

Our Mission Statement

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible, starting at the local level and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

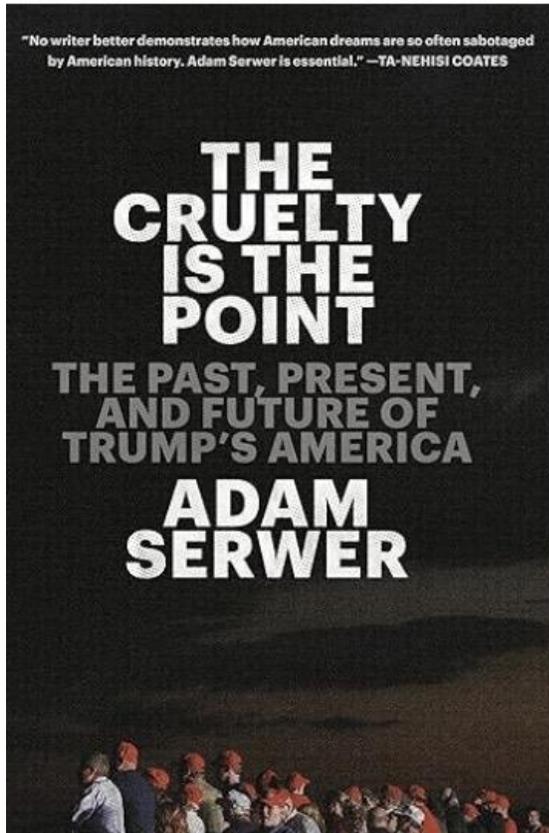
Spotlight

Our Moral Moment Comes to Congress



By
DonnaMarie Woodson

A blessing came to me this morning in my inbox; this video of Bishop William Barber preaching on the steps of Congress on the cruelty of this proposed budget and how this goes against everything that God preached – “help the least of thee...”



Bishop Barber’s “service” expresses exactly how I continue to feel day after day about the evilness of this so called, Administration. One particular point that Bishop Barber makes is on how a lot of people feel that this budget won’t affect them. “It’s just going to hurt “them” Black Folks.

It’s always someone else’s fault that these measures must be taken, and, attributed to the “them not me” excuse. But, if you check the figures, there are more poor white people in poverty than black folks.

This perceived notion has been perpetrated for decades. Black folks, immigrants, and LGBTQt people are the problem in this country. That what I call a “slave” mentality. That’s where the designation of “white” comes from. The plantation owners realizing that there are more of us (slaves and poor people) than there were of them. The genius was convincing the poor folks that they were better than the slaves because they are “white.” White Nationalism?

This delusion that poor white folks are better than poor black folks has always been a destructive force in this country.

But I'm going to let the great Bishop William Barber lay it down, so everyone understands what's at risk moving forward with this "One big ugly bill." Bishop Barber

Click on arrow to play



Speaking of ugly and cruel, I read this morning that yesterday, April 29, 2025, Rev William Barber two others were handcuffed and arrested for praying in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. Barber explained that it would be part of a recurring series of demonstrations aimed at challenging the Republican-led budget bill. Barber, who has a chronic illness that affects his ability to walk, said he was in pain from the prolonged ordeal.





“The arrests occurred roughly 15 minutes after Barber, the Rev. Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove and Steve Swayne, director of St. Francis Springs Prayer Center, started praying in the Rotunda as dozens of police stood nearby, some prepared with plastic handcuffs.

The three took turns praying, lamenting potential budget cuts to social safety-net programs such as Medicaid, often chanting together: “Against the conspiracy of cruelty, we plead the power of your mercy.” (Religion News Service)

“When we cannot depend on the courts and the legislative power of human beings, we can still depend on ... the power of your love and your mercy and your truth,” Barber said in the Rotunda as police began to surround him.



Works Cited:

<https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2025/04/29/the-rev-william-barber-arrested-in-capitol-rotunda-after-praying-against-republican-led-budget/>

Editorial

Trump's Trade War is a Losing Battle

By
Tarik Kiley
4/27/2025

For some reason, President Donald Trump believes that when other nations profit from trade with us, that we are somehow losing. He



believes it is a zero sum game. Cnn.com states that, “Trump has placed historic tariffs on a wide variety of imports, including a 10% tariff on virtually everything coming into the United States. He has also imposed 25% tariffs on

steel, aluminum, autos and many items from Mexico and Canada. But by far the most significant trade action is a tariff of at least 145% on most Chinese goods imported to the United States.”

But, according to Vox.com, “...This is poor reasoning. Trade is not a zero-sum game in which sellers “win” and buyers “lose.” Buyers receive valuable products when purchasing as do sellers receive valuable money in exchange. Just because you bought goods from elsewhere, doesn’t mean that you are losing.

Buyers purchase valuable goods and services with their money. Again, Vox.com states, “...money is only useful to the extent it can be

exchanged for goods and services. This means that goods and services are valuable to consumers regardless of their place of manufacturer.



