



# *Lift Every Voice!*

## *Racism, Class & Power*



*Annual National Gathering  
& Congressional Lobby Day*

*April 15-18, 2016  
Washington, D.C.*



# *AdvocacyDays.org*



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@advocacydays

#EAD2016

#LiftEveryVoice

## ***Lift Every Voice! - Racism, Class & Power***

In a major U.S. election year when lives, votes and the global economy are at stake, followers of Christ ask, “**Who has a voice?**”. The response is, “**Everyone!**”

But in our neighborhoods, cities, and around the world, the voices of too many people are silenced. For generations in this country, social, economic, corporate and political powers have colluded to reduce and eliminate access to voting. Historically, systemic injustice has been carried out through poll taxes, unreasonable and egregious voter requirements and violent opposition to calls for justice and change. Today, we are experiencing injustice through not only an attempt for voter suppression, but police brutality, detention and mass incarceration. In the U.S. and around the world, communities whose health, water, air and land are threatened by corporate greed, voices for justice are often curbed through extreme violence, intimidation and murder.

In this country, communities of color are under siege: named and unnamed black lives are killed each year by police; immigrants are detained and scapegoated; and public displays of discontent and calls for solidarity have too often been met with disregard, suppression or violence. Around the world, decisions that affect the well-being of lives and the entire global economy - one based on continued growth despite the limits to earth’s natural resources and capacity to absorb such growth - are often made in closed boardrooms and in great secrecy.

But as Christians, we believe that leaders and policy makers are called to act and to govern in fairness and with justice for all! Like the persistent widow who demands that the judge hear her plea (Luke 18:1-8), at EAD 2016, we will bring our petitions for justice to Capitol Hill. Like the persistent widow, we will not be silenced.

Come to “Lift Every Voice” on April 15-18, 2016, where people of faith will speak truth to power concerning the suppression of political and economic rights, and the corporate undermining of the local voice of ordinary people in the U.S. and around the world. Through prayer, worship, advocacy training, networking and mobilization with other Christians, we will face the reality of racism, class and power impacting politics and policies and advocate for the liberty of “Every Voice!” - all culminating with EAD’s Congressional Lobby Day on Capitol Hill.

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### ***REGISTRATION FEES***

**Entire Four-Day Event: Before March 18: \$199 | After March 18: \$215**

**One Day: Saturday or Sunday: \$110**

Register online or by mail at [AdvocacyDays.org/register](http://AdvocacyDays.org/register)

### ***HOTEL***

**DoubleTree Crystal City, Arlington, Va.**

**Special Room Block Rate: \$127 / night**

Reserve online at [AdvocacyDays.org/housing](http://AdvocacyDays.org/housing) or call (800) 222-8733 and mention code “Ecumenical Advocacy Days” or “EAD”.

***For More Information and Event Schedule  
Visit [Advocacydays.org/2016](http://Advocacydays.org/2016)***

**LEARN  
MORE**



**Ecumenical Advocacy Days**

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FOR GLOBAL PEACE WITH JUSTICE



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## MISSION

Ecumenical Advocacy Days is a movement of the ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies, grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Our goal, through worship, theological reflection and opportunities for learning and witness, is to strengthen our Christian voice and to mobilize for advocacy on a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international policy issues.

## HISTORY

EAD began in 2003 as a coalition of sponsor organizations holding an annual national Christian education and advocacy conference around timely social justice issues. Since then it has become the premier Christian advocacy event in the United States, bringing together 1,000 faith advocates each year to mobilize for action and to make a public witness on Capitol Hill. EAD has addressed such issues as food justice, economy & livelihood, poverty & hunger, immigration & refugees, climate change, national & international security, and issues especially affecting women and children around the world. Visit [AdvocacyDays.org/about](http://AdvocacyDays.org/about) to view resources and information from several past National Gatherings.



## COME TO WASHINGTON

Our annual National Gathering provides participants with tools to be effective Christian witnesses to justice, peace and the integrity of creation around carefully chosen issues of national and international importance. Incorporating music, art, worship, education and social activities, the weekend event informs and engages the participating advocates in a comprehensive way. Activities include a series of interactive plenary sessions and workshops addressing aspects of the issue on a global scale, with workshop interest sections including **Africa, Asia-Pacific, Domestic U.S., Eco-Justice, Global Economic Justice, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East, and Peace and Global Security**. There are also advocacy skills training experiences and networking opportunities by state and denomination, preparing advocate groups for a focused Lobby Day conversation with their Members of Congress and Senators on the basis of a specific "Legislative Ask," which is carefully prepared by policy experts and articulates solid policy rooted in our common Christian social justice traditions.

## REGISTRATION & HOUSING

The easiest way to register for our National Gathering is online at [AdvocacyDays.org/register](http://AdvocacyDays.org/register). You may also download a mail-in registration. Be sure to register early and save! Our National Gathering is held at a D.C.-area hotel with which EAD has negotiated special discounted rates for our advocates. These room blocks are often in high demand, so early booking is encouraged. For more information about the hotel, to book online, or to view cost-saving ideas and alternative housing options visit [AdvocacyDays.org/housing](http://AdvocacyDays.org/housing).

## EXHIBITORS

Over 60 national and international organizations and vendors exhibit at EAD each year. If your organization is interested in doing so, please visit [AdvocacyDays.org/exhibitors](http://AdvocacyDays.org/exhibitors) for more information.



## YOUNG ADULT SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, EAD, in coordination with several sponsor organizations, provides nearly 100 scholarships to young scholars and ministers to cover the cost of their registration fee. Young adults who are interested in applying for a scholarship to an upcoming National Gathering should visit [AdvocacyDays.org/scholarships](http://AdvocacyDays.org/scholarships) for more information.



## SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The generous support of individuals and sponsors has helped us further expand our scholarship program for young adult scholars and ministers to participate in EAD. We invite you to consider making a contribution to this fund, which is used exclusively for scholarships for young adults. To donate online or for information on how you can mail a donation to us, visit [AdvocacyDays.org/donate](http://AdvocacyDays.org/donate).

## UPCOMING NATIONAL GATHERING DATES

Friday, April 15 – Monday, April 18, 2016 | [AdvocacyDays.org/2016](http://AdvocacyDays.org/2016)

Friday, April 21 – Monday, April 24, 2017 | [AdvocacyDays.org/2017](http://AdvocacyDays.org/2017)

