

## Doing Our Part for the Election

We are just a little bit over a month from the November General Election. We will be voting on Governor, both Federal House & Senate seats and other things. This is a good time to call on the Lord. I know none of us want to see another debacle like we had in November 2020. That was horrible. In reading through a book on prayer, I have come across Nehemiah's prayer in Nehemiah chapter 9. The people had come back to Jerusalem after being in captivity in Babylon for 70 years – this is about 10 years later. The people had intermarried with the people in the land around them. This is was huge taboo. God knew marrying a non-Jewish person would pull them away from worshipping Him. And that is what happened. The people had come together and were listening to God's Word being read. (It was the Pentateuch, (the first 5 books of our Bible). The people were heartbroken they had fallen so far away from God's will, and they were willing to do whatever God wanted them to do in order for them to be right with Him.

The U.S. is no different. We were founded as a Christian nation. Our Founding Fathers wanted desperately to be free to worship God the way they wanted – not according to the king's wishes. (Keep in mind that since King Henry the VIII, the reigning monarch of Great Britain is the head of the Church of England, Founded in 1534).

We are supposed to have religious freedom in the United States, along with a huge host of other freedoms that have appeared to go by the way side. I encourage you to read both books, Ezra and Nehemiah and pray the prayers they prayed. Humble yourselves (this is me talking to me, too), and ask God to forgive us for falling so far away from His Word and what He wants from/for each of us. Determine in your own heart and mind to walk closer to Him, doing as His Word requires. Put away those things that you know don't please Him, and spend even 5 minutes more in His Word, in prayer, and ask Him how you (I) can please Him.

I'm not asking that we bargain with God. I'm suggesting and encouraging a huge return to Him and His ways. As you read both Ezra (he was a priest) and Nehemiah (he was a cupbearer to the king of Babylon who became governor of Israel), look what they had the citizens of Jerusalem did in repentance. If we want the freedoms we've had in the past, then we have to look to the Lord and ask Him to restore the freedoms He gave us through our Founding Fathers and the Constitution.

If you remember the study with did with Pastor Jerry about the founding of our country way back in 2008, you will remember that our Founding Father's made a covenant with God. We have not kept that covenant in a very long time. I know that those of us at First Lutheran Church of Oklahoma City are not fully responsible for what is wrong with our country, but I also know every one of us has played a small part in helping things deteriorate. Whether we're talking about language, or not keeping our word, fudging on things here and there – we have all sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23)

What I'm saying is repent – determine in your own heart and mind to walk more faithfully, and ask God to turn things around in this nation. He may, or He may not, but we need to do what we can to make things right. This will bring glory and honor to Him. To God be the Glory.

Penny Lee

## Prayer for the American Government

Father, in Jesus' name, we give thanks for the United States and its government. We pray and intercede for the leaders in our land: the President, the representatives, the senators, the judges, the governors, the mayors, the police officers, and all those in authority over us in any way. We pray that the Spirit of the Lord rests upon them.

We believe that skillful and godly wisdom has entered into the heart of our President and knowledge is pleasant to him. Discretion watches over him; understanding keeps him and delivers him from evil.

Father, we ask that You encircle the President with people who make their hearts and ears attentive to godly counsel and do right in Your sight. We believe You cause them to be people of integrity who are obedient concerning us that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. We pray that the upright shall dwell in our government, that leaders blameless and complete in Your sight shall remain but the wicked shall be cut off.

Your Word declares that “blessed is nation whose God is the LORD” (Psalm 33:12). We receive Your blessing. Father, You are our Refuge and Stronghold in times of trouble (high cost, destitution, and desperation). So we declare with our mouths that Your people dwell safely in this land, and we *prosper* abundantly. We are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus!

It is written in Your Word that the heart of the king is in the hand of the LORD, and You turn it whichever way You desire. We believe the heart of our leader is in Your hand and that his decisions are directed of the LORD.

We give thanks unto You that the good news of the Gospel is published in our land. The Word of the Lord prevails and grows mightily in the hearts and lives of the people. We give thanks for this land and the leaders You have given to us, in Jesus’ Name.

*Jesus is LORD over the United States. Amen.*

1 Timothy 2:1-3

Deuteronomy 28:10,11

Proverbs 2:10-12,21,22; 21:1

Romans 8:37 (Amplified)

Psalms 9:9; 33:12

Acts 12:24

Copeland, Germaine. (2004). *Prayers that avail Much for Women. Pocket Edition.* Pg. 80-81. Roswell, GA

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. (Romans 13:1-7 ESV)

Don't forget, as good citizens, it is our duty to get out and vote. So, **November 8<sup>th</sup>, go vote**, vote according to the Word of God to the best of your ability.

