

VoteYourValues

*God said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among the people..."
Amos 7*

A plumb line is a weight suspended from a string used to ensure a structure is centered: the vertical points to the center of gravity to ensure that everything is justified.

Founded in 1907 to "deepen within the church a sense of social obligation" (*1908 Methodist Discipline*), Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) has been Methodism's rallying point for the Social Gospel for over 100 years.

We helped to develop the Social Principles which includes a statement on "Political Responsibility." It reminds us that "the strength of a political system depends upon the full and willing participation of its citizens."

MFSA mobilizes clergy and laity within the United Methodist Church to take action on issues of peace, poverty, and people's rights within the church, the nation, and the world.

We believe that our elected officials have a responsibility to work for justice in our nation.

Voter **Registration deadline** varies by state: you can register online at rockthevote.org or in person at the Secretary of State Office.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6: Please post your photo with #MFSAVoices and #VoteYourValues after you vote

Let others know that your commitment to justice is faith-based!

Methodist Federation for Social Action

23 East Adams Ave | Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 965-5422 ext 121 | bridget@mf saweb.org



The United Methodist Social Creed

We believe in God, Creator of the world; and in Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of creation. We believe in the Holy Spirit, through whom we acknowledge God's gifts, and we repent of our sin in misusing these gifts to idolatrous ends.

We affirm the natural world as God's handiwork and dedicate ourselves to its preservation, enhancement, and faithful use by humankind.

We joyfully receive for ourselves and others the blessings of community, sexuality, marriage, and the family.

We commit ourselves to the rights of men, women, children, youth, young adults, the aging, and people with disabilities; to improvement of the quality of life; and to the rights and dignity of all persons.

We believe in the right and duty of persons to work for the glory of God and the good of themselves and others and in the protection of their welfare in so doing; in the rights to property as a trust from God, collective bargaining, and responsible consumption; and in the elimination of economic and social distress.

We dedicate ourselves to peace throughout the world, to the rule of justice and law among nations, and to individual freedom for all people of the world.

We believe in the present and final triumph of God's Word in human affairs and gladly accept our commission to manifest the life of the gospel in the world. Amen.

From The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church

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We believe that voting our values is an expression of our Christian faith!

We value:

- Equity** = the fair and equitable treatment of all human beings
- Racial Justice** = a dismantling of systemic racism (police accountability; voting rights and access; educational access; centering and amplifying the voices of people of color)
- Gender Justice** = a dismantling of systemic sexism (equal pay; women's autonomy; parental leave)
- Immigrant Rights** = immigration reform; eliminating separation of families and inhumane detention
- LGBTQIA Rights** = right to live openly without discrimination
- Economic Justice** = dismantling poverty and classism (advocate for a living wage and equal pay, for safe and affordable housing)
- Palestinian Equality** = ending violence in Israel-Palestine
- Disability Rights** = keeping ADA intact; guaranteeing educational access
- Health Care Rights** = insuring accessible, affordable health care for all
- Peace** = making & keeping peace; Advocating for an end to war and the right for every person to live free of violence including gun violence

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A Litany

Based on The United Methodist Social Creed

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ calls us by grace
to be renewed in the image of our Creator, that we may be one in divine love for the world.

Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life, weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.
And so shall we.

Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference, favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.
And so shall we.

Today is the day God cries with the masses of starving people, despises growing disparity between rich and poor, demands justice for workers in the marketplace.
And so shall we.

Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets, rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.
And so shall we.

Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace, celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.
And so shall we.

Today is the day God brings good news to those who are poor, proclaims release to those who are captives, gives sight to those who are blind, and sets those who are oppressed free.
And so shall we. Amen.

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