

## **Study on Faith & Civic Life Social Statement – Session 1 Morning Chat (1.13.26)**

### **Opening Comments on reason to participate in this study**

2026-01-13 10:36:32 From Deb Kohler, Galilee-Pewaukee to Everyone:  
preparing for this year's elections

2026-01-13 10:36:51 From Pastor Alissa (she/hers) to Everyone:  
Being public leaders in the civic sphere seems so extremely important right now.

2026-01-13 10:37:00 From Thomas's iPad (5) to Everyone:  
My spiritual education is not complete

2026-01-13 10:37:06 From Becky Erb Strang she/her to Everyone:  
For a time such as this....

2026-01-13 10:37:23 From Wendy Wirth-Brock to Everyone:  
I'm interested in understanding the ELCA's official stance on civic engagement, and how that might be discussed/presented in congregations.

2026-01-13 10:37:42 From Skip Franklin to Everyone:  
At my home church of Trinity Lutheran in Grand Rapids MI, we have a group that's been discussing having a seminar on this same social statement. Very interested in what another synod is doing!

2026-01-13 10:37:46 From lynnj to Everyone:  
Leading/ preaching/public witness- all more faithfully in our current context

2026-01-13 10:38:30 From David Schoob He/Him/His to Everyone:  
I joined this group because I have been increasingly convinced that praxis (living the faith) is incredibly important and this statement is a good vehicle for us as a church to hear the call to praxis.

### **Dwelling in the Word:** I Timothy 2:1-2 and Micah 6:8

- What did you hear or notice in these texts?
- What do you wonder? What questions or concerns come up for you in these readings?
- Where might God be nudging us as people of faith in relation to civic life?

2026-01-13 10:40:13 From Becky Erb Strang she/her to Everyone:

"For everyone"

2026-01-13 10:40:26 From Deb Kohler, Galilee-Pewaukee to Everyone:

thanksgiving

2026-01-13 10:40:31 From Wendy Wirth-Brock to Everyone:

"he has told you, O mortal, what is good"

2026-01-13 10:40:34 From lynnj to Everyone:

everyone, peaceable, godliness

2026-01-13 10:40:46 From Robb Kosky to Everyone:

Justice, Kindness, walk humbly

2026-01-13 10:40:46 From David Schoob He/Him/His to Everyone:

The close connection between justice, kindness, and humility- these are hard for us to hold together.

2026-01-13 10:41:08 From Char to Everyone:

For everyone

2026-01-13 10:41:23 From Jerry to Everyone:

I believe that being in a democracy, that we have a greater requirement to be involved, so that our neighbor is not abused.

2026-01-13 10:42:01 From lynnj to Everyone:

How difficult is to hold the whole mess of our lives in prayer

2026-01-13 10:42:08 From Becky Erb Strang she/her to Everyone:

I find it interesting that AFTER "everyone" kings and those in high positions are named

2026-01-13 10:42:10 From Pastor Alissa (she/hers) to Everyone:

What would a quiet and peaceable life look like and for whom?

2026-01-13 10:42:11 From Deb Kohler, Galilee-Pewaukee to Everyone:

how do I have thanksgiving for kings in high positions?

2026-01-13 10:42:11 From Wendy Wirth-Brock to Everyone:  
defining "the good" is being twisted

2026-01-13 10:42:14 From Thomas's iPad (5) to Everyone:  
We hear these readings often but very seldom see action stemming from these words

2026-01-13 10:42:23 From David Schoob He/Him/His to Everyone:  
Have we ever lived together in in a quiet. peaceable and dignified life?

2026-01-13 10:42:30 From Robb Kosky to Everyone:  
How do we pray for people in power, who abuse power "Lord, bless and keep the tsar, far away from us."

2026-01-13 10:42:36 From Cindy Dellegrazio to Everyone:  
I notice we are to pray for kings and all in high positions

2026-01-13 10:43:01 From lynnj to Everyone:  
How do we restore the dignity that has been stripped from those in black/brown bodies

### **Closing Reflections**

- What thoughts or reflections about participation in civic life are you taking with you from this discussion?

2026-01-13 11:59:22 From Jlopp to Everyone:  
We should be involved because of our faith.

2026-01-13 11:59:25 From Brian to Everyone:  
encouragement for further dialogue/engagement

2026-01-13 11:59:33 From David Schoob He/Him/His to Everyone:  
We must continue to take risks, realizing that we just might be wrong.

2026-01-13 11:59:35 From Wendy Wirth-Brock to Everyone:  
gratitude for space to learn and talk about this very important aspect of discipleship.

2026-01-13 12:00:01 From iPhone (14) penny to Everyone:

In my group, Bill shared about Martin Luther's civic engagement and a book series telling his story.

2026-01-13 12:00:30 From Jerry to Everyone:

Faith and politics should be continually intertwined with faith being the engine

2026-01-13 12:01:20 From Thomas's iPad (5) to Everyone:

It is good to have resolutions. What I find confusing is how we measure success and or accountability.