

The Commission of Social Justice and Advocacy is responsible for engaging the St. Timothy's Community in building, resourcing, and empowering advocacy movements for social justice at a local and community level. The Commissioner additionally serves to support diocesan policy which build and support locally led coalitions for social change according to the positions of The Episcopal Church.

The Commission of Social Justice and Advocacy executes initiatives to mobilize the St. Timothy's Community on issues of social change, to accompany and enrich the ministry of Episcopalians working to be catalysts for equality, justice, and transformation within their communities. In conjunction with the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, the following are six (6) of the Justice Advocacy foundations in support of the National and Global Church.

Christian scripture calls all of us to love God and our neighbor as ourselves (Matthew 22:37-39) and to take action by treating others as we wish to be treated ourselves (Luke 6:31). Let us take action!

Encourage Parish engagement in ENGAGED CITIZENRY -

Proverbs 16:16 How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver.

- a. Open conversation; be a 'safe' home for democracy to thrive
- b. Establishing conversation network, allowing for discussion of variant issues
- c. Providing materials and opportunities for community to learn the complete picture of issues
- d. Continuing advocacy beyond the election cycle
- e. **REV UP:** During the Election cycle, make available: registration, education specific to the election, and encouraging/assisting our community to vote
- f. Establish St. Timothy's as a voting poll (re-establish)

Collaborate with well-established Diocesan and Community groups to support GUN SAFETY

(Episcopalians Against Gun Violence, Bishops United Against Gun Violence, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense.)

Micah 4:3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

- a. Inform our community of legislative actions and votes
- b. Share the works of the Episcopal Church
- c. Participate in local advocacy opportunities

Participate in ENVIRONMENTAL advocacy opportunities:

Psalm 24:1 The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, and Leviticus 23:22 And when you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right to its edge, nor shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner

- a. Educate our community to the local environmental concerns of CCC and CA
- b. Putting in place "what YOU can do to make a difference"

- c. Beyond recycling: water, air, earth quality

Our communion with all life requires our listening to the cries of those in need-- to that end

Racial Justice and Reform: Bringing the issues to light -

Isaiah 1:17; 11:4 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause; But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

- a. Embracing with courage the understanding that our struggle for justice must be based on new attitudes, new understandings and new relationships, and must be reflected in the laws, policies, structures and practices of both church and state – beginning with our own community.
- b. Actively participating in *Becoming Beloved Community* courses and events.
- c. Educating our community on the public policy and laws that limit the rights of immigrants, racial/ethnic minorities, and the poor and disenfranchised to social services, jobs, and education.

Creating a welcoming home and advocating for our LGBTQ family

I have called you friends... John 15:14-16

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

- a. Actively supporting applicable legislation through letters, emails and phone calls
- b. Creating a welcome campus (e.g., gender neutral bathrooms)

Supporting St. Timothy's Outreach in HOMELESS prevention

James 1:27 Religious that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Palm 82:3 Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

– Prayer for the Human Family (Book of Common Prayer, p. 815)

Kari Doolittle, Vestry 09.19.18