

# Faith Weekend of Action Against Ecological Devastation

## Partner Toolkit

### FAITH WEEKEND OF ACTION AGAINST ECOLOGICAL DEVASTATION

#### JUNE 1-4, 2018

June 1st marks the beginning of hurricane season. Join faith communities as we raise our voices to demand accountability and action in recovery efforts by the government to address ecological devastation and remind the nation that there is no Planet B. If you're in NYC, join us on the evening of **Friday, June 1st** for *Decolonizing Faith: What's Next for Puerto Rico?* and on **Saturday, June 2nd** for *No Refuge from the Storm: Rally at the United Nations* where we will demand that the UN Audit the Debt and Audit the Deaths!

A newly released Harvard study found that 5,000+ Puerto Ricans died as a result of Hurricane Maria and government inaction, surpassing the combined death tolls of both Hurricane Katrina and the 9/11 attacks. Collective Action for Puerto Rico will conduct the following actions this weekend and demand that the U.N.'s Special Committee on Decolonization audit the 5,000+ deaths of Puerto Ricans after Hurricane Maria: Stay tuned for updates and the latest on our collective actions here: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>.

### LITURGICAL RESOURCES FOR PARTNER FAITH COMMUNITIES

Faith communities are invited to integrate Blue Tarps into their liturgy and worship over the weekend, representing the thousands of tarps that still cover Puerto Rico right now, eight months after the devastation of Hurricane Maria. [Click here for suggested liturgy and prayers](#) developed by Ft. Washington Collegiate Church Senior Minister, Rev. Damaris Whittaker. Other faith communities are simply draping blue tarps on their own buildings to raise awareness, and then sending them with donations to an organization working on recovery and resilience in Puerto Rico. Any houses of worship that would like to donate their tarp may contact Rev. Whittaker at Fort Washington Collegiate Church.

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### THE POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

We encourage everyone who has worked on Puerto Rican solidarity and environmental justice to mobilize for the June 4th rallies around the country **in partnership with *The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival***. [Click here to find a rally near you](#). The Campaign is building a movement to overcome systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, and the war economy, all of which directly impacts Puerto Rico and the health of our planet. The week of June 3-9 is "The Right to Health and a Healthy Planet: Ecological Devastation and Health Care." As the [Souls of Poor Folks Audit](#) states, Puerto Rico's poverty rate was 43.5% before Hurricane Maria, compared to about 13% nationwide. We need a Poor People's Campaign and a National Call for Moral Revival to decolonize Puerto Rico and build resilient communities!

### ABOUT US

Collective Action for Puerto Rico (CAPR) is a collective of faith leaders and the faithful using public theology to transcend politics, to shed light on the history of economic injustice toward the Puerto Rican people, and to inspire action that leads to self-determination.

### COLLECTIVE ACTION FOR PUERTO RICO



FORT WASHINGTON  
COLLEGIATE CHURCH



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## Events Schedule

**FRI., JUNE 1**  
**7 PM**

### Decolonizing Faith: What's Next for Puerto Rico?

Fort Washington Collegiate Church  
729 W 181st St, New York, NY 10033

Join us for a free discussion on what's next for Puerto Rico and how faith leaders can turn crisis into sustainable change as the new hurricane season begins.

**SAT., JUNE 2**  
**10:30 AM**

### No Refuge from the Storm: Rally at the UN

Dag Hammarskjold Plaza  
47th St. & 1st Ave., NY, NY

We will take our demands for accountability to the United Nations on Saturday morning. Join us as we call for an audit of the Puerto Rican debt and an audit of the actual deaths and devastation in Puerto Rico from Hurricane Maria.

**JUNE 1-3**  
**Various**

### Shared Observances during Worship

Faith Communities & Partners

Consider integrating prayers and liturgy like the one described here. Utilize blue tarps on your building or in your worship space to raise awareness of the ongoing failures of the US Government in building a sustainable recovery in Puerto Rico and elsewhere.

**MON., JUNE 4**  
**2 PM**

### March with the Poor People's Campaign

Washington D.C.

Pray with your feet and join us on June 4th, 2018 in Washington, D.C. as we rally around ecological devastation and Puerto Rico with the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival.

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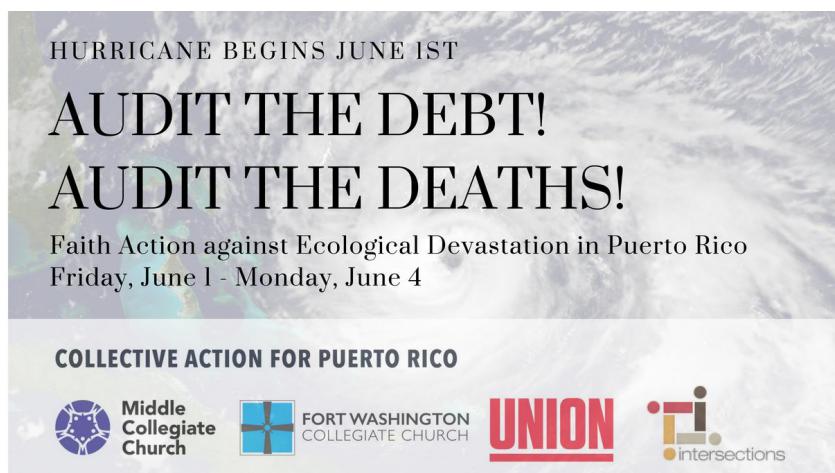
## Social Media Guide

