***You may want to preface the ask by playing a 2-minute intro video about UU the Vote, available here:*** [***https://youtu.be/mannOmmad1I***](https://youtu.be/mannOmmad1I)***. A 90-second video featuring UUA President Susan Frederick-Gray is also available:*** [***https://youtu.be/2tSdxAh3a64***](https://youtu.be/2tSdxAh3a64)***. Either of these videos can be shared on your congregation’s website and/or e-newsletter.***

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Throughout history religious individuals and groups have played a prophetic role in public life by calling attention to oppression, organizing for justice, and holding leaders and institutions accountable for their actions.

It is natural to witness current events and feel a sense of despair. We may ask ourselves, “What can I do?” While each of us will **choose our candidates as individuals**, as a movement we can bring our UU values and our passion to the polls on behalf of equity, justice and democracy.

For years, UUs have been known as “the folks who show up,” often in our bright orange **Side with Love** t-shirts. Now, in this political moment, we have an oppor­tunity to join forces with other UUs around the country and **UU the Vote** **in 2020**.

Some will hesitate and worry that as a church we can’t get involved in politics: “We’ll lose our tax-exempt status,” or “It’s too divisive,” they’ll say.

These times are already too divisive. Even more reason that as progressive people of faith **we must step up** to fight for our values, counter voter suppression, expand democracy, and engage in spiritually grounded, values-based issue conversations with the voters in our own community.

**This is faithful, moral action**. We are fully within our legal bounds to be a voice on public policy and a force in mobilizing communities to advance our values.

All through 2020 the Unitarian Universalist Association—in partnership with multi-faith and secular organizations—is supporting congregations and UU organizations in activating thousands of Unitarian Universalists to mobilize for electoral justice at the local, state and national levels.

**UU the Vote is a non-partisan faith initiative** designed to engage our neighbors, educate our communities, mobilize voters, and rally around key ballot initiatives.

Rather than trying to replicate what other movement organizations are already doing, the work of UU the Vote is to **amplify the work already happening** on the ground, equip each other with the skills and tools, and to channel resources to parts of the country where the imbalance between the work that is needed and the resources that are available is the greatest.

Make no mistake. Directly or indirectly, the issues so many of us care most deeply about—**climate change, LGBTQ rights, immigration, racial justice and more**—will be on the ballot in 2020.

UUs hold democracy and **the right of all people to have a voice and a vote** as part of our Seven Principles. The 2020 election cycle is a benchmark—not an endpoint—in our faith’s long-term work toward justice. No matter the outcome this November, we have work to do to protect our faith’s ability to stay relevant beyond 2020.

All the more reason that UUs need to show up in this critical moment.

[Congregation name] is joining with other congregations around the country in supporting the **UU the Vote State Action Fund**—to build out and expand the infrastructure, electoral technology, and on-the-ground organizing needed to support the work of hundreds of UU congregations like ours and various UU State Action Networks this election cycle.

*[If* [*your state has a SAN*](http://cuusan.org/sans-directory/)*, mention it here. Provide example(s) of any electoral justice work your congregation is already doing or planning for 2020, as well as any local/state ballot issues.]*

Since UU the Vote is entirely non-partisan, these gifts are considered charitable contributions, not political donations. Gifts made on your mobile device by texting **VOTELOVE** to **91999** will also be added to our congregation’s collection total. That’s **VOTELOVE**—as one word—to **91999.**

Today’s collection for the **UU the Vote State Action Fund** will be gratefully received. Please give generously.