

**INFORMATION ABOUT CANDIDATES AND  
QUESTIONS THAT MAY HELP TO DISCERN CANDIDATES' POSITIONS  
FOR  
U. S. SENATE AND FOR GOVERNOR  
IN THE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

What is the Christian's responsibility to help choose leaders?

*Choose for your tribes wise, understanding leaders and I will appoint them as your heads. Deuteronomy 1:13*

House of Hope Peace & Justice Committee wants to help voters make informed decisions when they go to the polls on election day. The information that follows identifies candidates for U. S. Senate or for Governor in the State of Minnesota and gives a link to their respective websites.

The Peace & Justice Committee is composed of six subgroups, each with a particular focus. Following is a list of those sub-groups with questions that Christians may want to find answers to for each candidate.

The general election is **November 6.**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING/HOUSING EQUITY**

- What do you believe are any systemic or structural issues that present barriers to Minnesotans who seek safe and affordable housing?
- What is your position on the recently released recommendations of the Governor's Minnesota Housing Task Force?

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION**

- What is your position on the Family First Prevention Services Act and do you have plans to pass, extend, and introduce legislation to benefit children and families?
- Do you support initiatives to prevent or counter Adverse Childhood Experiences and promote safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments?

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

- What is your position concerning crime in our country and its basic causes and what recommendations would you make to address this problem?
- Do you think that socio-economic injustices have any direct relationship to crime in America?
- Optional question: Is the expanding rate of prison incarceration of drug-related offenders the best way to solve the drug problem?

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP**

- The Earth's climate is changing, and political discussion has become divided over both the science and the best response. What are your views on climate change, and how would you act on those views?
- The long-term security of fresh water supplies is threatened. What steps will you take to ensure access to clean water?
- How would you balance the need for environmental protection with energy needs and economic development?

### **GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

- Do the candidate's statements and website indicate an interest in addressing the gun violence problem in America?
- Do the candidate's statements and website indicate support for legislation such as universal background checks for gun purchases and establishing a ban on purchases of assault weapons and high capacity magazines?

### **HEALTH CARE ADVOCACY**

- How does a plan you'd support make sure everybody gets *care* when they need it (not just insurance, but actual care)?
- What's your plan for controlling costs? Listen for whether costs are controlled by delivering less care to patients, or whether costs are contained by other methods such as negotiating prices with doctors, pharma, medical device companies and by cutting administrative waste?
- How does your plan cut administrative costs present in the current healthcare system?

### **CANDIDATES**

#### U. S. SENATE

DFL: Amy Klobuchar <https://www.klobuchar.senate.gov/public/>

R: Jim Newberger <https://www.jimforussenate.com/>

#### U. S. SENATE SPECIAL ELECTION

DFL: Tina Smith <https://www.tinaforminnesota.com/>

R: Karin Housley <https://www.housleyforsenate.com/>

#### Minnesota GOVERNOR

DFL: Tim Walz & Peggy Flanagan <https://walzflanagan.org/>

R: Jeff Johnson & Donna Bergstrom <http://www.johnsonforgovernor.com>

In addition to each candidate's website, you may find that the following are also useful sources of information about candidates' positions:

- Presbyterian Church USA: [www.presbyterianmission.org/opw/2018/07/16/our-faith-our-vote-resources-for-presbyterians-to-engage-with-the-2018-midterm-](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/opw/2018/07/16/our-faith-our-vote-resources-for-presbyterians-to-engage-with-the-2018-midterm-)

[elections/?utm\\_source=PPFGVPJuly.2018&utm\\_campaign=PPFGVPNews7.24.18&utm\\_medium=email](#)

- Minnesota Secretary of State <https://candidates.sos.state.mn.us/>
- League of Women Voters (<https://www.lwv.org/elections/vote411>)
- Ballotpedia [https://ballotpedia.org/Minnesota elections, 2018](https://ballotpedia.org/Minnesota_elections,_2018)
- MINNPOST (<https://www.minnpost.com/>)