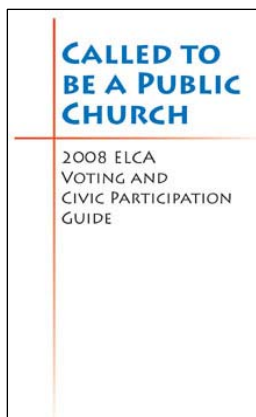


Election Year 2008: Faithful Citizenship Calls For Our Involvement



Advocacy, the intersection of our faith and government, is a part of our baptismal vocation. Our Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson calls this, “public church for the life of the world.” The ELCA Division for Church in Society has produced a comprehensive and accessible guide to becoming involved in the upcoming election. “Called to be a Public Church: 2008 ELCA Voting and Civic Participation Guide” can be accessed online

(<http://archive.elca.org/advocacy/publicchurch/index.html>) or as a booklet from LPPO office. The ELCA and its state policy offices urge you and your congregation to use this guide to help you get involved in activities around the 2008 election. We do not and will not tell you who to vote for but on the back of this insert find several ways that you and your congregation can become faithfully, and legally, involved in the upcoming election.

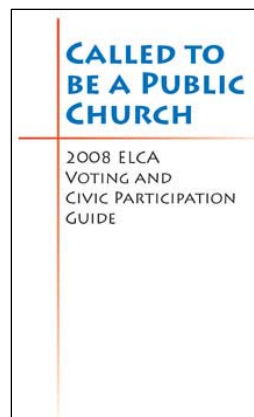
Various witnesses from scripture, from Moses and the Old Testament prophets, to Jesus and his followers, engaged those in power and were a voice for justice and advocates for the marginalized and oppressed. Martin Luther continued this tradition, and engaged those in power of his day on behalf of the common good. We too need to urge those running for public office to remember that reducing poverty and caring for creation are important roles for government.



Lutheran Public Policy Office
of Washington

766 John Street, Suite B
Seattle, WA 98109
206-464-4133 ● www.lppowa.org

Election Year 2008: Faithful Citizenship Calls For Our Involvement



Advocacy, the intersection of our faith and government, is a part of our baptismal vocation. Our Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson calls this, “public church for the life of the world.” The ELCA Division for Church in Society has produced a comprehensive and accessible guide to becoming involved in the upcoming election. “Called to be a Public Church: 2008 ELCA Voting and Civic Participation Guide” can be accessed online

(<http://archive.elca.org/advocacy/publicchurch/index.html>) or as a booklet from LPPO office. The ELCA and its state policy offices urge you and your congregation to use this guide to help you get involved in activities around the 2008 election. We do not and will not tell you who to vote for but on the back of this insert find several ways that you and your congregation can become faithfully, and legally, involved in the upcoming election.

Various witnesses from scripture, from Moses and the Old Testament prophets, to Jesus and his followers, engaged those in power and were a voice for justice and advocates for the marginalized and oppressed. Martin Luther continued this tradition, and engaged those in power of his day on behalf of the common good. We too need to urge those running for public office to remember that reducing poverty and caring for creation are important roles for government.



Lutheran Public Policy Office
of Washington

766 John Street, Suite B
Seattle, WA 98109
206-464-4133 ● www.lppowa.org

Get Involved: Nonpartisan Election Activities for You and Your Congregation

- **Voter Registration Drives**
Organize a drive to make sure everyone in your congregation and surrounding community is registered to vote! This requires one to three folks who can manage the drive, familiarize themselves with the voter registration process, create a fact sheet, supply necessary materials, and staff a table 1-2 Sundays a month.
- **Candidate Forums**
Attend or organize a forum to have candidates speak on issues that concern your congregation and community. The forum must be neutral and nonpartisan. Invite candidates from both parties and give them equal time. A forum requires significant planning but is an exciting way to faithfully engage in the political process.
- **Voter Education and Discussion Groups**
Your congregation's social ministry committee or another group can organize an adult ed. or study group to look at the positions of the state and federal candidates on issues that concern the church such as hunger and poverty.

A step-by-step guide for each of these options can be found in "Called to be a Public Church."

For information of the voting rules in your county and information on candidates visit the League of Women Voters website <http://www.washingtonvoter.org/>

DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT LPPO TO ASSIST WITH ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

"The electoral process is one way in which we live out our affirmation of baptism to 'serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth'...Following and engaging with the issues that come up during the electoral process is an excellent way to get to know our local and global neighbors and their concerns, and become better equipped to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God through our actions in the public square." – Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson



Get Involved: Nonpartisan Election Activities for You and Your Congregation

- **Voter Registration Drives**
Organize a drive to make sure everyone in your congregation and surrounding community is registered to vote! This requires one to three folks who can manage the drive, familiarize themselves with the voter registration process, create a fact sheet, supply necessary materials, and staff a table 1-2 Sundays a month.
- **Candidate Forums**
Attend or organize a forum to have candidates speak on issues that concern your congregation and community. The forum must be neutral and nonpartisan. Invite candidates from both parties and give them equal time. A forum requires significant planning but is an exciting way to faithfully engage in the political process.
- **Voter Education and Discussion Groups**
Your congregation's social ministry committee or another group can organize an adult ed. or study group to look at the positions of the state and federal candidates on issues that concern the church such as hunger and poverty.

A step-by-step guide for each of these options can be found in "Called to be a Public Church."

For information of the voting rules in your county and information on candidates visit the League of Women Voters website <http://www.washingtonvoter.org/>

DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT LPPO TO ASSIST WITH ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

"The electoral process is one way in which we live out our affirmation of baptism to 'serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth'...Following and engaging with the issues that come up during the electoral process is an excellent way to get to know our local and global neighbors and their concerns, and become better equipped to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God through our actions in the public square." – Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson

