

Newsletter Feb 3, 2026

So glad to be done with January, which seemed to take three years.

General membership Zoom meeting Wednesday at 7. Just a chance to chat, keep people up to date and get feedback. Limited to 40 minutes max.

Topic: Indivisible Central Wisconsin

Time: Feb 4, 2026 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9187434407?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9187434407?pwd=acSf2HLMpjaI945CaZKbI4GepJPzci.1&omn=74975811694)

[pwd=acSf2HLMpjaI945CaZKbI4GepJPzci.1&omn=74975811694](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9187434407?pwd=acSf2HLMpjaI945CaZKbI4GepJPzci.1&omn=74975811694)

Meeting ID: 918 743 4407

Passcode: Ovvxyj

Thursday, @ 2 pm. What's the Plan with Leah and Ezra

Join Indivisible co-founders Leah Greenberg and Ezra Levin every Thursday to break down the week's biggest political stories, answer your questions, and map out strategies for taking action.

Sign up at <https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/874938/>

[Join \(and/or invite friends to join\) Thursday's No Kings Coalition Mass Call: Eyes on ICE](#) (Feb. 5 7 pm Central): Learn how to participate in ICE Watch efforts and nonviolently protect your community from ICE and CBP thugs. If you attended the first training last week -- the largest ICE Watch training ever -- invite two friends to join this one. Let's make it the *new* largest ICE Watch training ever.

We have started a calendar. We will try to list ALL relevant area events, not just our won. Let us know of anything you would like listed. <https://indicw.org/calendar>

Our past newsletters are on our website. <https://indicw.org/newsletters>

Overpass protest next Sunday at 1 pm. See <https://indicw.org/overpass>

Portage County Power Moves – Sunday at Veterans park 11-noon.

Portage County Dems are holding their general meeting Tuesday, Feb 10 at 6:30.

For Indivisible national: [Your weekly to-dos](#)

1. **[Tell your Members of Congress: The DHS budget must halt ICE's terror, and not hand it more money.](#)** Last week, the Senate blocked the House's Homeland Security appropriations bill that shoveled more money into ICE and CBP while doing very little to stop these agencies' abuses. Now, we have to keep up the pressure and demand that any bill that replaces it enact ironclad policy accountability measures, and doesn't add one penny more to ICE's budget.
2. **[Tell your Members of Congress to reject the GOP's power grab in DC.](#)** A Republican resolution that would override a DC funding law passed by the city's elected council will come before the House on Wednesday; it will then move to the Senate for committee markup. DC residents and allies with representation in Congress need to fight back: DC's finances and right to self-govern shouldn't be in the hands of politicians who don't represent its people.

No Kings III now has a date: March 28. It's going to be the largest protest in American history, and the flagship event will be the largest in Twin Cities history.

But what's the point of a protest, even an historically huge one? Last week, we had our friend and social movement expert Erica Chenoweth of "3.5%" fame on What's the Plan to discuss the logic of No Kings (you should check out the new WTP podcast here -- like, share, etc, thanks).

It's easy to overplay or underplay the role of mass mobilizations. So let's review two strawman sides of the debate :

Argument A: Protests are the sole answer. Some folks think the "3.5% rule" means all we need is to get 11-12 million people to show up, and suddenly fascism loses. Already with last year's mobilization, Trump has seen a string of electoral defeats, his poll numbers are in the toilet, and his congressional coalition is fracturing. But as Chenoweth counsels: That 3.5% has to be actively engaged in the work of opposition, before and after national actions. One-day protests aren't a magic solution to fascism.

Argument B: Protests don't work. Others discount protest entirely. Sure, we saw protests hit historic levels last year. But then what have we seen this year? Venezuela. Greenland. An amped-up secret police force murdering people in the streets. If anything, the regime is escalating. As we discussed with Chenoweth, while the regime is undeniably weakened, weakened authoritarians lash out. We should expect more of that as the walls close in on Trump -- it's a sign of weakness, not strength.

Where does that leave us? Reality: Protests are a tactic. Think of organizing like this: goal, strategy, tactics. A campaign that starts with tactics is never gonna accomplish much. A goal with no strategies or tactics is never gonna get us where we want to go. So think in this order: goal, strategy, tactics.

Our goal: Stop the fascist regime from consolidating its grip on power.

Our strategy: Organize overwhelming, nonviolent people power and foster a culture of mass defiance.

Our tactics: No Kings is one tactic, that fits into our strategy, and aims to achieve our goal. Specifically, No Kings is designed to do three things:

1. Model defiance on a national scale. Optimism in the face of fascism is one of the most accessible forms of defiance. The regime's plan is to scare everyone into submission. But millions of people taking to the streets calls the regime's bluff, and is a powerful display of optimistic noncompliance.
2. Create social proof that opposition is widespread. Humans are social animals. We follow each other. A massive demonstration of popular opposition helps reinforce that wherever you are, you're not alone. Courage is contagious, but it only spreads if people see it.
3. Recruit folks who were not previously active. People-powered movements depend on new people flooding into their local organizing home. From ICE watch to mutual aid to advocacy to electoral work, everyone starts somewhere, and each No Kings is the entry point for millions to get involved beyond one day of protest.

This is all important enough that Indivisible's throwing everything we have into making No Kings III historically huge. I think that's a good investment of time, energy, and money.

And I also know it's not enough.

Where we're headed. The people of the Twin Cities are showing us our future. The deep, daily neighborhood-by-neighborhood organizing is breathtaking. It's what it looks like when contagious courage becomes endemic.

There's a big lesson there, and in the regime's sadistic response. This regime doesn't intend to deescalate. It's going to ramp up attacks on our communities while doing everything possible to subvert elections and hold onto power. To defeat fascism, we're going to have to marry the breadth of No Kings mobilizations with the depth of organizing we're seeing in the Twin Cities.

Which is why I got downright emotional seeing the massive response to the Eyes on ICE training Indivisible hosted with our No Kings Coalition partners last week when 200,000 people showed up to learn how to observe and record ICE. Two days after Alex Pretti's murder, and in historic numbers, our neighbors are training to stand up for their rights, just as Alex did, and just as Renee did, and just as countless Minnesotans are doing now.

We're going to win. It's going to take a lot more mobilizing and a lot more training and a lot more organizing. But we're going to win.

In solidarity,

Ezra Levin

Co-Executive Director, Indivisible