

Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice

**Attention:
Day Book Editors
Producers**

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Christian Advocates Bring Message of True Security to Capitol Hill

Washington, D.C. -- A thousand Christians from across the country are expected to visit Capitol Hill March 10 during the sixth annual Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice conference.

The conference theme, "2008: Claiming a Vision of True Security," will be the focus of discussions on how U.S. policies can conceive new visions of security in U.S. homes and neighborhoods and in the world. These new visions will also be topics of discussion during visits with senators and representatives.

Presidential candidates have been invited to participate in a Town Hall forum on Sunday evening of the conference. Conference participants will raise a variety of issues with the candidates including but not limited to economic security, healthcare, the global impact of climate change, and U.S. military presence abroad.

As Congress enters its budget season, conferees plan to meet with their representatives to seek support for a Federal Budget that funds diplomatic initiatives and development programs and redefines spending priorities for programs that benefit the common good.

House and Senate leadership as well as the chairs of the Budget and Appropriations committees have been invited to participate in a legislative forum on Monday, March 10 to present the 2008 budget priorities.

Expert Speakers

A host of expert speakers will address plenary sessions and workshops on current need for conflict prevention, increased level of diplomacy and development assistance in the United States, Middle East, Asia-Pacific region, Africa and Latin America.

The Rev. Dr. Mark Lomax, Pastor at First African Presbyterian Church, will kick off the conference in the opening worship service inviting participants to recognize how peacemaking is a political issue.

Lisa Schirch, professor of peace building at Eastern Mennonite University and program director of the 3D Security Initiative which promotes conflict prevention and peace building in U.S. security policymaking, will set the tone of the conference in the Saturday morning plenary.

Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, President of the National Council of Churches USA, will be the homilist for the Sunday worship.

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. Its goal, through worship, theological reflection and opportunities for learning and witness, is to strengthen the Christian voice of citizens mobilize for advocacy on a wide variety of U.S. domestic and international policy issues.

For more information on Ecumenical Advocacy Days please visit www.advocacydays.org.

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