



Our Christian faith compels us to address the world through the lens of our relationship to God and one another. As American citizens and residents of Wisconsin we are able to participate in open and fair elections that ensure our individual vote will count. We should therefore be concerned with the affairs of government and become acquainted with

political issues, in order to bring our Christian witness to bear on public policies – local, state, or national – and exercise our right to vote.

Helpful Information for the 2018 Elections

- ❖ Go to the Wisconsin Voter Information site at <https://myvote.wi.gov>, select “My Voter Info” and enter your name and birthdate to check your registration status, find your polling place and municipal clerk contact information. Select “What’s on My Ballot” to see a sample ballot. You can also find out how to register to vote, update your name or address, or request an absentee ballot.
- ❖ Photo identification is now required when you go to the polls to vote. To find out what forms of photo ID are allowed, how to obtain a free photo ID if you don’t have one, exceptions to the requirement, etc., call your local elections official or visit the Bring It to the Ballot website, <https://www.bringitwisconsin.com/>
- ❖ Absentee voting – go to <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/voters/absentee> for deadlines and other information needed if you need to vote absentee.
- ❖ 2018 Statewide Elections:
 - Spring Primary: February 20
 - Spring Election: April 3
 - Partisan Primary: August 14
 - General Election: November 6

The following 10 principles have been offered by the National Council of Churches for consideration as we prepare to exercise the responsibility of voting.

1. War is contrary to the will of God.
2. God calls us to live in communities shaped by peace and cooperation.
3. God created us for each other, and thus our security depends on the well-being of our global neighbors.
4. God calls us to be advocates for those are most vulnerable in our society.
5. Each human being is created in the image of God and is of infinite worth.
6. The earth belongs to God and is intrinsically good.
7. Christians have a biblical mandate to welcome strangers.
8. Those who follow Christ are called to heal the sick.
9. Because of the transforming power of God’s grace, all humans are called to be in right relationship with each other.
10. Providing enriched learning environments for all of God’s children is a moral imperative.

(Fuller statements of these principles can be found in the Wisconsin Council of Churches “2018 Voter Education Guide” at www.wichurches.org/resources/voter-resource.)

Gracious God, help us elect trustworthy leaders, participate in wise decisions for our common life, and serve our neighbors in local communities. Bless the leaders of our land, that they may do their work in a spirit of wisdom, love, and justice. Help them to use their authority to serve faithfully, promote our common life, and make us a blessing to other nations of the earth. Amen.
