

FAITH & DEMOCRACY MINISTRY

LIVING WITH COURAGE AND
PURPOSE IN A DECISIVE MOMENT

Welcome to St. John's new ministry for those looking for ways to respond to the current threats to our democracy, based on our Christian and Episcopalian faith. We believe that, as people of faith, we cannot remain neutral about the choices before us and must stand for the future of democracy in our nation. You have received this newsletter because you expressed interest in this new ministry, because you are clergy or because you lead another ministry that might be interested in participating.

Our goal is to provide opportunities for prayer, education and action based on Episcopal Church leadership statements and policy positions. Many of us are overwhelmed by recent assaults on our jobs, our government, our institutions and our Democracy. We hope to reduce a sense of helplessness and

replace it with a sense of purpose, making our voices and our faith values heard.

As a preliminary step, we have compiled a number of items and include them below in the following categories:

- News from STJNs
- What you can do
- Resources:
 - Our beliefs
 - What our Episocal leadership is saying
 - Sources for accurate information and good news that the checks and balances provided for in our constitution are working
 - Potential partners we can work with in this space

These are all works in progress. Please feel free to add or comment! We will spend the summer planning a series of Town Halls on the intersection between Faith, democracy and the rule of law. Some of the invitees so far include the Right Reverend Bishop Eugene Sutton (the former Bishop of the Diocese of Maryland and the current Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Washington), Jim Wallis (author and Founding Director of the Georgetown University Center on Faith and Justice) and Tim Snyder (author of *On Tyranny*). We are partnering with other St. John's ministries on many of these events.

We are still in the planning stage and welcome all forms of engagement as this ministry evolves — comments, ideas, planning, implementing or just partaking in the opportunities. Contact information follows at the bottom if you have questions or concerns or want to sign up or opt out.

St. John's News

On June 10, Rev. Anne Derse led a group of parishioners to join Bishop Mariann and hundreds of clergy and religious leaders from mainline Christian, Black Protestant, evangelical and Catholic traditions on the steps of the US Capitol to advocate against the budget bill pending in the Senate.



Read more about it [here](#).

What You Can Do



Join Our Plans for Prayer, Education and Action

Help plan activities for this ministry or otherwise track our plan as it evolves [here](#).

Acting Faithfully
in Troubling Times

Be Inspired

Read the strong position taken by Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe [here](#) for inspiration.



Advocate for a Moral Budget

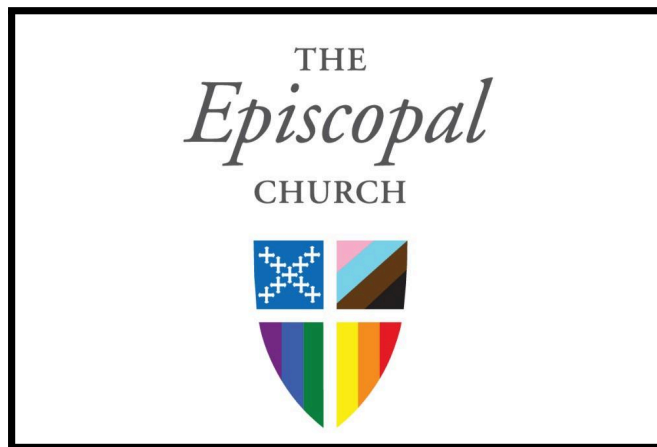
Budgets are moral documents – tell your representatives that the government should seek economic justice and protect the most vulnerable communities, the poor, the hungry, the sick and the marginalized. Customize your message to your representative [here](#).

Resources



Our Beliefs

As Christians and Episcopalians. Click [here](#) for a brief overview of our values. We look forward to comments, edits and discussion as the ministry evolves.



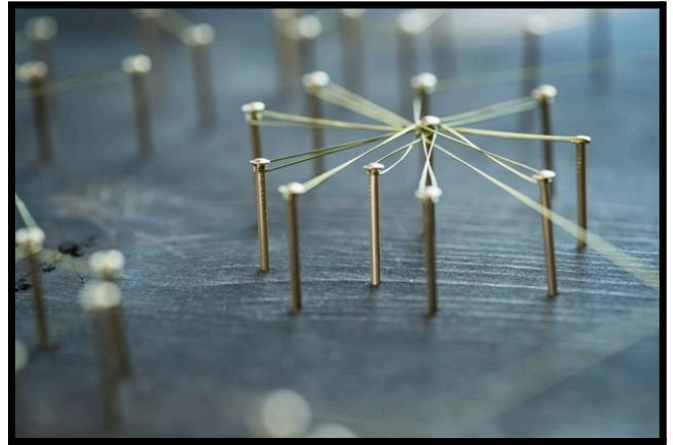
Recent Statements from Church Leadership

Click [here](#) to see the strong statement by Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe. Click [here](#) for other recent statements from PB Rowe, Bishop Mariann and others.



Information Sources

Further reading, sources for accurate information and good news that the checks and balances provided for in our constitution are working are available [here](#). Feel free to suggest additions!











Partnerships

We are looking to partner with other faith groups and nonprofit organizations. See those we are already researching [here](#) and add others you think should be considered.

Mark Your Calendar

Watch this space for upcoming events! Already in the works is a series of town halls on important issues like rule of law, Christian nationalism, faith &

politics, media disinformation and more. We will also send out advocacy opportunities and promote events with partner organizations.

| Event | How to participate | Contact |
|--|---|--|
|  Calendar event | Add details about how to participate or prepare |  Person |
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|  Calendar event | Add details about how to participate or prepare |  Person |
|  Calendar event | Add details about how to participate or prepare |  Person |



Contact Us

Please contact either [Lisa Raisner](#) or [Rob Hartmann](#), [Tara Giunta](#) or [Ken Giunta](#) with ideas, questions or concerns or to opt out.
