



STRIVING TO BRING  
PEACE IN THESE TIMES:  
ENGAGING YOUR  
CONGRESSPERSON ON  
IMMIGRATION

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## THE PERSISTENT WIDOW LUKE 18:1-5, NRSV

Then Jesus told them a parable about the need to pray always and not lose heart. He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ For a while he refused: but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she will not wear me out by continually coming.’”

W-5.0304: JUSTICE AND PEACE  
*DIRECTORY OF WORSHIP, BOOK OF ORDER*

God sends the Church to work for justice in the world: exercising its power for the common good; dealing honestly in personal and public spheres; seeking dignity and freedom for all people; welcoming strangers in the land; promoting justice and fairness in the law; overcoming disparities between rich and poor; bearing witness against systems of violence and oppression; and redressing wrongs against individuals, groups and peoples.



## STEP I: BUILD THE TEAM

Ideally includes:

- People whose lives have been directly impacted
- People who are in relationship with those who are impacted
- Leaders across faith traditions
- Leaders who your member already knows and respects

Aim for 5-10 participants

Your team should commit to building an ongoing relationship with the office

## STEP 2: SCHEDULING

### Pick up the Phone!

- Call your district office and ask them the best way to schedule a visit
- Navigate through [pcusa.capwiz.com](http://pcusa.capwiz.com) to find your rep
  - Look at the Staff tab
- Ask for the schedulers contact info
  - Some offices are very committed to online forms
  - They should give you a name, email address, phone number.



# MEETING ROLES

## Roles

- The Facilitator
  - Make Intros, thank the Member for their time
- The Personal Story
- Point People on Specific Issues
- The Ask
- The Thank you and Commitment to Follow Up
  - Invite them to a prayer vigil/ service or event you're planning.
  - Offer to be a resource to the office
  - Consider asking for a photo

## STEP 3: MEETING PREP

Do

Do Your Research

Issues

Representative

Have

Have A Plan

- Assign roles
- Practice role playing before the meeting
- Review talking points
- Print materials to leave behind
- \*Don't be afraid to say "I don't know, I can do some research and get back to you"\*



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## STEP 4: AFTER THE VISIT

- **Debrief the Meeting**

- What did we hear? Did we get what we wanted? What are our next steps?

### **Follow UP**

- Choose one person to send a follow up email
- Make sure to include any documents or research questions that came out of the meeting

### **Call DC**

- The Capitol Switchboard (202) 224-3121
- **Tell us how it went!** [Teresa.Waggener@pcusa.org](mailto:Teresa.Waggener@pcusa.org), [Amanda.Craft@pcusa.org](mailto:Amanda.Craft@pcusa.org)

## STAY IN TOUCH

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Email Amanda.Craft@pcusa.org

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Facebook Presbyterians for Just Immigration

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Twitter @PCUSAImmigrant

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Newsletter <http://www.pcusa.org/JustImmigrationSignup/>

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Webpage <http://www.pcusa.org/immigration>

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