

A Methodist View on the General Election

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Our hope is that this will be an election campaign where people will be able to discuss and disagree with kindness, where truth will be upheld, and where the needs of people who are vulnerable will be honoured. As Christians, over the weeks ahead we are called to participate actively, ask questions, listen well, seek justice and the common good, and surround the process in prayer.

There will be all kinds of issues on the agenda during this campaign. But as we seek to follow Jesus's commandment to love our neighbour, we particularly challenge all who aspire to form the next government to set out what they will do to tackle poverty in the UK.

But poverty is not inevitable, and those with power can make choices that could end poverty for good. We urge all those who seek our votes to commit to make poverty a priority.

Finally, we encourage people to use their votes, and to ensure others can too. Voting is a hard-fought privilege still denied to many around the world. Churches will be active in ensuring everyone eligible is registered to vote and has appropriate photo ID, so that they are not denied the opportunity to participate in the democratic process. We should all be able to have our voices heard during this election, and to join in making choices that will shape the future of our society.

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A Prayer on the announcement of a General Election

Loving God,

Now that an election has been called, hear my prayers for our country and the campaign ahead.

I pray for those who are standing for election, for their safety, and for their willingness to listen and to speak.

I pray for truthfulness and kindness to prevail as the issues are debated.

I pray that each of us will be inspired to use our voice and our vote for your goodness and glory.

Inspire me, God, to Love, to Pray and to Vote.

Amen.
