

2026 Presbyterian Voter Issues Guide



Jeremiah 29:7 says "seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." As Reformed Christians, we are called by scripture to act within our civic structures to promote the collective welfare of our communities. We encourage you to prayerfully research candidates and initiatives on your ballot to discern how they align with the principles, justice, and values set forth by Jesus.

1

Led by our call to care for all children of God, the Presbyterian Church advocates for a strong **Social Security Net** to help those in need. It is crucial to defend programs such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid, which [collectively benefit 35 million households](#).

2

In Matthew 5:9, Jesus proclaims "blessed are the **Peacemakers**, for they shall be called children of God." As Presbyterians, [we are called](#) to work towards peace, justice, and wholeness in the world. Grounded in this conviction, we encourage policies which [seek to end gun violence](#) and reduce suffering and violence across the globe.

3

Understanding Jesus' words, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35), the Presbyterian church upholds the dignity of **immigrants and asylum seekers**. Centering their lived experiences, we seek [policies that](#) welcome immigrants as new neighbors, stop the separation of families, and humanely care for refugees.

4

Tasked with keeping and tilling the Earth, we bear the responsibility of **Environmental Stewardship** of God's creation. We [commit to Eco-Justice](#), seeking well-being of humankind alongside a thriving earth. We [stand](#) for the protection of public lands and against policies which contribute to ongoing pollution, including fracking and fossil fuel extraction.

5

In Isaiah, the Lord commands us to "share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless." To address the growing cycle of homelessness, the church upholds the necessity of [universal access](#) to safe and **Affordable Housing**. Presbyterians should support the provision of housing assistance and establishment of long-term homelessness prevention.

6

Affirming that all of humankind is the handiwork of the same God, in **International Policy** the Presbyterian church upholds the dignity of all people, regardless of nationality. We advocate for respect of international humanitarian law, support humanitarian aid, stand with refugees and those forced to leave their homes, and call for development assistance which addresses issues like hunger and clean water.

To explore the full scope of our denomination's advocacy, you can view all PC(U.S.A.) [Domestic Policy](#) and [International Policy](#).

Your voice matters in every election. Visit [Vote.org](https://www.vote.org) to verify your registration status, locate your polling place, and access a sample ballot. Don't wait: make a plan to vote!

Congregational Resources



Congregations can play a crucial role in encouraging civic engagement. Consider some of the ideas below for your congregation!

September 15th is [National Voter Registration Day](#)! Celebrate by hosting a voter registration drive at your church. Visit [RockTheVote.org](#) for their [toolkit](#) on how to host a voter registration drive. You can also use the National Council of Churches [Your Voice, Your Vote](#) campaign to remind congregants to check their registration.

Preach on the importance of civic engagement. In Micah 6:8, we read, “*what does The Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*” Guided by these principals, Christians are called to advocate for justice in our society. This can be through volunteering, engaging in civic conversations, and our power to vote for our elected officials. Consider sharing this call through a sermon on civic engagement.

Host a small group study of the PC (USA) [Lift Every Voice Guide](#). This Presbyterian guide looks at democracy, voting rights, and electoral reform. It can be used as a tool for small groups to discern how they can participate in practical civic engagement. Additionally, groups can use [Advocacy as Discipleship: a People Called to Witness](#) as a devotional and [Holy Discontentment](#) for a guide on engaging in grassroots activism and advocacy.

Include election day announcements in your church bulletin. These announcements, such as our [pre-made voter registration insert](#), can inform congregations of important election dates for your state, including the voter registration deadline, early polling locations, and elections day information. You can also use this space to inform congregations on any services available to assist individuals in reaching the polling locations.

Distribute non-partisan election guides to your congregation. Consider using resources from [Guides.Vote](#) and [Vote411.org](#). Providing [sample election day ballots](#) can also help congregants research candidates.

Collect a Voting Plan Offering. On a Sunday prior to the election, encourage the congregation to drop their plan for voting into the offering plate instead of a monetary offering. Additionally, voters can use [this resource](#) to find their Representatives.

Churches are permitted to engage in a wide range of political activities, including encouraging voter engagement, provided that churches do not act as partisans. Churches cannot endorse or oppose specific candidates nor parties. [This guide](#) is a helpful resource outlining what your congregation can do.