

# What is Faith-Based Advocacy?

## Discussion Starter



### WHAT IS FAITH-BASED ADVOCACY? OVERVIEW

*Wondering how advocacy fits into our Christian and Lutheran presence in policy discussions? Session 1 of Advocacy Starter Kit paints a picture of advocacy and explores how advocacy is shaped by a faith foundation, especially among members and affiliates of the ELCA.*

### GETTING CONVERSATION STARTED

- What is your first reaction when you hear the word “advocacy”?
- Can you think of a time when you’ve advocated for yourself? For another? What prompted this?
- When have you been glad that your pastor, your congregation or the ELCA as a church body advocated on a public issue? What set their voices apart from other voices on the issue?
- What is something happening in your community that makes you want to right an injustice as an aspect of your faith? What steps have you taken or might you take?

### A REFLECTION FROM ELCA FOUNDATIONS

*“In witnessing to Jesus Christ, the Church announces that the God who justifies expects all people to do justice. God’s good and just demands address people in the obligations of their relationships and the challenges of the world. Through the divine activity of the Law, God preserves creation, orders society, and promotes justice in a broken world... This church must participate in social structures critically, for sin also is at work in the world.” - From the ELCA social statement *Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective* (p. 3)*

### MORE INFORMATION

You may also want to look into the ELCA social message “Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy.” A study guide and Spanish translation are available to help you dig into the text.

### TAKE ACTION

Be one of the thousands of people who act on their faith resourced with updates and invitations to use Action Alerts from the ELCA Advocacy Network.

Sign up at [www.elca.org/advocacy/signup](http://www.elca.org/advocacy/signup) or use the QR code. Find us on social media @ELCAadvocacy.



View this session from ELCA Advocacy at [this link](#) or visit or visit [www.youtube.com/@ELCAadvocacy](http://www.youtube.com/@ELCAadvocacy)

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