

**Lutheran  
Advocacy  
Ministry**  
New Mexico

**Rocky Mountain Synod  
ELCA**

***Lutheran Advocacy Ministry - NM is called to advocate for justice in public policy with a particular emphasis on alleviating poverty and hunger and supporting ELCA members and congregations, as well as our ecumenical and interfaith partners in the ministry of advocacy.***

**November 4, 2022**

**2023 Fall Advocacy Conference**



**LAM-NM Fall Advocacy Conference Registration!**

After a two-year pandemic pause, the annual LAM-NM Fall Advocacy Conference returns! Join us ***Saturday, November 19th, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*** at All Saints Lutheran Church in Albuquerque. (4800 All Saints Road, NW, 87120) Registration and refreshments will begin at 8:30 a.m.

This year's conference will feature special guests Lilly Irvin-Vitela (President, Community Connects Consulting, LLC), Sherry Hooper (Executive Director of the Food Depot in Santa Fe, Denali Wilson (staff attorney with the ACLU), as well as others, along with opening devotions led by Lynne Hinton (Executive Director, NM Conference of Churches). Our primary theme this year:

***Working for Justice- How Faith Can Inform Cross-partisan Issue-based Advocacy***

In this interactive event led by Lilly Irvin-Vitella, participants will explore

the call to action to engage in public policy that affirms our shared commitments to justice. As individuals and communities of faith, we will share, discuss, and deliberate about effective and principled tools to advance public policy that upholds the values we're called to uphold in the Gospels. We'll also discuss strategies to move beyond partisanship and move into faith-driven approaches that seek common ground and common purpose.

In addition, participants will learn what to do within their congregation to lay the groundwork for advocacy at the local or state level, individually and collectively through the support of LAM-NM. Presentations and discussions will include how to dialogue around differences and find common ground, how to create agreements on how to disagree, and what members need to do within their own congregations to lay the groundwork for advocacy. Integrated into the event will be presentations by Sherry Hooper and Denali Wilson centered on two of LAM-NM's priority legislative advocacy efforts for the 2023 NM Legislative Session.

Though we highly recommend in-person attendance for the most impactful experience, an online Zoom option will also be available. Tickets this year are \$18 in-person and \$12 online participation.

Lunch and morning refreshments will be provided for in-person participants. Materials to take back to congregations will be provided to all participants.

**\*\* Register for the conference [HERE!](#)**

**\* Plan to attend! \* Plan to Attend! \***



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### Plan to stay following the Conference!

Please plan to stay for a second, significant, event following the Fall Advocacy Conference. You are invited to a discussion, "*Faith Communities & State Health Improvement Plan.*"

The conversation will take place both in person (15 minutes following the conclusion of the Advocacy Conference) and online. Please *share* this information with any contacts or organizations you would like.

No registration is needed for in-person participation. If you plan to attend virtually, please register (see below) and a separate Zoom link for the event will be emailed to you.

Virtual via zoom: Please register at [nmpha.org](https://nmpha.org)



**Did you know ...**

Every 3 years, NM creates a State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) to address health inequities and strengthen community health. Right now, agencies and partners are building the 2023-2025 plan.

**Faith Communities  
& State Health Improvement Plan  
Hybrid Discussion**

in partnership with Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM  
\*ALL FAITH TRADITIONS/COMMUNITIES WELCOME\*

**Saturday, November 19th from 2:45-4:15pm**

In-person Location: 4800 All Saints Road NW,  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Virtual via zoom: Please register at [nmpha.org](https://nmpha.org)

**We want to hear from you ...**

- What are the primary health issues among faith communities across NM?
- What are community strengths that sustain thriving faith communities?
- What are opportunities for alignment between the State Health Improvement Plan and your work to advance thriving faith communities?

Questions? email Leah Sanchez, Co-Executive Director of NMPHA,  
at [leah.sanchez@nmpha.org](mailto:leah.sanchez@nmpha.org)



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## 2022 Election: Support for Constitutional Amendment #1

As many of you know, LAM-NM for many years has worked actively in a broad coalition of organizations that advocated in favor of legislation that finally enabled the proposed *Constitutional Amendment #1* to appear on this election's state-wide ballot.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry - New Mexico *strongly urges your vote in support* of this amendment to the state's constitution.

One of our most trusted partners, New Mexico Voices for Children, provides what you need to know about the amendment and what transformational changes are possible, [HERE](#).

Also, you are invited to read an op-ed in the Santa Fe New Mexican by Katherine Freeman, [HERE](#).



## ZOOM MEETING

### AMMPARO Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, November 5 at 10:00 am

Get an update about Migrant Ministries in the Rocky Mountain Synod, hear about the Becoming Summit that happened in August, and learn about an accompaniment trip that is being planned to visit the Border of Mexico/Guatemala to meet migrants on their way to the USA and visit AMMPARO ministry sites in that area.

Questions, send an email to [rmsAMMPARO@gmail.com](mailto:rmsAMMPARO@gmail.com).