As I was reading the above passage, I noticed that it says, “*for he is God's servant for your good..*” (Romans 13:4) If you're like me, you look at our current President and wonder how he can be there for our good. Well, I have noticed a lot more people talking openly about their faith – calling on the Lord because life is getting a little precarious. Money is not stretching as far as it once did, we are having to get a little more creative in our meal planning, we're having to plan our trips to the store so we don't waste gasoline, and we have a promise that things will get worse. Our nation has not prosecuted people who have broken laws because of who they are. Leaders (mayors/governors) have allowed violence to erupt with no consequences because they want to teach the general population, they have the power. Well, regardless of how this particular President got into office remember the one verse in these verses:

**there is no authority except from God,  
and those that exist have been instituted by God**

The good that has come from this man being in office is that people are turning to the Lord more. It is causing us as a nation to stop looking to government to take care of us and lift our eyes to heaven and look to Him who is truly in charge to take care of our needs. So, again, I want to remind you that you have a Christian obligation to go vote, and to vote according to the Word of God. Also, pray about your vote, and every other voting persons vote. Ask God to intervene on our behalf. Then, no matter what, you have done all you can. Praise Him for His goodness. To God be all the glory! Amen.

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# Annual Budget Meeting

## October 30

### After Worship Service

Date	Reader	Date	Usher
2	Sue Wackerly	2	Michelle Brennan
9	Bill Heierding	9	Joan Heierding
16	Chuck Gray	16	Carol Gray
23	Michelle Brennan	23	Sue Wackerly
30	Gary Jo Lee	30	

*Communion Deacon: Bill Heierding*  
*Alternate: Chuck Gray*

*Altar Guild: Laura Waller*



### **School/Office Supplies**

Pencil sharpeners 51	Glue Sticks 88
Erasers 39	Scissors (Adult) 10
Construction paper 1500 pages	Scissors (Children's) 17
Mechanical Pencils 100	Rulers 5
Colored Pencils (12 pk) 30	Markers 100
Pencil top Erasers 250	Office Sets 3
Pencils 552	

### **Hygiene Items**

Wash cloths 82  
Toothbrushes 108  
Hair brushes 4  
Combs 10

### **Toys**

Small Stuffed Animals 29  
Barbie type Dolls 12  
Baby Dolls 4  
Jump Ropes 71  
Pumps (for blowing up balls) 4  
Sun Visors 4

### **Clothes/Shoes**

Flip Flops 4 pair

### **NEED:**

“WOW” gifts (i.e. soccer balls, baseballs)  
Bars of Soap  
More of all of the above.

## October Birthdays, 2022

<b>3 Angela Glass</b>	<b>6 Zach Forsberg</b>
<b>8 Brian White</b>	<b>8 Penelope Griffin</b>
<b>11 John Brennan</b>	<b>16 Gary Jo Lee</b>
<b>22 Betty Ray</b>	<b>25 Will Griffin</b>



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		<b>October</b>	<b>2022</b>			1 1 Timothy 4-6
2 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Children's SS 9:45 Worship Service w/Communion 11:00 Titus 1-3	3 Angela Glass	4 1 Peter 1-3	5 1 Peter 4-5	6 Zach Forsberg Mid-Week Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Jude	7 2 Peter 1-3	8 Penelope Griffin Brian White
9 <b>Council Mtg. 8:30</b> Adult Bible Study 9:30 Children's SS 9:45 Worship Service 11:00	10	11 John Brennan	12 <b>NO BIBLE STUDY</b>	13 <b>NO BIBLE STUDY</b> 1 John 1-3	14	15 Hebrews 1 - 3
Hebrews 4-6	Hebrews 7-9	Hebrews 10-11	←————— Pastor – Out Of Town (Vacation) —————→			2 John /3 John
16 Gary Jo Lee Adult Bible Study 9:30 Children's SS 9:45 Worship Service w/Communion 11:00 <b>Pastor out of Town</b> Rev 1:1-3:22	17	18	19 Rev. 7	20 Mid-Week Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Rev 10-12	21 Rev 13-16	22 Betty Ray
23 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Children's SS 9:45 Worship Service 11:00 Rev. 19-22	24	25 Clergy Appreciation Luncheon 11-1 Will Griffin		27 Mid-Week Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	2	29
30 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Children's SS 9:45 Worship Service 11:00 <b>ANNUAL BUDGET</b> <b>MTG.</b>	31					