



is an effort to implement the vision of the Pacific Union Conference Executive Committee, which unanimously approved the statement below in November, 2020:

Social Justice

Every human life is sacred. Created in the image of God, all people are bestowed dignity, worth, and endless opportunity. Human societies ideally exemplify equality, fairness, respect, and freedom for every person. Sin's curse distorts and corrupts both individuals and societies. Even when unrecognized, to dominate or marginalize others is rooted in selfishness and greed producing racism, discrimination, and injustice. This destructive pattern is broken by the redemptive work of God as taught in Scripture and ultimately revealed in Jesus Christ. The Seventh-day Adventist Church is called to proclaim the transforming and reconciling message of the Gospel while opposing practices and policies that perpetuate prejudice and inequality. In fulfilling its mission, the Body of Christ must challenge racism, discrimination, and injustice by individuals and society while working purposefully towards equitable opportunities so that all people may experience God's redemption and restoration. (Genesis 1 :26-28; Psalm 139:13-16; Isaiah 1 :16-17,23; Micah 6:8; Zechariah 7:9-10; John 1 :12-14; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; James 4:17-21; Isaiah 64:6; 1 John 1 :7-9; Philippians 2:4; Matthew 23:23; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 18:4, 9-11)

Services and Resources

ADRA (Adventist Disaster Relief Agency)

- A global humanitarian organization
- Delivers relief and development assistance to individuals in more than 130 countries

Adventist Community Services

- Food banks
- Thrift stores
- Homeless feeding programs
- Distribution of preparedness and/or disaster safety information
- Emergency response to stricken areas in USA

Adventist Education

- Primary schools
- Secondary schools
- Jr. college (2 year)
- Four-year liberal-arts college
- Full universities up to doctorate level
- Medical/Dental schools

Adventist Health

- Local hospitals
- Free mobile health clinics
- Distribution of healthy living literature

Public Affairs and Religious Liberty

- Build relationships with government, officials and community leaders
- Advocate public policy positions on issues in areas as diverse as health, education, peace issues, environmental protection, women's issues, children's issues, the rights of prisoners, and aid and development
- Promote religious liberty for all people
- Organize and take part in community events
- Publish news reports, articles, academic papers, an annual World Report on religious freedom

Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Church State Council

- Protects separation of Church and State
- Advocates the principle of religious liberty for all
- Legislative advocacy
- Legal services
- Speakers bureau
- Just Liberty, a podcast



PACIFIC UNION CONFERENCE
The Seventh-day Adventist Church in the Pacific Southwest



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IT'S TIME TO CHOOSE:

Apathy
OR Justice?

Seventh-day Adventists have a rich history of social engagement. Many of our pioneers were abolitionists, and some were active in the underground railroad. Later, Adventists were leaders in working for temperance. This public health emphasis has been carried on in our church's global medical missionary work.

Today, many in the Pacific Union Conference, including our Executive Committee, perceive the Holy Spirit leading us back to a gospel ministry that fully integrates social engagement, and working for justice in society. Accordingly, the Executive Committee voted a Social Justice Statement in the fall of 2020. This statement makes it clear that working to oppose discrimination and oppression are a core part of the gospel mission of the church, citing many supporting scriptures.

The Church State Council is the Pacific Union Conference ministry where gospel ministry takes the form of public engagement on legislative and social issues. It is how the Public Affairs & Religious Liberty ministry is carried out within the five state region. Accordingly, the Church State Council has convened a community dedicated to going beyond talk, "Adventists Doing Justice".

Many Seventh-day Adventists have been active on social justice issues for a long time. Others are newly engaged. Too many feel lonely and isolated. The Church State Council will help provide a community for those feeling called to doing justice.

A COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO GOING BEYOND TALK



What is Adventists Doing Justice?

Adventists Doing Justice are people of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who share a love for Jesus, and a desire to take up the very ministry Christ ordained when he chastised the leaders of his day for their diligence in fulfilling religious obligations while omitting the weightier matters of the law — justice, mercy and faithfulness. Jesus echoed the teachings of the prophet Micah, who declared that the Lord requires us: "to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God." Simply put, our faith compels us to work for justice.

What do Adventists Doing Justice do?

- Form Groups to Learn and Work together
- Study and Learn how to be effective advocates for justice
- Network with public interest and community organizations, community leaders and elected officials
- Identify local justice issues in one's own community
- Recruit support for justice initiatives
- Mobilize community in support of justice issues
- Show up in the community, at city council or board of supervisor meetings
- Conduct voter education and voter registration drives
- Network with other Adventists Doing Justice Groups

