

The Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California
was established in 1984 under the theme of *Set Free to Serve*.



Artwork by Kathryn Swanson

“And what does the Lord require of us but to do justice,
love kindness and walk humbly with our God.”

Micah 6:8

Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California

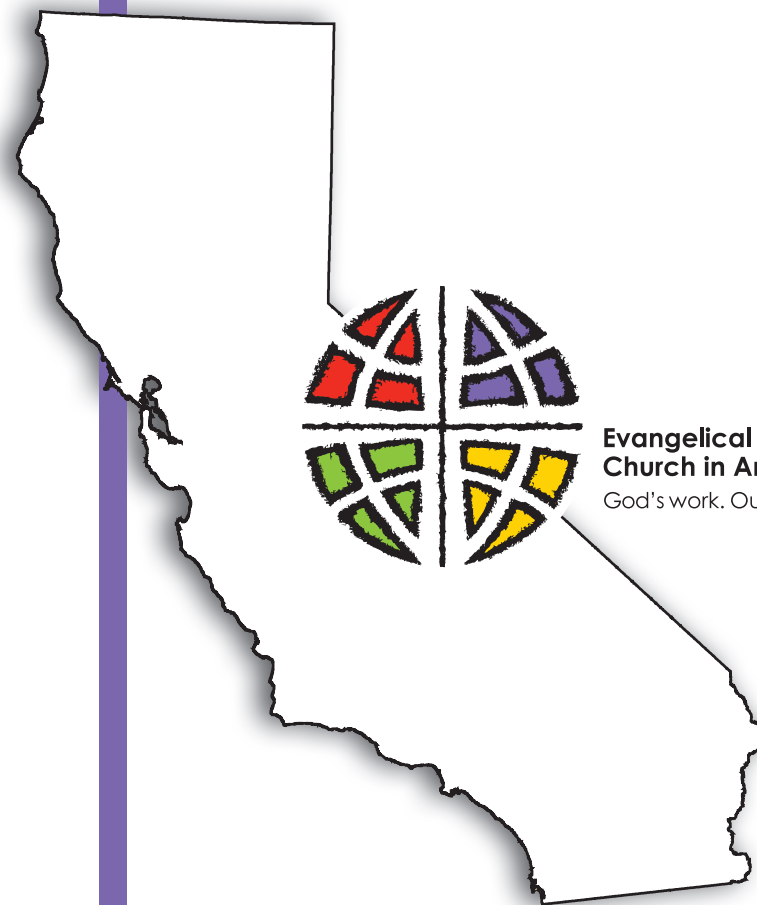
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A Justice Advocacy Ministry
of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pacifica Synod
Sierra Pacific Synod
Southern California West Synod
Church in Society Program Unit, ELCA

Lutheran Office of Public Policy - California



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

*Stepping forth as a public church
that witnesses boldly to God's love
for all that God has created -
God's work, our hands, feet and voices!*

THE LUTHERAN OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY – CALIFORNIA is a vehicle for public policy education and advocacy on matters of hunger and economic justice, the health and integrity of God’s creation, and human rights and human dignity. It serves the California expressions of the ELCA as they seek to express God’s love and care for our neighbors – especially the “least of these” – who experience poverty, deprivation, and discrimination.



Raising funds for ELCA World Hunger, Tour de Revs visits Capitol Park (hosted by LOPP).

Priority areas for 2010 include the state budget for health and human services (state safety net in health, food assistance, child care and protection, etc.), including revenue options; budget and governance reform which moves state government away from the gridlock and partisanship which have harmed low-income people and led to broad distrust in government; and care for God’s creation (especially climate change).

THE LUTHERAN OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY – CALIFORNIA works in the following ways:

- **WORKS WITH MEMBERS AND CONGREGATIONS** to support their own ministry of policy education and advocacy, on issues of statewide importance that affect the well-being of people in their communities. Sign up at loppca.org or elca.org/advocacy.

- **JOINS HANDS WITH OTHERS** to influence public policy through close cooperation with the ELCA Washington Office, and selective collaboration with others such as Bread for the World, California Hunger Action Coalition, California Interfaith Power & Light, California Church IMPACT; California Catholic Conference, JERICHO: Voice for Justice, Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights, Friends Committee on Legislation, and the Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry.

FUNDING FOR THE LUTHERAN OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY - CALIFORNIA comes from ELCA World Hunger Funds (all of the Churchwide ELCA support, about two-thirds of the total LOPP budget), the three synods that cover California, Women of the ELCA (Southwest California Synod), and congregational and individual donations. Contributions to ELCA World Hunger and Sierra Pacific Synod Second Mile Giving are critical to the mission of speaking with a compassionate, reasoned, constructive, and experienced voice in the public arena; of enabling a ministry in the state capital of hospitality, accompaniment, and solidarity with those who are struggling to meet basic survival needs; and of supporting the caring voices of Lutherans statewide. Your gifts make a difference!

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’” *Matthew 25:37*

“Faithful participation in society is integral and vital to the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). As individual members and as a corporate body this church lives out the Christian faith in encounter with the concerns that shape life in God’s creation.” The ELCA, in its participation in society as a corporate body, “strives to be guided by some abiding attitudes and aims:

- that its posture be self-critical, modest, and authentic;
- that its conversations be characterized by respect for participants and others;
- that its deliberation be based upon careful analysis; that it not simplify complex issues and not accept easy answers to difficult problems;
- that in its ministry this church use the rich resources of its members, agencies, and institutions as well as those from other churches and ecumenical bodies;”

Policies and Procedures of the ELCA for Addressing Social Concerns, 2006.



LOPP Director, Mark Carlson, speaks at Immigrant Day 2010 at the Capitol.