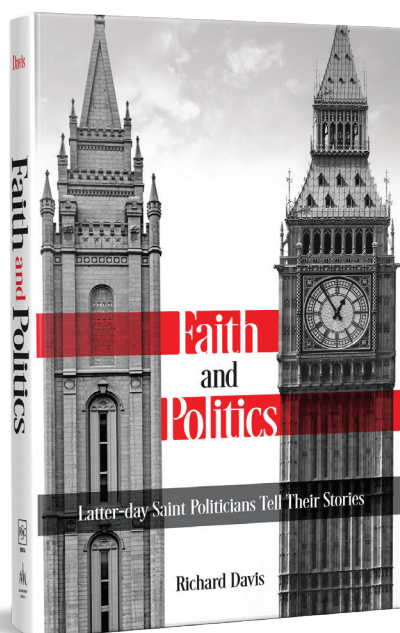


NEW FROM THE RELIGIOUS STUDIES CENTER

Faith and Politics

Latter-day Saint Politicians Tell Their Stories



PROVO, UTAH, AND SALT LAKE CITY—Political affiliation is one of the most divisive identifiers in not only our country but global interactions. Now more than ever, it takes a mere spark of charged conversation to ignite a fiery argument between two people of differing political perspectives that often ends with both parties being burned.

Some wonder if faith and politics can coexist harmoniously. This book, *Faith and Politics: Latter-day Saint Politicians Tell Their Stories*, features twenty-five interviews with active Latter-day Saint politicians who have served or currently serve in offices at the local, state, and national levels in several countries. They also represent a broad array of political parties and ideologies in accordance with the First Presidency's repeated position that "principles compatible with the gospel may be found in various political parties."

As recently as June 1, 2023, the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints issued a letter titled "Political Participation, Voting, and the Political Neutrality of the Church." The First Presidency reaffirmed the political neutrality that the church as an organization abides by and reminded members that truths of the gospel can be found in many political parties.

While the politicians featured in this book have varying political beliefs, their work is rooted in their faith in Jesus Christ. It's a good reminder that there is not just one way to be a member of the church and that political affiliation is not a determinant of testimony.

In a system where individuals are categorized into warring ideologies with no room for nuanced understanding, *Faith and Politics* is a refreshing look at the humanity found beneath labels of political affiliation and the beauty in diverse perspectives.

Faith and Politics: Latter-day Saint Politicians Tell Their Stories was copublished by the Religious Studies Center at Brigham Young University and Deseret Book. Visit rsc.byu.edu/book/faith-politics for more information.

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