

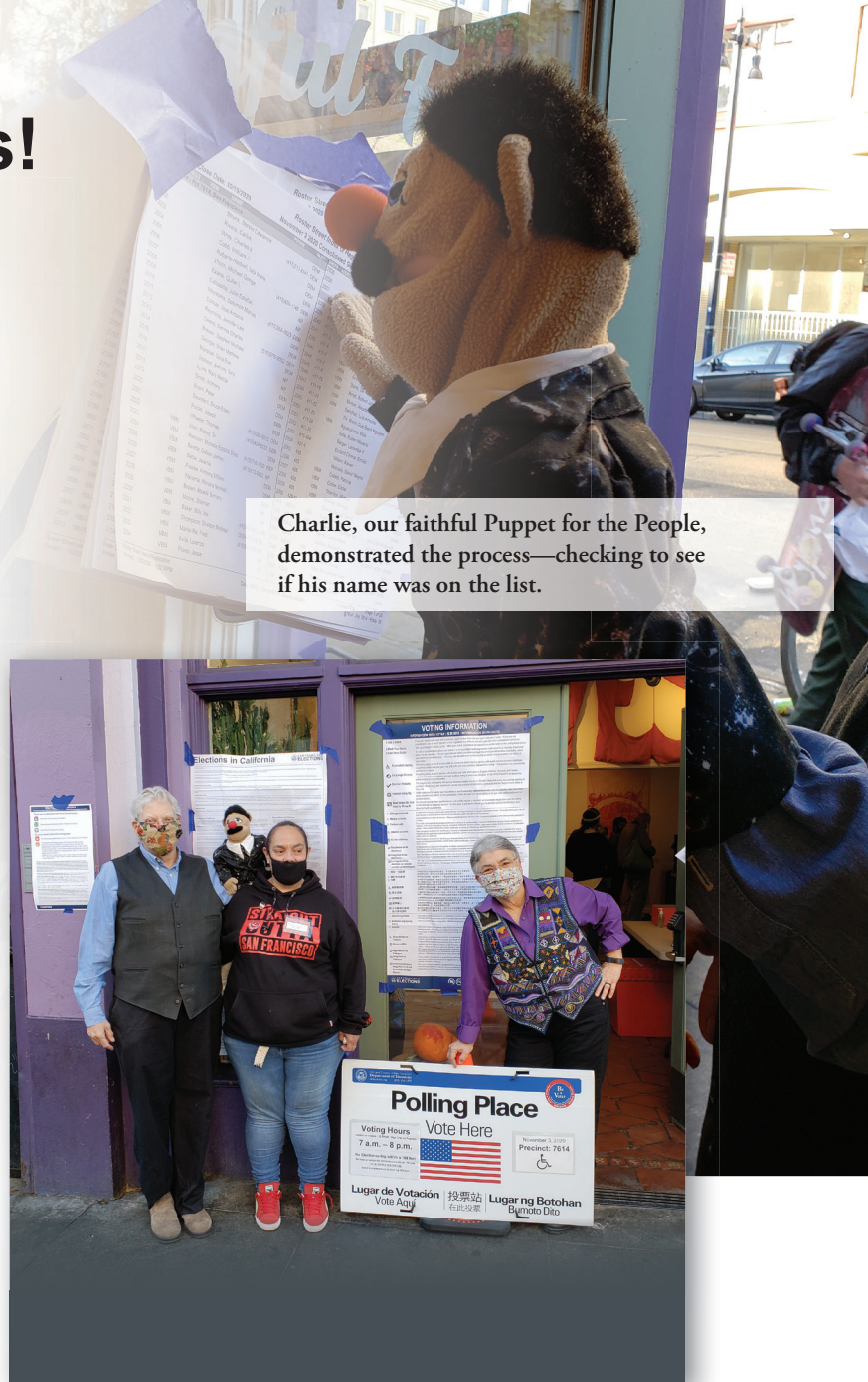
The Tenderloin votes!

Sister Carmen Barsody

Faithful Fools, together with other organizations and residents, take seriously the right to vote. We work together, not only to get out the vote and make voting accessible, but we also work together so people are registered ahead of time and informed about the issues and the candidates running for office.

In the past (pre-COVID) we were a place where people could come and learn how to read the materials sent out by the office of elections and how to look at the various sides of issues. As part of a citizen group called TL(Tenderloin) Votes, we would host sessions with candidates running for public office so residents could have a chance to come to know them, ask challenging questions and make an informed vote for themselves and the well-being of the larger community. It is part of our mission to be a place of education and advocacy. We value deeply being a multi-cultural community with many diverse strengths and needs.

In the midst of differing opinions, we work together. This year, though we could not bring people from the neighborhood together for informative meetings due to shelter-in-place orders, we were able to be a polling place. Chucky, one of the people we have walked with for many years, has worked the polls on election day for the past few years. This year we loved having her at Faithful Fools to welcome people and make sure everyone was registered when they arrived.



Charlie, our faithful Puppet for the People, demonstrated the process—checking to see if his name was on the list.