

**Leader III:** God's good creation continues to suffer from our use and abuse of its Precious gifts. The enforcement of laws that protect the integrity of creation could be severely compromised by unjust budgetary decisions.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that respects and protects the integrity of creation. Our God hears the cry of Earth. Blessed be our God.**

**Leader IV:** For the gift of vision to see a way forward that is just and compassionate.

**All: Give us your vision.**

**Leader IV:** For the gift of conviction to work with vigor and faithfulness for a just solution to the crises we face

**All: Give us your courage.**

**Leader IV:** Spirit of God, renew the hearts of all of us who are gathered here. Inspire Congress and the administration to act justly and to protect our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, here and around the world. Reinvigorate our nation's vision of the common good.

**All: May God, our Creator and parent, breathe into us new life and new meaning. May the Wisdom of God breathe into us new hope and a new awareness. May the Spirit of God breathe into us a new spirit and a new understanding of the world in which we live. AMEN.**

*"Guide My Feet"*

**Andy Zipf**  
*Singer/Songwriter*

**Benediction**

**Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon**  
*General Secretary*  
*National Council of the Churches of Christ*



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**FAITHFUL  
BUDGET  
CAMPAIGN**

***Super Vigil***

**November 20, 2011**

**3:00 P.M.**

**Lafayette Park  
Washington, D.C.**

*Inspired by a common spiritual conviction that God has called on all Americans to defend the vulnerable and promote the dignity of all people living in society, the faith community has worked alongside the United States government for decades to protect those struggling to overcome poverty in the U.S. and abroad. Without a sustained federal commitment to these programs, the faith community fears that their houses of worship, as much as they will try, will not be able to solely support the country's most vulnerable in their time of need. We call on Congress and the Administration to exempt from budget cuts programs that assist the most at-risk families and children in the U.S. and abroad.*

*We are mobilizing across the country to impact the U.S. national budget debate by demonstrating that America is a better nation when we follow our faiths' imperative to promote the general welfare and common good of all.*

**FaithfulBudget.DomesticHumanNeeds.org**



FAITHFUL  
BUDGET  
CAMPAIGN

*A Litany for a Faithful National Budget*

*(Prepared by the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns)*

**Welcome**

**Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon**  
*General Secretary  
National Council of the Churches of Christ*

**A Call for Awakening**

***The Blowing of the Shofar***

**A Call for Righteousness**

***Recitation from the Qur'an***

**Opening Prayer**

**Sandy Sorenson**  
*Washington Director, Justice and Witness Ministries  
United Church of Christ*

**Reading of Sacred Texts**

**Maggie Siddiqi**, *Program Coordinator, Islamic Society of North America*  
**Russell Testa**, *Director, JPIC Holy Name Province Franciscans (OFM)*  
**Marc Friend**, *American Jewish World Service*

**“Greed”**

**Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon**  
*Singer/Composer, Cultural Historian, Activist*

**The Prophetic Words:**

**Rabbi Jack Moline**  
*Director of Public Policy  
Rabbinical Assembly*

**Rev. Richard Cizik**  
*President  
The New Evangelical Partnership for the Common Good*

**Rev. Jennifer Butler**  
*Executive Director  
Faith in Public Life*

**Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed**  
*National Director, Interfaith & Community Alliances  
Islamic Society of North America*

**Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson II**  
*Director of Public Witness  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**“I Ain’t the Kind for Givin’ Up”**

**Andy Zipf**  
*Singer/Songwriter*

**Leader I:** **Douglas G. Grace**, *Director, Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice*  
**Leader II:** **Shantha Ready Alonso**, *Advocacy Specialist, National Council of Churches*  
**Leader III:** **Martin Shupack**, *Director of Advocacy, Church World Service*  
**Leader IV:** **Cynthia Abrams**, *Director of Health Care Programs, GBCS, United Methodist Church*

**Leader I:** Let us pray...  
**All:** **Blessed be our God.**

**Leader I:** Twenty percent of all children in the United States live in poverty. We cannot leave our children a legacy of rising debt, nor can we leave them a legacy of rising poverty.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that protects God’s children from hunger and homelessness, from inadequate education and healthcare, from poverty. Our God hears the cry of the children who are poor. Blessed be our God.**

**Leader I:** Many older adults in the United States live near or below the poverty line. Social Security and Medicare are their lifelines. We cannot neglect the very real needs of our senior citizens.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that protects our elders from poverty, financial insecurity and inadequate healthcare. Our God hears the cry of our seniors who are poor or vulnerable. Blessed be our God.**

**Leader II:** Women in the United States are disproportionately served by the social safety net. Women rely on many of the programs facing drastic cuts – from Medicare and Medicaid to SNAP and TANF, from SSI and Pell grants to domestic violence prevention to nutrition and child care. We cannot ignore the real needs of women in our society or fail to address the systemic injustice that perpetuates their vulnerability.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that protects women from poverty, financial insecurity, inadequate healthcare and physical danger. Our God hears the cry of the women. Blessed be our God.**

**Leader II:** With an official unemployment rate over nine percent, millions of U.S. Americans are struggling to meet their most basic needs. Yet an unjust federal budget could reduce or eliminate assistance for unemployed families.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that responds to the needs of those who are unemployed, protecting them and their dependents as much as possible from the overwhelming anxiety of financial insecurity and lost self-esteem. Our God hears the cry of those who are unemployed. Blessed be our God.**

**Leader III:** We live in a world that is intensely interconnected. Loving our neighbors requires that we promote the global common good. Yet, programs that respond to HIV and AIDS, extreme poverty, food insecurity, overwhelming debt, violence against women, natural disasters and other urgent needs are likely to be severely cut.

**All: We pray for a just and compassionate budget that responds to the needs of our brothers and sisters around the world. Our God hears the cry of those who live on the margins of our world. Blessed be our God.**

*(Over)*