

## FROM THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN - A CALL FOR MORAL REVIVAL

**We have the right to vote and the right to accountable political representation.**

**Immigrants have the right to citizenship that will afford them a full right to vote and the right to participate in our democracy.**

We demand the immediate full restoration and expansion of the Voting Rights Act, an end to racist gerrymandering and redistricting, the implementation of automatic registration to vote at the age of 18, early voting in every state, same-day registration, the enactment of Election Day as a holiday, and a verifiable paper record. We demand the right to vote for the formally incarcerated.

We demand the reversal of state laws preempting local governments from passing minimum wage increases, the removal of Emergency Financial Management positions that are unaccountable to the democratic process, and statehood for Washington DC.

We demand a clear and just immigration system that strengthens our democracy through the broad participation of everyone in this country. This includes protecting immigrants' abilities to organize for their rights in the workplace and in their communities without fear of retribution, detention and deportation.

**Everybody has the right to live. Given the abundance that exists in this country and the fundamental dignity inherent to all humanity, every person in the United States has the right to housing, education, health care, welfare, decent and dignified jobs and the right to organize for the realization of these rights.**

We demand federal and state living wage laws, guaranteed annual incomes, full employment and the right for all workers to form and join unions. We also demand fully-funded welfare programs for the poor.

We demand equal pay for equal work.

We demand equity in education, ensuring every child receives a high-quality, well-funded, diverse public education. We demand free tuition at public colleges and universities and an end to profiteering on student debt. We demand equitable funding for HBCUs.

We demand the expansion of Medicaid in every state and the protection of Medicare until the full implementation of single-payer universal health care for all.

We demand reinvestment in and expansion of public housing, ensuring that all have a decent house to live in.

We demand equal treatment and accessible housing, health care and mobility, adequate income and services for people with disabilities.

We demand public infrastructure projects and sustainable, community-based and controlled economic initiatives that target poor and rural communities.

We demand relief from crushing household, student, and consumer debt. We declare Jubilee.

We demand that the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share of our country's urgent needs around decent and affordable housing, free public education, a robust social safety net and social security.

We demand the repeal of the 2017 federal tax law and the reinvestment of those funds into social programming that helps all.

**We remain in the dark about who is poor and this ignorance prevents us from being able to address the broad and deep poverty in our midst. We have the right to know the true state of our Union.**

We demand a change in the current poverty standards.

We demand an accurate assessment of who is poor — based on access to decent and adequate housing, education, health care, water, sanitation and public utilities, childcare, as well as income, savings and debt, and welfare — and that is made widely available to all.

**Equal protection under the law is non-negotiable. We have the right to move freely without the fear of intimidation, detention, deportation or death by public institutions charged with our safety.**

We demand an end to mass incarceration and the continuing inequalities for black, brown and poor white people within the criminal justice system.

We demand equality and the safety of all persons regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

**We have a fundamental right to clean water, air and a healthy environment and public resources to monitor, penalize and reverse the polluting impacts of fossil fuel industries.**

We demand 100 percent clean, renewable energy and a public jobs program to transition to a green economy.

We demand a fully funded public water and sanitation infrastructure that keeps these utilities and services under public control and that prioritize poor, rural and Native communities that have been harmed by polluting industries.

We demand a ban on fracking, mountaintop removal coal mining, coal ash ponds, and offshore drilling. We demand a ban on all new pipelines, refineries, and coal, oil, and gas export terminals.

**We have the right to protect our communities from the ravages and weapons of war.**

We demand an end to military aggression and war-mongering.

We demand a stop to the privatization of the military budget and a reallocation of resources from the military budget to education, health care, jobs and green infrastructure needs, and strengthening a VA system that remains public.

We demand a ban on the proliferation of guns in our communities, including semi-automatic weapons.

We demand the demilitarization of our communities on the border and the interior. This includes ending federal programs that send military equipment into local and state communities and bringing down the wall at the U.S.-Mexico border.

We demand an immigration system that, instead of criminalizing people for trying to raise their families, keeps families together and allows us all to build thriving communities in the country we call home.

**A morality that claims to care for the souls of people while destroying their bodies and communities is deeply immoral. We have the right to ground our public policies and budget allocations in a moral narrative that prioritizes and follows our religious and Constitutional moral commitments to justice.**

We demand that all policies and budgets are based on whether they serve the general welfare and lift up lives and the environment.

## 40 DAYS OF ACTION -

**NONVIOLENT** - we model nonviolence in this culture of violence holding the humanity of every person.

**MORAL** - not left or right, but right and wrong - a new call for a moral revival in this country led by the poor.

**FUSION** - uniting across communities and issues into a powerful peoples' force for justice .

**DIRECT ACTION**- our bodies are conveying a message of peoples' power which won't be turned back.

### Moral Mondays

**week 1** - May 14 **Somebody's Hurting my People** - children, women, youth, people with disabilities

**week 2** - May 21 **Intersection between systemic poverty and racism**- attack on voting rights and immigrants

**week 3** - May 28 **Memorial Day** - week around veterans leading on the war economy

**week 4**- June 4 **Ecological devastation** - health of the planet; right to health care

**week 5**- June 11 **Everybody's got a right to live** - wages, housing, income, services

1 PM press conference , 2 PM rally - 45 minutes with faith leaders, impacted people, advocates. No politicians.

3 PM moral witnessing. **EVERYONE COME ON THE 14TH!!!!**

Sunday night- pre-action meetings: 5-7.

week 6- June 18-25 everyone to DC to challenge the distorted moral narrative. not left\ right but right\wrong.

### OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AND ROLES

**Other upcoming training opportunities in your state so you can encourage their friends to attend.**

**May 5 1:30-6:30 PM** Unitarian Universalist Urban Mission

at [10 Putnam St. Roxbury, MA 02119](https://www.putnam-st-roxbury.org/)

**like our state Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/emappc/>**

**join a subcommittee, team or sign up to help in some way with the Monday actions.**

Remember, you are only engaging in civil disobedience during one of the six weeks so you may be available to help drive, provide food, house people, etc. during the other weeks.

**Some roles to consider:**

**Pre-Demonstration Training Team:**

Needs: Theomusicologist, Nonviolent Moral Direct Action Coordinators, Lawyer or Trained Legal Information Provider, Holders of Belongings

**Rally Team:**

Needs: Directly Impacted People and Clergy Speakers (strongly considering CD), Theomusicologists & Cultural Artists, Action Leader (MC for the rally), Timekeeper, Program Coordinator/Stage Manager

**Communications Team:**

Communications Coordinator, Media Wrangler, Media Spokespeople, Social Media (Facebook and Twitter), Documentation, Livestream

**Civil Disobedience Action Team:**

Theomusicologists, Chant Leaders, Prayer Leaders, Action Leaders, Runners, Sign-In Crew, Clean-up Crew

**Safety Team:**

Marshals, Lead Marshal, De-escalators, Straggler Crew, Police Liaisons, Legal Observers, Medics, Supplies Team

**Post-Action Team:**

Jail Support Lead, Jail Support Hotline, Community Support at Jail, Transportation, Food.

**Massachusetts Poor People's Campaign <[massachusetts@poorpeoplescampaign.org](mailto:massachusetts@poorpeoplescampaign.org)>**