HASHTAGS	HANDLES	IMAGES
#AuditTheDebt	@MiddleChurch	
#AuditThePRDeaths	@FortWashChurch	
#NoRefuge	@UnionSeminary	
#HurricaneSeason2018	@IntersectionsNY	
#NoDisasterCapitalism		
#RicanStruction		
#PuertoRico		

### SAMPLE TWEETS

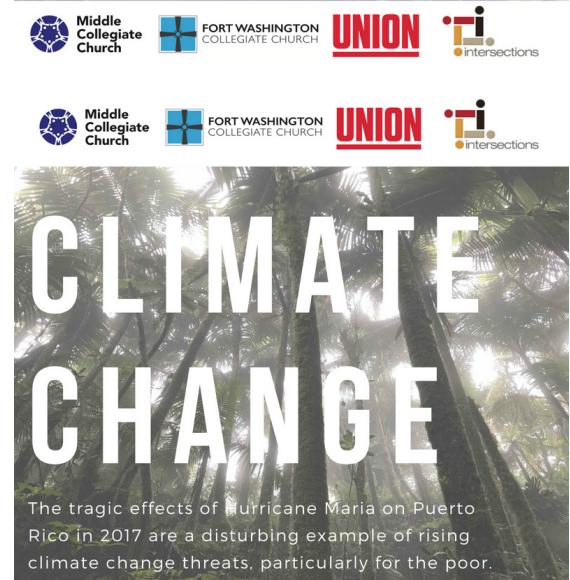
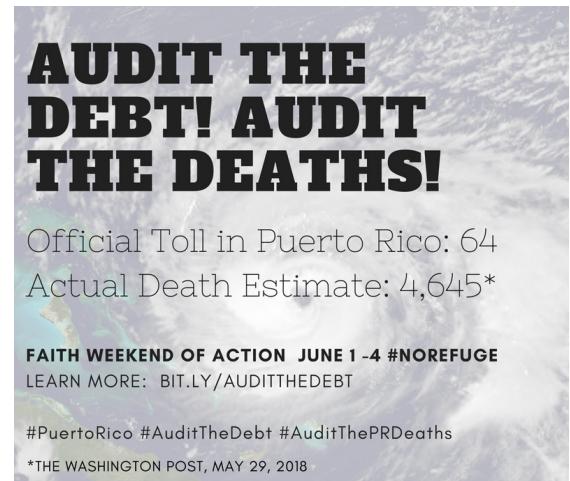
- Puerto Rico has nearly 3X more poverty than the United States. The poverty rate in Puerto Rico in 2016 for all people was 43.5%. In comparison, the poverty rate in the US was 14%. The poverty rate for children under the age of 5 in Puerto Rico is a shocking 64%, compared to 21.3% in the United States. #PuertoRico #AuditTheDebt #AuditThePRDeaths #NoRefuge Join Us: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>
- Puerto Rico's public education system is threatened by a planned closing of 283 of its schools, leaving families without access to a key community resource and forcing children to travel long distances to school everyday. #PuertoRico #AuditTheDebt #AuditThePRDeaths Join Us: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>
- Puerto Ricans pay taxes without representation in Congress and are subject to the US draft. They risk their life and limb to defend U.S. interests all over the world - yet they cannot vote for the President of the U.S., or for any Congressional representatives. #AuditTheDebt #NoDisasterCapitalism Join Us: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>
- Puerto Rican workers are at risk of losing their pensions as the Fiscal Control Board (authorized by the U.S. Congress) demands a 10% cut across the public pension system. #PuertoRico #AuditTheDebt #AuditThePRDeaths #NoRefuge Join Us: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>
- For the first time since the 1930's, Puerto Rico had more deaths than births in 2017. According to 2000-2015 census records, there has been a 42% drop in the population of children under the age of 5. #PuertoRico #AuditTheDebt #AuditThePRDeaths Join Us: <http://bit.ly/AUDITTHEDEBT>

# Faith Weekend of Action Against Ecological Devastation Images



**AUDIT THE DEBT! AUDIT THE DEATHS!**

FAITH WEEKEND OF ACTION #NOREFUGE  
RSVP: [BIT.LY/AUDITTHEDEBT](http://bit.ly/auditthedebt)



SUPPORTING OUR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS  
EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO PROTEST  
FAITH WEEKEND OF ACTION JUNE 1 - 4 #NOREFUGE

