

Election Activities

Many Christian citizens shy away from Election Day, not understanding its importance. But as residents of this earthly kingdom, and ambassadors of heaven, it is imperative that we are responsible in who we choose to be our governing authorities as they make decisions that impact every area of our lives!

As it gets closer to Election Day in your area, make sure to specifically focus on the following items.

1. **Voter Registration:** At least 30 days prior to election encourage all eligible voters to register.
2. **Voter Education Information:** prior to the election distribute comparison and non-partisan Voter Guides that contrast candidate's views on important issues.
3. **Voter Mobilization:** A few days before the election, make sure each church member receives an election reminder phone call from you or someone on your team.

Churches/Pastors: Do's & Don'ts

The CTV Pews to the Polls Program seeks to be a catalyst to assist Christians in effectively fulfilling their God-given citizenship responsibilities in a way that *complies with the IRS guidelines and respects the authority of church leadership*. Make sure you share a copy of Alliance Defense Fund's legal guidelines for pastors with your church leaders. (You can find one on our website!). When approaching your pastors always remember:

DO ...Plant seeds on the need for involvement: books, cds, and info from credible sources can all be great conversation starters!
...Be patient and be a servant!
...Take others with you when approaching the pastor (they will see others care too!)

DON'T ... Be critical or speak negatively about the Pastor or the church, steal church lists, put flyers on cars
...Engage the congregation on any issue and/or effort without permission

Our Guiding Principles

These are the issues that lay the foundation for all the information we provide, the leaders we work with, and the efforts we pursue.

Faith & Family: Preserving the influence of faith & family as the great foundation of American freedom embodied in our Judeo-Christian heritage

Sanctity of Life: Protecting our God-given, inalienable right to life from conception through end of life .

Proper Role of Government: Promoting a free enterprise philosophy of government that includes freedom from excessive taxation and government regulation.

Excellence in Education: Providing the means by which parents can strive for academic excellence in the instruction of their children. Ultimate responsibility for a child's education lies with the parents.

[For specific issues we are watching, see our website!]

Tools for Your New Role!

Our Website www.ctvmichigan.org contains lots of information! Please print off our documents, copy and share them with your church, family, friends and neighbors!

- Legal Do's and Don'ts for Pastors/Churches
- Voter Registration Information
- Absentee Ballot Information
- How to Get Involved in Local Government
- Info on Becoming a Precinct Delegate
- Contact Info for your elected officials
- Information on Michigan Legislation
- Suggested Educational Materials
- Grassroots Training Events
- Info for running for Public Office
- Seminar: Greatest Story Never Told (Story of our nation's founding on Biblical principles) ... & more!

www.ctvmichigan.org
ACCESS, ACCOUNTABILITY, TOOLS
for successfully impacting your community!

*Citizens for
Traditional Values*

How serving as a

**CHURCH
LIAISON**

**Can Change Your
Community**

Pews to the Polls
Promoting Responsible Christian
Citizenship in Michigan

Living Responsible Christian Citizenship

Responsible: accountable, as for something within one's power, control, or management

Christian: representing the character of Christ

Citizenship: as an inhabitant of a city or town, fulfilling our duty to God for stewardship of civil government

Welcome to our Pews to the Polls Church Network Team!

We are thrilled that you want to help promote responsible Christian citizenship among the community of believers. Together with other concerned individuals across Michigan our efforts are vital as we work to preserve Judeo-Christian values and ideals for future generations.

What is a Church Liaison?

A Church Liaison is an ambassador to their local church family. Their role is to directly implement the *Pews to the Polls* grassroots program, providing key information and tools to aid their church in being effective responsible Christian citizens.

As a respected member of the congregation, a Church Liaison works under, and with approval from, the church leadership. This role might look different based on the individual church or pastor and their needs, desires and ministry's agenda. Also, depending on the size of the congregation, this effort may require the formation of a team to accomplish the suggested goals.

Serving in this capacity, allows you to be a conduit of information and action between your pastor and organizations (such as CTV) as a service to your congregation. You should only assume this position *after* sharing your heart and vision with the church leadership and then receiving their blessing.

The purpose of this role is not to bring "politics"

into the church. Rather, with the understanding that every aspect of our lives (traffic laws, taxes, etc) is influenced by government, it is designed to help citizens take a responsible and engaging role in the decision making process.

Government was important enough to God for Him to clearly instruct us: *"The authorities that exist have been established by God. For (governmental authority) is God's servant to do you good."* (Romans 13:1) He has called US to be responsible stewards of the freedoms and gifts He has given us on this earth.

Therefore, it is important to increase the Church's *awareness* of what is happening in the *public arena* on issues that matter. If people of faith, virtues, integrity and traditional values do not monitor the activity of our local, state, national leaders NOW, our rare system of freedoms could be stripped away...very soon. It is imperative that we be diligent for this and future generations.

What Does a Church Liaison Do?

Year Round Activities

Serving as a Church Liaison is ideally something that takes place year round, not just based on 'projects'.

1. Organize Citizenship Sundays: There are many ways to be an effective Church Liaison but one of the main hubs we suggest you organize around are "Citizenship Sundays". Use this day to set up a table in your church providing relevant educational materials that show the need for a Christian's positive influence in the public arena.

- a. **Remind** your congregation to pray for our nation and its leaders
- b. **Educate** your congregation by discussing relevant issues
- c. **Provide** an opportunity for voter registration.

Church involvement for Citizenship Sundays could include bulletin announcements/inserts, special music, scripture reading or even a themed sermon.

Suggested Dates for Citizenship Sundays:

January – The 22nd of this month is the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision in 1973 so highlight the sanctity of life!

May - This month holds Memorial Day. Take a Sunday to acknowledge and honor veterans and current service men/women.

July - Celebrate our Judeo-Christian heritage on a Sunday close to July 4th - Independence Day!

October – Pick a Sunday to highlight the importance of our civic engagement by focusing on voter registration (Check the Secretary of State website for the last day to register to vote prior to the election).

Idea: Choose a Sunday especially for college students to register to vote, so they can do absentee voting while they are away in the fall!

2. Increase Issue Awareness and Advocacy:

Provide timely information about important issues that need attention. Sign up for the CTV Memo/Alert email and other sources (provided by CTV online) and then post alerts in bulletins or on announcement boards, through church email list, phone chain, etc.

3. Host Events: Plan special seminars, candidate or issue forums, and prayer breakfasts as a way to draw your church's attention to current leaders or issues and provide opportunity for them to get more involved in a positive and proactive way.

4. Form an Issues & Action Committee in your church, as an ongoing "Service Team" who commit themselves to be "Watchmen on the Wall" for your church attendees. Establish yourself as a Sunday school class who studies civic engagement in the Bible, or who take an active position to pray for your area's leaders and who is continually following key issues and organizations—standing ready to tell your church family when action is needed *now*.

You may be surprised at how MUCH your fellow worshippers will appreciate your engagement on their behalf.