



Get Out the Vote Fact Sheet

September 2018
www.muusan.org

MUUSAN's Democracy in Action Issue Group is guided by our UUA Fifth Principle: ***The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and society at large.***

Other than our congregational meetings, the time most of us put this principle to work is in our civic participation, especially in elections for public office and on ballot initiatives.

The November 6th mid-term elections are crucial to people of faith committed to social justice. Electing progressive leaders who share our values has never been more important.

Here's how and your congregations can get involved in the democratic process and make it work:

1. **Make sure your own registration is up-to-date.** Talk to friends, family and neighbors, especially if they are new to the country.

2. **Join a voter registration effort.** MUUSAN has identified several partners you may want to consider:

ACLU of Maine (American Civil Liberties Union)
<https://www.aclumaine.org/>

League of Women Voters of Maine
<http://www.lwvme.org/>

Maine Equal Justice Partners (MEJP)
<http://mejpa.org/>

Natural Resources Council of Maine (NRCM)
<https://www.nrcm.org/>

3. **Commit to vote with organizations you support.** They will then call and text reminders as Election Day approaches to increase turnout.

4. **Contact the campaigns of the candidates of your choice to see how you can help** register voters, canvas door-to-door, or phone bank to get out the vote.

5. Join MUUSAN's Get Out the Vote Initiative and **vote by Absentee Ballot.** This enables you to be available on Election Day to provide voter turnout support to the organizations or campaigns of your choice.

6. **Join MUUSAN's Somali-American Get Out the Vote volunteer project** to educate, register, and/or provide transportation to the polls for Somali-American citizens living in five public housing communities in Portland and South Portland. Contact admin@muusan.org for more information.

Be encouraged by former President Obama's recent call to action: "As we approach these critical midterm elections, I'm asking you once again to choose hope — to channel that awesome power we have, as citizens, to bring about the change we seek."