Zoom: [us02web.zoom.us/j/88514349858](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88514349858)

Meeting ID: 885 1434 9858

Call in - (312) 626-6799



Discussion of ELCA Social Message on Climate Change

Saturday, Nov 12, 10:00 am

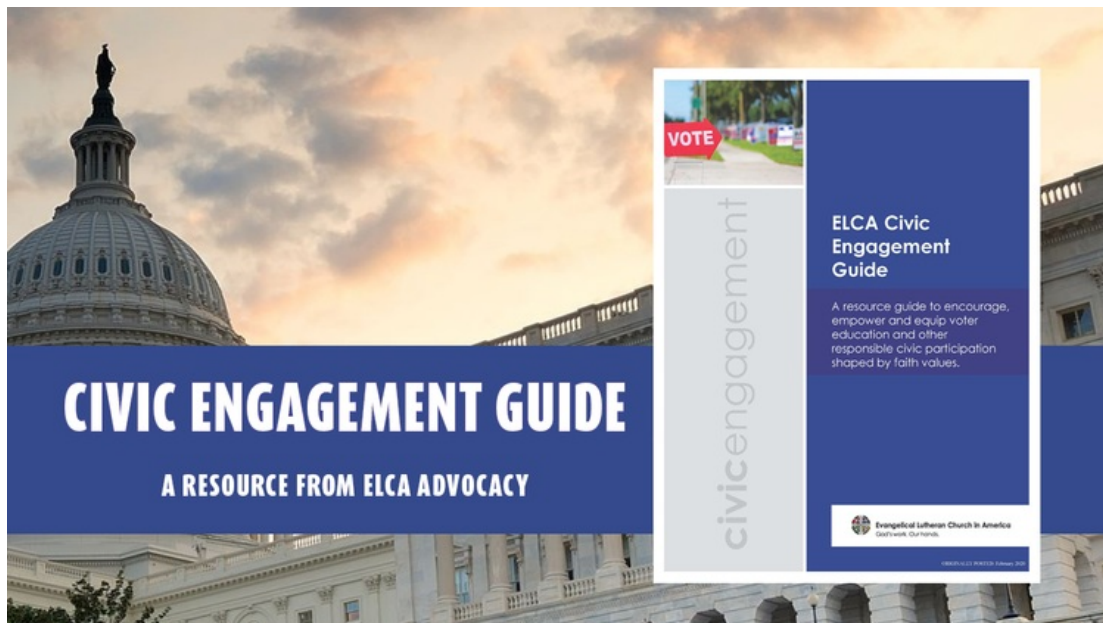
The Rocky Mountain Synod's Creation Care Team will be holding an online discussion of the new ELCA Social Message on Climate Change. All ELCA members are invited to join us in this conversation. Please utilize this link:

Zoom: [us02web.zoom.us/j/83008940316](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83008940316)

"Acting upon a request from several sources, in November 2021 the ELCA Church Council authorized the development of an ELCA social message on climate care. Social messages are ELCA teaching documents that address a focused social topic. Drawing from existing social teaching, they provide theological rationale and social analysis to foster discernment and engagement on a relatively narrow social issue. This project was authorized in light of the grim contemporary situation affecting our global home and the need for fresh action on the part of this church. It draws its framing themes from several social statements, particularly *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice*.

The draft social message is now available for public feedback! **Read the social message draft [here](#)** and then use **this survey** to share your input by Friday, December 2, 2022.

The draft will be edited, guided by the feedback, and presented to the ELCA Church Council to be voted on this coming spring."



## Being a Public Church

### What's OK and not OK when mixing church and elections?

As we approach the end of the current election season, the ELCA understands government as a means through which God works to preserve creation and build a more peaceful and just social order in a broken world.

*These resources help clarify how churches can appropriately be involved in*

*elections and advocacy:*

*more information:*

ELCA Civic Engagement Guide

A resource guide to encourage, empower and equip voter education and other responsible civic participation shaped by faith values.

Being a Public Church

Guidance for churches and clergy participating in the electoral process

ELCA Advocacy Website Resource Page

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**\*\* Save the Date! \*\***

*2023 Advocacy Agenda & Legislative Session Briefing*

*January 21st - 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.*

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**\*\* Save the Date! \*\***

*2023 Issue Briefing and Bishop's Luncheon*

*February 21st - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.*

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## Advocating Congregations

St. Paul Lutheran (Alb.) \* First Presbyterian (Santa Fe) \* Bethlehem Lutheran (Los Alamos) \* St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal (Alb.) \* All Saints Lutheran (Alb.) \* St. Luke Lutheran (Alb.) \* Peace Lutheran (Las Cruces) \* Christ Lutheran (Santa Fe) \* St. Timothy Lutheran (Alb.) \* St. Andrew Presbyterian (Alb.) \* Albuquerque Mennonite Church (Alb.) \* First Presbyterian (Las Vegas) \* Church of the Holy Cross Episcopal (Edgewood) \* Monte Vista Christian (Abq.) \* United Methodist Women of New Mexico

**Learn more about joining the Advocating Congregation Program [HERE!](#)**

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM works in advocacy partnerships with the NM Conference of Churches and the Presbytery of Santa Fe.

Connecting faith and public life: We believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. God uses our hands, through our direct service work and our voices, through our advocacy efforts, to restore and reconcile our world. Through faithful advocacy, the ELCA lives out our Lutheran belief that governments can help advance the common good.

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## Office Location

Our office is located in Albuquerque at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry - New Mexico  
1100 Indian School Rd. NE  
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

505-242-2493

Always grateful for your advocacy,

Kurt

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with



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