

UNITED METHODIST VOTE FOR THE COMMON GOOD

The Social Principles are the official social positions of The United Methodist Church sanctioned and adopted by The United Methodist General Conference, Charlotte 2024. As we consider and discern our voting decisions this election see how important issues align with our social principles.

“ **Social Principles p.32:** *Our involvement in political systems is rooted in the Gospel imperative to love our neighbors, to do justice, and to care for the vulnerable. As United Methodists, we acknowledge that love requires responsible political action and engagement aimed at the betterment of society and the promotion of the common good.*

Political issues are complex; there are no easy answers and no perfect candidates. The gospel challenges us to set aside partisan presuppositions and pray for wisdom to use our sacred vote as best we can towards the common good. We will not all agree on the best ways to better society, but we can all commit to vote as disciples of Jesus Christ, guided by love for God and neighbor.

CREATION CARE



COMMON GOOD

Social Principles p.9: *We affirm our sacred calling to be responsible stewards and to lovingly tend all that God has wrought. We confess that the degradation and wholesale destruction of the natural environment threatens unprecedented harm, bringing danger to human and nonhuman life alike.*

As you pray about your vote, will you consider our sacred responsibility to

- work to stop pollution, ensure clean water and air for all, and be responsible stewards of natural resources into the future
- relieve suffering caused by environmental degradation
- protect the natural environment and respect the interconnectedness of life

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY



COMMON GOOD

Social Principles p.15: *In our financial dealings and relationships no less than other aspects of discipleship, we are compelled to serve God and neighbor in all we do. We pledge ourselves to the establishment of just, equitable, and sustainable economies that work for all.*

As you pray about your vote, will you consider our sacred responsibility to

- ensure that all workers have the opportunity to earn a living wage
- reduce the gap between rich and poor
- address overconsumption, sustainable practices, and their global implications
- honor the needs of urban, suburban, and rural communities, and invest in quality education for all



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**

ALL ARE
SACRED



COMMON
GOOD

Social Principles p.29: We utterly reject laws, policies and social practices that marginalize, discriminate and/or encourage the use of violence against individuals, communities or other social groups based on perceived racial, ethnic or tribal differences.

Social Principles p. 38: We affirm the dignity, worth and rights of migrants, immigrants and refugees, including displaced and stateless people. We oppose all laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize or punish displaced individuals and families based on their status as migrants, immigrants or refugees.

Social Principles p.39: Because all people are of sacred worth and certain basic human rights are due to everyone, we are committed to supporting the equal rights, liberties and protections of all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity.

As you pray about your vote, will you consider our sacred responsibility to

- protect the civic rights of all, including freedom of speech, religion, movement, due process and fair treatment under the law
- protect the political rights of all, including voting rights
- address and dismantle systemic racism, in all its forms
- prioritize humanitarian concerns in domestic and foreign policy

AFFORDABLE
HEALTH CARE
& SAFE LIVING
CONDITIONS
FOR ALL



COMMON
GOOD

Social Principles p.36: We affirm health care as a basic human right and vow to work toward expanded access to all forms of medical treatment, including preventative, therapeutic, and palliative care. Additionally, we believe that everyone has a right to decent living conditions, including adequate food and water, safe housing and a healthy environment.

As you pray about your vote, will you consider our sacred responsibility to

- protect and expand access to affordable health care, including prescription medications
- protect and expand access to affordable mental health services
- strengthen food assistance programs and address needs for safe, affordable housing
- enact reasonable gun safety laws and invest in community services to prevent violence

The full text of the United Methodist Social Principles Adopted in 2024 is available at
<https://www.umcjustice.org/documents/124>

