



Synod Election Engagement Guide

There are many ways for synods to engage this election season and many resources available from the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin and from the ELCA. This guide highlights key resources and opportunities.

Encourage Congregations, Ministries, and Individuals to Get Involved

Please help encourage congregations, ministries, and individuals to engage this election season by sharing the following resources:

- [**Election Engagement Planning Tool**](#) – This planning tool can be used to identify election engagement activities based on capacity (high, moderate, or limited) and other factors.
- [**Election Engagement Toolkit**](#) – This toolkit from the ELCA provides information and resources about various possible election engagement activities.
- [**Being a Public Church in the Electoral Process**](#) – This ELCA guide shares information on nonpartisan and tax-exemption requirements related to election engagement.
- **Presentations** – LOPPW is available to visit congregations to give a brief presentation and/or share information about the election and election engagement activities.
- [**Blurb for newsletter**](#) – This blurb can be used by synods in your newsletters and/or shared with congregations to use in theirs.

Share Election Information

Please help share information about the election and encourage congregations to do the same:

- [**MyVoteWI**](#) – A great source for people to find their polling place, check on their registration, find out what will be on their ballots, and more.
- [**Constitutional Amendment Voter Guide**](#) – LOPPW has created a guide with explanations and recommendations related to the constitutional amendments that will be on this fall's ballots, rooted in ELCA social teaching.
- [**Bishop Letter**](#) – The letter "Elections & the Common Good" from the six ELCA bishops with congregations in Wisconsin can be used to share with congregations and others.

Support Election Integrity

Synods have an important role to play in supporting election integrity and protection – before, during, and after the election. Ways to engage include:

- **Connections with Elections Officials** – Encourage congregation members to volunteer as poll workers, build connections with their municipal clerk's office, and learn how the elections process works in Wisconsin. This direct engagement demystifies the process and promotes public trust, as well as helping ensure oversight and direct observation.

- **Trusted Messengers** – Bishops, synod staff, pastors, deacons, and SAMs hold important community roles as trusted messengers. Use your role, and encourage others to do the same, to promote the rights of all eligible voters, encourage peaceful engagement, and respond to any situations that may arise with love, care, and justice at the center.
- **Preparation and Networks** – Prepare for various possible situations that could occur on election day and afterwards. Be ready ahead of time with calm, faith-rooted messaging and actions. You may want to create or update secure communications channels/networks and spend time connecting with key individuals or organizations ahead of the election. LOPPW and other trusted organizations are available to help support this.

Contact Kacy Kostiuk at LOPPW at kacy.kostiuk@elca.org or 608-940-1808 (text/call) with any questions or for further information or coordination.