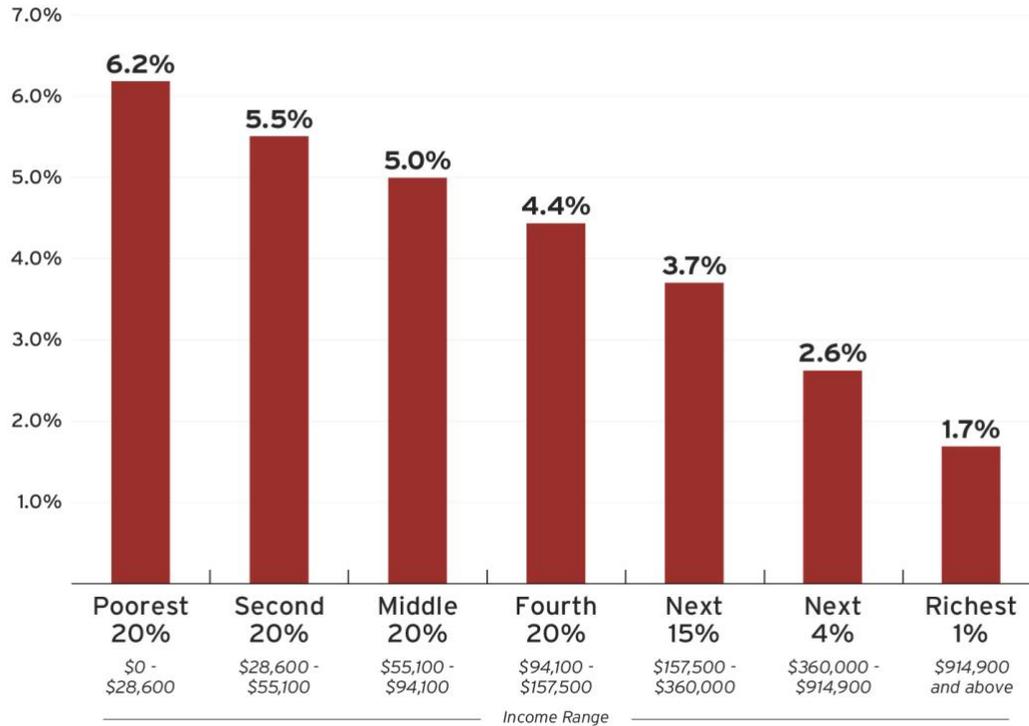
So, for example, China has a ton of goods and services to sell to us, and the citizens of the USA want those goods. So, purchasing desired goods isn't a losing proposition. For example, if China makes a wonderful electric vehicle and you want to purchase it,

your money is buying something valuable. Additionally, if the USA makes desirable products then the world would purchase them. The goal should be to inform and assist American workers with the making of valuable goods and services, not punishing China for doing so.

Also, China might not really care about Mr. Trump's exorbitant tariffs, because China only exports about 15% of their goods to the USA. So, that means that China can afford to not trade with the USA. But can we afford to not trade with China? Again, Vox.com states, "Without question, Trump's tariffs will heap pain upon an already faltering Chinese economy. But ultimately, China needs our dollars less than we need its goods, minerals, and industrial inputs." Simply put, the world wants to buy what China is selling.

Trump's Tariffs Raise Taxes for All Income Groups, With Biggest Hike on the Poorest Americans

Average tax change as a share of income in 2026



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, April 2025

Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy | [ITEP.org](https://itep.org)

And, the USA's allies are not in support of the trade war, generally speaking. Again, Vox.com states, "On Thursday, Bloomberg reported that Japan intends to "push back against any US effort to bring it into an economic bloc aligned against China," due to the importance of its trade relationship with Beijing. Likewise, the European Commission said this week that it has no intention of "decoupling" from China." It is as if Mr. Trump, really doesn't understand how global trade works, or how the formation of alliances work either.

100 DAYS OF CHAOS



Under Trump, consumer confidence has plummeted, falling by 30% since December

Source: University of Michigan.

Also, the citizens of the USA will probably turn against Mr. Trump's trade war, when they see prices begin to rise for themselves as consumers. No one wants to pay higher prices on the goods that we know we want to purchase. In other words, tariffs slow down trade, and make the goods and services that people want to buy less accessible. Also, sellers will have higher costs. Trading goods under tariffs can lead to empty shelves in the stores, because it will become cost prohibitive for sellers to offer goods for sale that cost them ridiculous amounts of money to make because of a compromised supply chain.

Also, is the USA really self-sufficient enough to make all of the goods that its consumers demand? Are USA workers competitive when it comes to manufacturing, making clothes, etc? Also, how competitive can we really be when Mr. Trump is trying to mass deport many of the workers who make our economy competitive? Mr. Trump is trying to deport our agriculture workers, our construction workers, our hospitality workers, etc.

Lastly, the USA is already fighting inflation. Making prices for American consumers higher is a really bad decision. That's what this is really about.... prices. Global trade tends to increase opulence by allowing people to select and purchase the goods that they are willing to pay the price for because of the competitive nature of those goods caused by their quality.

According to CNN.com, “the pain [of tariffs] will come in the form of higher prices and fewer options.” The smart thing to do would be to work to lower prices for consumers by encouraging domestic industry to increase their competitiveness, and to increase the quality of domestically produced goods. This way consumers can have access to the highest quality of goods. This is why global free trade is good for the USA's economy, and why tariffs don't work.

Works Cited

<https://www.vox.com/politics/410471/trump-tariffs-china-trade-war-negotiations>

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/25/economy/trump-time-interview-tariffs/index.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/25/business/trump-tariff-pain-customers-nightcap/index.html>

Announcements



Democrats of North Mecklenburg

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, May 1st at 6:30 pm

**North Regional Rec Center, 18121 Old Statesville
Road, Cornelius (south of Bailey Road)**

Zoom Link: <https://demsofnorthmeck.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=765fdf3806a10a2c360de71c2&id=92e319a8e0&e=e90d0cd318>

Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County

Monthly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 9, 2025

6:30 pm Reception, 7:00 pm Program

Hope Community Hall

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

1609 E 5th St, Charlotte, NC 28204



Please submit your group events to donnamarie93@gmail.com by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.

Happenings!



The Executive Corner:

**Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson
Rev Glencie Rhedrick**

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

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