nov 7, 2024

CALIFORNIA



Good morning! In this issue...

- A listening circle and prayer for healing
- A post-election national faith call
- Final GOTV efforts & relationship building
- NPR on the future of faith and activism

Announcements



These are trying times. And we know our work is more important than ever. Here are two ways to help all of us in this moment.

First, a chance to come together this weekend:

Special statewide gathering and listening circle

Sunday Nov. 10, 4pm | [RSVP](#)

Please join us this Sunday for a time to listen to each other, to give voice to our fears and anxieties, hopes and dreams, how we are feeling and what we're thinking about as we navigate these uncertain times.

Second, these words from PPC national co-chair Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis, excerpted from her prayer given at the Post-Election Vigil for Healing the World at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. Read the prayer in full [here](#).

Almighty God, on this day, in this holy place, we come to you, many of us in fear and trembling. And we commit, we re-commit, to bringing your reign of Everybody In, Nobody Out, to this city and nation.

...Kaleidoscope God, You teach us that love tramples hate, that truth trounces lies, that community conquers fear and life overcomes death and despair. You teach us that hope comes in the morning.

So make us, mold us, and send us into the city, into the world, to repair broken places, restore the street to live in.

*This is my prayer, today and every day.
Amen*

Meetings & events

What's Next?

Post-election national faith call

Friday Nov. 8, 11am PT | [RSVP](#)

Kairos is sponsoring this virtual gathering for faith leaders and communities across the country so people can gather in faithful fellowship and learn how faith communities will stay in coordination in the days and weeks ahead. Please share this invite with trusted faith leaders. All participants must register to join the call. (And don't forget this Sunday's [gathering and listening circle](#).)

Recap



Final GOTV efforts around the state

California PPC activists worked tirelessly to make sure everyone in our communities had an opportunity to vote and to build community for whatever comes next.

In **Long Beach**, we worked with volunteers operating St. Luke's Episcopal Church, which offers showers and meals to unhoused neighbors every Saturday. Judy McBride explained that "when early voting started we encouraged people to shower, eat and then go vote at the nearby senior center. A man came back to show us his 'I Voted!' sticker!"

Bay Area PPC activists continued their outreach with Wood Street Commons, distributing flyers and explaining voting options to people living in community as unhoused people, which we call encampments, as well as people who are newly rehoused, service providers with accountable relationships and moral witnesses.

In **Los Angeles**, shelter and neighborhood center Alexandria House organized to be a one-day early voting center (photo above). "We gave out flyers all around the neighborhood to invite people to vote right in their own neighborhood, and it worked!" said one participant. "People streamed in to vote, including a young woman who came out of the vote center beaming after she was able to register and vote right on the spot." Check in next week for a recap of PPC's 2024 GOTV work.

National PPC livestream Election Day afternoon Briefing on voter suppression issues in the south

At an Election Day [briefing](#), campaign co-chairs Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II and Rev. Dr. Liz Theoharis spoke alongside legal partners Forward Justice and the NAACP Legal Defense Fund about updates and calls to action addressing voter suppression occurring in southern states. The LDF members described in real time the work they've done to sound the alarm and combat these issues.

Bishop Barber [shared](#) the announcement of the new partnership, outlining their mission “to safeguard democracy and ensure voter protection across the South. This strategic partnership aims to address the unique challenges faced by voters in North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Louisiana—states disproportionately impacted by both natural disasters and voter suppression efforts. Collectively, these states control 134 electoral votes, and are home to over 26.7 million poor and low-wage eligible infrequent voters.”

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

“Meet the religious leaders shaping the next generation of social justice activism”

[NPR](#) ran a story last Sunday about Bishop Barber’s work at Yale Divinity School’s Center for Public Theology & Public Policy, where he is the founding director. Dropping listeners (and readers) into a lecture bookended by Repairers of the Breach theomusicologist Yara Allen, the piece shows Bishop Barber making the connection between ministry and activism. Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, another leader at the center and PPC mainstay, sums up their mission.

“Students here have a deep spiritual hunger connected to their sense that something is wrong with the way the world works,” he says. “And the mission is to direct that sense of wrong into a sense of purpose. It doesn’t have to be this way. And God doesn’t want it to be this way.”

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