



EPISCOPAL
PUBLIC POLICY
NETWORK

Educate. Equip. Engage.

with the Episcopal Public Policy Network

Do you want to **be a strong advocate** to influence our nation's policy and legislation? Do you want to **inspire others** to join you? Do you want to **lead conversations about public discourse** from a faithful, reasoned perspective? Our individual and collective effectiveness to address issues we care about as a church increases as more are involved. Explore the ideas below designed to amplify the Episcopal Church's engagement with policy advocacy through the EPPN.

Maybe you are already in touch with the One Campaign or Bread for the World, or perhaps you are engaged in local and state advocacy. Maybe you are active with Episcopal Relief and Development or local outreach ministries, but you have not yet paired it with advocacy. The EPPN focuses on federal level advocacy based on the official policies of the Episcopal Church and encourages Episcopalians to engage with federal legislation and policy development.

You can help *educate, equip and engage* your parish and community in our broader pursuit of helping our nation's legislation and policies become more just. Have an idea about how to use our resources or spread the word about this ministry? Email us at eppn@episcopalchurch.org

Follow Us on Social Media

There is no doubt about it, social media has significant influence over our politics. Make sure you and your parish/diocese are part of the discussion and follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, then encourage others to follow as well. Tag us in your posts about advocacy engagement, and share our resources and action alerts directly from our accounts. Find us on all three platforms @TheEPPN.

Coffee hour

There are multiple ways you can promote and engage the EPPN during a parish coffee hour. Hold an open forum discussion on values-based public discourse or a specific issue, using pre-determined questions to help spur conversation and debate. Hold a registration drive for the EPPN to encourage parish members to sign up for our alerts. Organize a moment of action where everyone takes action through the EPPN simultaneously. If it's election season, organize voter registration drives or other "get out the vote" activities. We can help you frame a program that is right for your ministry. eppn@episcopalchurch.org.

Write an op-ed

Speak out publically through a local religious or secular publication on issues highlighted by the EPPN. Cite the official positions of The Episcopal Church, established through resolutions of General Convention and Executive Council. For more assistance on writing an op-ed, you can visit the Advocacy Resources section of the Office of Government Relation's website.

<http://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/resources>

Action Alert Website Plug-in

Bring the ministry of policy advocacy right to your parish or diocesan doorstep by integrating our action alert plug-in on your website. The plug in will automatically update with the newest action alerts direct from the EPPN. We can provide you with the code for the plug-in by request: eppn@episcopalchurch.org.

Bulletin board sign

Print and place the EPPN information sheet (page 3) on your parish or diocesan bulletin board to advertise the network.

Bulletin Insert

Use the full page sheet (page 3) or one of the smaller graphics (page 4) as a bulletin insert once or twice a year to advertise this ministry to your parish. Image files available by request: eppn@episcopalchurch.org.

Church Newsletter Promotion

Place an ad for the EPPN in your parish or diocesan newsletters, in print and/or electronic form. You can encourage folks to register for action alerts or advertise the most recent action alerts from week to week. Image files available upon request eppn@episcopalchurch.org.

Visit DC

If you are in the DC area or are planning a church-related trip to DC, make sure to include a visit to our office in your plans. We can hold advocacy trainings and help prepare you for any meetings with Congress you may wish to have during your visit. We've hosted groups from middle school ages and up.

Church forum/Sunday school class/Evening Program

Organize a program on the importance of faithful and reasoned approaches to public discourse, general policy advocacy, or a specific issue important to you—perfect for Sunday schools, college and young adult ministries, high school youth groups, camp programs, mission trips, and as part of a series of forums or as a standalone event.

Many of your existing parish ministries may have a legislative or policy connection. For example, changing U.S. agriculture policies might affect that agriculture project in Haiti that you support.

There are 2 primary program options available through the EPPN

1) *Create a program on your own.* Use one of our webinars on refugee resettlement, immigration, or general advocacy, together with other resources from our website to help facilitate discussion and encourage action. <http://advocacy.episcopalchurch.org/>

2) *Host an advocacy training.* Staff at the Office of Government Relations can do brief advocacy trainings to equip folks for values-based conversations on advocacy, and explain the role of the office, why we need the ministry of policy advocacy, and how you can get involved.



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With the Episcopal Public Policy Network (EPPN)

A grassroots network of Episcopalians across the country dedicated to carrying out the Baptismal Covenant call to "strive for justice and peace" through the active ministry of public policy advocacy.

EDUCATE

Explore EPPN resources to better understand current public policy issues. Learn more about official church policies that support our advocacy positions.

EQUIP

Build relationships with elected and government officials with guidance from the EPPN. Learn how to have the greatest impact on issues that matter to you.

ENGAGE

Sign-up for strategically-timed action alerts on critical legislation and policy initiatives at the federal level. Alerts provide instructions for contacting government officials, as well as sample letters or call scripts.

JOIN

Sign up for our newsletter at advocacy.episcopalchurch.org

Follow us on social media @TheEPPN



We engage in advocacy because federal government legislation and policies affect Episcopalians, our brother and sister Anglicans around the world, and the most vulnerable among us. Together, we can help our nation's legislation and policies to become more just.



Feature one of the following in your church or personal communications. Images available by request eppn@episcopalchurch.org.

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3 Reasons for Advocacy

1. Biblical Mandate

Scripture and our Baptismal Covenant call on us to protect the least of these.

2. Resources

Churches and non-profits provide only 5% of food assistance domestically, while U.S. federal and state governments provide the other 95%.

3. Authorities

Many church activities like Episcopal Migration Ministries could not carry out their ministry without the federal government's refugee resettlement program.



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