

Seeking the Well-Being of All: An Invitation to Clergy

At a time when many people are concerned about the health of our civic life, clergy have an opportunity to offer a faithful witness that encourages respectful dialogue, community engagement, and care for the common good.

The interfaith [Faith in Us](#) initiative is bringing together faith leaders from diverse traditions to explore how religious communities can contribute to healthy civic life and strengthen democratic participation in ways that are grounded in faith rather than partisan politics.

As Lutherans, we recognize that civic engagement is one way we live out our calling to love and serve our neighbors. The ELCA social statement *Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-Being of All* reminds us that God calls us to seek the flourishing of our communities and that participation in civic life is part of our vocation as citizens and as Christians. At the same time, the social statement acknowledges that faithful Christians may hold differing political views and reach different conclusions about public policy.

For that reason, Faith in Us is not about supporting a political party, candidate, or political agenda. Rather, it seeks to equip faith leaders to encourage civic participation, promote respectful public discourse, and bear witness to values that strengthen our common life together.

ELCA clergy who would like to learn more are invited to:

- Sign the [Faith Leaders](#) letter.
- Share the opportunity with colleagues and ministry partners.
- Complete the [Faith in Us Next Steps form](#) to receive information about future activities and leadership opportunities.
- Attend one of the upcoming workshops in preparation for the July 7 public events:
 - [June 18, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. CT](#)
 - [June 23, 2:00–4:00 p.m. CT](#)
- Review the [Faith in Us strategic plan and leadership resources](#).

The ELCA social statement encourages Christians to be informed, active, and responsible citizens who engage public life with humility, courage, and hope. Whether through prayer, education, community conversations, voter engagement efforts consistent with church guidelines, or public witness rooted in faith, clergy can help cultivate a civic culture marked by truthfulness, compassion, participation, and concern for our neighbors.

In a time of polarization and mistrust, faith leaders can offer a different witness—one grounded in God's love for the world and a commitment to seek the well-being of all. Together, we can help foster communities marked by respectful dialogue, truthful speech, active citizenship, and care for all God's people. Please contact Bishop Sue if you have any questions.