

The **A**noint **T**he **V**ote **I**nitiative, (ATVI), was originated in 2019 by Forum Philly, Inc to motivate/inspire faith leaders and our communities [sectarian, ecumenical, and interfaith] to muster, harness, exercise, and appropriate our spiritual resolve/acumen/influence to positively affect voter engagement and participation in elections.

Approximately five election cycles ago, selfish partisan extremists rose up and sought to gain political traction and capital by hijacking sacred traditions for use in their nefarious political and social agendas.

These extremists successfully attracted many followers in search of something to hate and blame for cultural shifts and demographic trends, who were willing to dismantle democracy and return America to its scandalous and oppressive past.

Several years into this brewing toxic culture, many of you took a stand and joined the effort of Forum Philly, to implement the Anoint The Vote Initiative, considered a powerful spiritual tool to repudiate the false prophets who were misappropriating faith and its trusted discipline.

The ATVI is premised on ancient traditions of committing, blessing, sanctioning, and even dedicating to God our work, highest ideals, and our leaders, whether king, prophet, or priest, to serve the people with fidelity before God and with God-enhanced power.

The ATVI strives to communicate the necessity, priority and, urgency of informed electoral participation of people of color. We gather at a launch breakfast to convey our unity, invoke and confer the presence of the divine in massaging and stimulating the civic and spiritual muscles of Black and Brown voters. This unity and strength empower us to accomplish good, justice, and righteousness in the land.

For the 2024 Fall municipal and Presidential Election, the leadership of the Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr., Association for Nonviolence, Inc. has confirmed their intentions to partner in hosting and staging the ATVI launch breakfast, which will convene 200 Faith, Civic, and labor leaders who will commit to prayer and strategically deploy direct action in Philadelphia, Delaware, Montgomery, and Bucks, Allegheny, Beaver, Erie, Lehigh, and Monroe counties.