

The Faith & Renewal Oath

A simple oath: Faith, in all its diverse forms, has always been a cornerstone of community and renewal. From churches to mosques, synagogues to temples, gurdwaras to meditation halls, and intergenerational service groups beyond religion — these are the places where people gather, heal, and act together. To honor faith and service is to honor the human spirit that binds us in civic trust.

Why It Matters

- Faith communities are among the most trusted and enduring institutions in America.
- Congregations of every tradition provide food, shelter, service, and connection across divides.
- Social isolation, polarization, and distrust cannot be healed by policy alone — they require moral and spiritual renewal.
- Intergenerational service groups offer secular pathways of meaning, belonging, and civic repair.

Our belief: Renewal is possible when the nation honors its faith traditions — all of them — and partners with communities of service to rebuild trust and civic life.

What We're Saying

This is not an oath to one creed. It is an oath to all: to honor the sacred role of faith and service, to uplift diverse traditions, and to ensure that renewal flows through every community as a civic good.

What It Guarantees

- **Interfaith & Intercultural Partnerships:** National and local initiatives that connect diverse traditions for shared service.
- **Service as Renewal:** Volunteerism, mentorship, and mutual aid recognized as civic pillars alongside governance.
- **Spaces of Healing:** Investment in community hubs — faith-based or secular — that provide counseling, meals, and reconciliation programs.

- **Generational Bridges:** Programs uniting elders, adults, and youth across faiths in shared projects and dialogue.
- **Respect for Diversity:** Equal partnership for all religions, philosophies, and service groups — with no favoritism.

Programs You'll See

- **National Interfaith Service Corps:** A civic corps uniting people of all beliefs for projects in disaster relief, hunger, housing, and care.
- **Sacred Commons Grants:** Support for congregations and community centers to open their doors as spaces of healing, trust-building, and civic forums.
- **Faith & Service Dialogues:** Facilitated local gatherings across traditions to foster understanding and cooperation.
- **Generations in Service:** Pairing youth groups with elder councils for joint projects in tutoring, caregiving, and environmental stewardship.
- **Season of Renewal:** A national week each year dedicated to interfaith service and civic reflection.

How We'll Make It Real

0–100 Days

- Establish the National Faith & Renewal Council with leaders from every major tradition and service network.
- Identify 50 pilot communities to launch interfaith service projects.

Year 1

- Launch the National Interfaith Service Corps.
- Provide Sacred Commons Grants to 500 congregations and service centers.

Years 2–3

- Scale Generations in Service programs nationwide.
- Host annual Faith & Service Dialogues in every state.

Years 4–5

- Make the Season of Renewal a permanent national tradition.
- Integrate interfaith service projects into national service pathways.

Accountability & Measures

- **Participation:** Number of faith and service groups engaged in joint projects.
- **Reach:** # of citizens served by Sacred Commons programs.
- **Trust:** Public surveys on interfaith understanding and civic healing.
- **Generational Impact:** Rates of youth and elder participation in shared service.
- **Diversity:** Representation of multiple traditions in local and national councils.

Guardrails & Values

- **Religious Freedom:** No tradition elevated above another; participation is voluntary and inclusive.
- **Nonpartisan & Civic-Minded:** Rooted in service, not politics.
- **Equity of Voice:** Small congregations and minority faiths receive equal standing.
- **Safety & Respect:** Programs guided by codes of conduct and mutual respect.
- **Transparency:** Public reporting of participation, outcomes, and community benefit.

Who This Helps (Snapshots)

- *Samira (16):* Joins a youth service project at her mosque that partners with a local synagogue and church to plant a community garden.
- *Daniel (40):* A secular volunteer who finds belonging in the National Interfaith Service Corps after years of disconnection.

- *Mrs. Nguyen (68)*: Leads a Sacred Commons gathering at her temple, offering meals and dialogue to neighbors of all beliefs.
- *Thomas (75)*: Mentors teens through Generations in Service, teaching woodworking while sharing stories of civic duty.

What Success Looks Like

In 24 Months

- 500 congregations and community centers funded as Sacred Commons.
- National Interfaith Service Corps active in every region.

In 5 Years

- A national Season of Renewal observed by millions.
- Youth and elder service programs embedded across faiths and traditions.

In 10 Years

- America recognizes faith and service — in all forms — as enduring anchors of civic life and renewal.

The Commitment

The Faith & Renewal Oath is a pledge: that no matter our creed or tradition, we will honor the sacred power of service and renewal. Together — across faiths, generations, and communities — we will anchor civic life in trust, compassion, and shared purpose.

Historical Reference & Value

Faith and service have long been anchors of renewal in America. During the abolition movement, churches and synagogues were sanctuaries of justice. In the Great Depression, congregations and mutual aid groups fed the hungry and housed the displaced. The Civil Rights Movement was sustained by church basements, hymns, and interfaith alliances that gave moral force to legal change. After national crises — from wars to natural disasters — congregations, temples, mosques, and secular service groups have been among the first to respond, offering aid and rebuilding trust. This oath builds on that lineage: affirming that renewal is not a passive hope, but an active covenant of service, compassion, and unity.

Referenced Acts & Initiatives (Guiding Frameworks)

- **National Interfaith Service Corps Act:** Establishes a civic corps uniting all faiths and secular volunteers in national and local service projects.
- **Sacred Commons Grants Program:** Provides funding for congregations and service centers to open their doors as spaces of healing and reconciliation.
- **Faith & Service Dialogues Initiative:** Creates structured, local forums for interfaith and intercultural cooperation.
- **Generations in Service Act:** Builds pathways for youth and elders to serve together in mentorship, caregiving, and community renewal.
- **Season of Renewal Program:** Declares an annual national week of interfaith service, dialogue, and civic reflection.

Sealing Line

So it is pledged: that faith and service — in all their diverse forms — will remain living beacons of renewal, binding the nation in trust, compassion, and shared purpose for generations to come.