## YOUR VOICE MATTERS – TIPS ON HOW TO FIND CONTACTS AND RESOURCES

**NEW:** <u>Follow this link</u> to the Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations website, which is particularly helpful if you wish to stay engaged on a range of current policy issues, including suggestions on ways to advocate. You can also sign up for the latest Action Alerts.

## **Finding Your Federal Elected Officials**

<u>President</u> – Contact the President online at <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov">https://www.whitehouse.gov</a> or call the White House comments line at 202-456-1111 during business hours, 9 am to 5 pm. You can also sign up for their updates on the first page. Their site includes information on the Administration, Presidential Actions, Briefing Room and Live Coverage of Events.

<u>Federal Senate Officials</u> – U.S. Senators can be found at <a href="https://www.senate.gov">https://www.senate.gov</a>. If you live in Virginia, Senator Mark Warner's site is <a href="https://www.warner.senate.gov">https://www.kaine.senate.gov</a>. Senator Tim Kaine's site is <a href="https://www.kaine.senate.gov">https://www.kaine.senate.gov</a>.

Federal District Representative(s) – To find your Congressperson, visit <a href="http://www.house.gov">http://www.house.gov</a> and put in your zip code in the top right-hand box on page 2. Those living in Vienna, parts of Great Falls, Mclean, Fairfax and aligning areas are in the 11<sup>th</sup> District. The 11th District is VACANT due to the death of Congressman Gerry Connolly on May 21, 2025. There will be a special election on September 9. His office remains open to assist constituents with pending cases, and the staff is operating under the supervision of the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Visit the site at <a href="https://clerk.house.gov/members/VA11/vacancy">https://clerk.house.gov/members/VA11/vacancy</a>.

**Note:** Each of your representatives has a website with helpful information such as their priorities, committee assignments and a place to sign up for newsletters. There is also a comment section that you can use to convey your views. If you prefer to do this by mail, their office address is generally on the bottom of the page on their website. If you are interested in sharing your views with one or all of your elected officials, submitting your comments with personal experiences and stories is generally most effective.

## A Good Source of Information – Episcopal Church (https://www.episcopalchurch.org)

Based on priorities, policies and resolutions of the national Church, the Episcopal Church has set up an excellent website that contains valuable, comprehensive and interactive information. This includes the Office of Public Affairs and Ministries such as Creation Care, Gender Justice, Episcopal Migration Ministries, etc. Other sections also have extensive information and, in some cases, draft Congressional letters that can be sent directly online from their site to your representative. You can also sign up for newsletters and meetings.

We hope you find this information helpful. Please feel free to send your comments or questions to Sue Sottile (bensueventures@gmail.com) and Carl Riedy (Carl.Riedy@gmail.com).