



## **100 Percent Voting Congregations**

### **2023 is Critical for Virginia**

Every Virginia state House and Senate seat is up for elections in 2023. This will be the first-time state House and Senate candidates have run in the new districts following last year's redistricting. Virginia's redistricting process is getting rave reviews nationally for its fairness. No longer does Virginia have gerrymandered districts, which should make the election process fairer. Many incumbents have been thrown together in the redistricting. Other districts have no incumbents whatsoever. Consequently, there will be many competitive primary races and general races. When there are competitive races, it is a great time to educate candidates about the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's (VICPP) priority issues and concerns.

Because we know elected officials and candidates care the most about voters, VICPP wants to make sure people are registered, voting, and then communicating their values and concerns with their elected leaders and candidates. Regardless of who wins the elections, engagement in the electoral process will help ensure that VICPP priority issues are considered in the 2024 General Assembly.

VICPP is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. VICPP's civic engagement work is non-partisan. The organization does not endorse or work for candidates. Nor does it collaborate with political parties.

Congregations can play critical roles in ensuring that their members honor the sacred privilege of voting in a democracy by ensuring that people are registered, encouraging voting, meeting with candidates and equipping people to advocate with candidates and elected leaders. In 2023, VICPP is inviting congregations to become 100 Percent Voting Congregations and partnering with key faith communities to encourage congregations to become 100 Percent Voting Congregations.

**What is a 100 Percent Voting Congregation?** A 100 Percent Voting Congregation pledges to:

- Develop a plan to make sure every eligible member is registered to vote. This can be done manually or electronically by working with VICPP.
- Distribute information about ways to vote through congregational sources such as congregational bulletins, newsletters, and bulletin boards.
- Promote the sacred privilege of voting through sermons, prayers, litanies, and other appropriate opportunities.
- Learn about candidates by meeting them, asking them questions, attending or hosting candidate forums, and/or distributing information in candidate questionnaires.
- Participate in community-wide efforts to register people and get people to the polls.
- Engage those who are not eligible to vote to participate in civic life and encouraging others to vote.

VICPP offers tools and resources to accomplish all these pledged items. Please sign the 100 Percent Voting Congregation pledge or communicate with Robert Lester ([Robert@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Robert@virginiainterfaithcenter.org)) about your interest in becoming a 100 Percent Voting Congregation.

Yes, our congregation/spiritual community would like to be a 100 Percent Voting Congregation. We pledge to:

- Develop a plan to make sure every eligible member is registered to vote. This can be done by manually checking or electronically by working with VICPP.
- Distribute information about ways to vote through congregational sources such as congregational bulletins, newsletters, and bulletin boards.
- Promote the sacred privilege of voting through sermons, prayers, litanies, and other appropriate opportunities.
- Learn about candidates by meeting them, asking them questions, attending or hosting candidate forums, and/or distributing information in candidate questionnaires.
- Participate in community-wide efforts to register people and get people to the polls.
- Engage those who are not eligible to vote to participate in civic life and encouraging others to vote.

Congregation's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation's Website and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person's phone and email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**To sign up or for more information, contact [Robert@virginiainterfaithcenter.org](mailto:Robert@virginiainterfaithcenter.org).**