



A GUIDE TO MAKING

FAITH BASED VOTING DECISIONS

INTERFAITH ACTION OF SW MICHIGAN



A GUIDE TO MAKING FAITH-BASED VOTING DECISIONS

Ten Questions To Ask Before Election Day in 2022

As people of faith reflect on what referendums to vote for and who to vote for in local, state and national elections, the following questions are designed to help in praying about and reflecting on which proposals and candidates best advance faith-grounded principles, according to various Holy Writings and the Guiding Principles of Interfaith Action of SW Michigan.

Protecting the Holiness of Creation

"Fill the earth and exercise care for it" (Genesis 1:28)

"It is Allah who made for you the earth a place of settlement and the sky a ceiling and formed you and perfected your forms and provided you with good things." (Quran 40:64)

1. Does the candidate/proposal advance the protection and holiness of creation, advancing environmental stewardship and protections both on a global and a US level?
 2. Is there expressed support for specific initiatives that combat climate change?
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The Dignity of All

"God created humankind in God's image, in the image of God did God create them, male and female God created them." (Genesis 1:27)

"What does God require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God". (Micah 6:8)

“Allah commands justice, the doing of good and liberality to kith and kin.
He forbids all shameful deeds and injustice.” (Quran 16:90)

3. Is the candidate’s message and policy platform inclusive of all people, the diverse family of humankind created in the Image of the Holy One; does the candidate value the dignity of minorities and under-represented populations with histories of societal marginalization on the basis of religion, race, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability?
4. Does the candidate talk about justice, particularly justice for those treated unfairly in our judicial and enforcement systems; and individuals and social groups that face discrimination, exclusion, and violence?
5. Does the candidate recognize and oppose systemic racism and white supremacy? Does the candidate have a plan for anti-racist action?

Solidarity with the Stranger, the Poor, the Migrant

“You shall not wrong or oppress a resident alien, for you were once aliens in the land of Egypt. You shall not abuse any widow or orphan or other marginalized person.” (Exodus 22:21-22)

“Speak up, judge righteously, champion the poor and the needy.” (Proverbs 31:9)

“See that justice is done....help those who are oppressed.” (Isaiah 1:17)

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives...to set free the oppressed.” (Luke 4: 18-19)

“Indeed, Allah enjoins justice, and the doing of good to others; and giving like kindred; and forbids indecency, and manifest evil, and wrongful transgression.” (Quran 16:91)

6. Does the candidate articulate efforts they will take to address poverty and homelessness and provide economic opportunities? Does the candidate propose economic and trade policies that are non-exploitive and support living wages for workers?
7. Does the candidate advance humanitarian migration policies, such as generous commitments to refugee resettlement, protections for asylum seekers, victims of trafficking, and DREAMERS? Has the candidate articulated a common sense plan that balances immigration welcome and security?

8. Does the candidate express values of respect and protection for migrant workers essential for US labor needs?

Peacemaking

”Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” (Matthew 5:9)

“They shall beat their swords into plowshares” (Isaiah 2)

“Anyone who murders any person who had not committed murder.....it shall be as if he murdered all the people.” (Quran: 5:32)

9. Does the candidate advance peace over war, and seek to bring people, groups and nations together to develop a commitment to a common good?

10. Does the candidate support specific efforts to reduce gun violence (such as universal background checks, safe storage gun laws, restrictions for domestic violence abusers, assault weapon bans)?

Link to Candidate Analysis: <https://gunsensevoter.org/candidates/>