What can pastors really do?

CUPA has provided this list with the approval of the Alliance for Defending Freedom. This is to serve as a guideline to empower pastors to inspire their congregations to engage the civil realm.

**Pastors Can Legally...**

- Engage in voter registration activities*
- Distribute educational materials to voters, including voter guides*
- Preach on moral and social issues and promote civic involvement
- Conduct forums for candidates and issues to the congregation provided there is equal opportunity
- Invite candidates or elected officials to speak at church services**

*Pastors can do anything in an individual capacity, but must be careful when acting on behalf of the church.

**No candidate should be prohibited from addressing a church if others running for the same office have been allowed to speak. Exempt from this are candidates or public figures who may speak at a church, but they must refrain from speaking about their candidacy.

**Pastors Should Avoid...**

- Endorsing candidates on behalf of the church
- Setting up a political committee that would contribute funds directly to political candidates
- Underwriting the cost of political events
- Giving permission to distribute material on church property that favors any one candidate or political party
- Using church funds or services to contribute directly to candidates or political committees
- Allowing candidates to solicit funds while speaking