



GRACE

HAPPENINGS

A WORD FROM PASTOR STEVE:

The following was written by Max Lucado in 2016 and it continues to speak volumes as to what this upcoming election day should look like for Christians, regardless of the election results. I am reminded of David's words in Psalm 27 as he wraps it up in verse 14: "Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord." I have taken the liberty to update the dates in this article.

We are really ready for this presidential election to be over. We're ready for an end to the rancor and tackiness. Voters on both sides feel frustrated, even embarrassed by it all. There is a visceral fear, an angst about the result. What if so and so wins? When we wake up to November 4th, post-election, when the confetti is swept away and the election is finally over, what will we see?

I have a prediction. I know exactly what November 4th will bring. Another day of God's perfect sovereignty. He will still be in charge. His throne will still be occupied. He will still manage the affairs of the world. Never before has His providence depended on a king, president, or ruler. And it won't on November 4, 2020. "The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord; He turns it wherever He wishes." (Proverbs 21:1 NASB)

On one occasion the Lord turned the heart of the King of Assyria so that he aided them in the construction of the Temple. On another occasion, He stirred the heart of Cyrus to release the Jews to return to Jerusalem. Nebuchadnezzar was considered to be the mightiest king of his generation. But God humbled and put him in "detention" for seven years. "For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations." (Psalms 22:28 NASB)

Understanding God's sovereignty over the nations opens the door to peace. When we realize that God influences the hearts of all rulers, we can then choose to pray for them rather than

fret about them. Rather than wring our hands we bend our knees, we select prayer over despair.

Jeremiah did this. He was the prophet to Israel during one of her darkest periods of rebellion. He was called "the weeping prophet" because he was one. He wept at the condition of the people and the depravity of their faith. He was so distraught that one of his books was entitled Lamentations. But then he considered the work of God. Note the intentionality of his words: "This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. The Lord's loving kindnesses indeed never cease, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; Great is Thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:21-23)

Imitate Jeremiah. Lift up your eyes. Dare to believe that good things will happen. Dare to believe that God was speaking to us when He said: "...God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God." (Romans 8:28)

Many years ago, I spent a week visiting the interior of Brazil with a long-time missionary pilot. He flew a circuit of remote towns in a small plane that threatened to come undone at the slightest gust of wind. Wilbur and Orville had a sturdier aircraft. I could not get comfortable. I kept thinking that the plane was going to crash in some Brazilian jungle and I'd be gobbled up by piranhas or swallowed by an anaconda. I kept shifting around, looking down, and gripping my seat. (As if that would help.) Finally, the pilot had had enough of my squirming. He looked at me and shouted over the airplane noise. "We won't face anything I can't handle. You might as well trust me to fly the plane."

Building Together

NOVEMBER 2020

"and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near."

Hebrews 10:24-25

Is God saying the same to you? If so, make this your prayer: "Dear Lord, You are perfect. You could not be better than You are. You exist because You choose to exist. You are self-sustaining. No one helps You. No one gives You strength. You are self-governing. Who can question Your deeds? Who dares advise You? You are correct. In every way. In every choice. You regret no decision. You have never failed. Never! You cannot fail! You are God! You will accomplish Your plan. You are happy. Eternally joyful. Endlessly content. You are the king and supreme ruler of all history. An arch of your eyebrow and a million angels will pivot and salute. Every throne is a footstool to Yours. Every crown is papier-mâché to Yours. No limitations, hesitations, questions, second thoughts, or backward glances. You consult no clock. You keep no calendar. You report to no one. You are in charge. And I trust you."

Circle November 4th on your calendar and write upon it the words: Our good God rules the world.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

Wilma Davidson
Jack and Julie Lindsey

Carol Sarver
Rita Brewer



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Sunday:	8:15	Contemporary Worship
	9:30	Sunday School
	10:45	Traditional Worship (also live via Facebook)
	6:30	Evening Worship Service / Against the Flow Youth (1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Sundays)
Wednesday:	7:00	Bible Study & Prayer for Adults (also live via Facebook) Against the Flow Youth
Rev. Steve Warner		Pastor



**Hungry?
Why Not Purchase a Sub or Pretzel
Sandwich to Support GBC Missions**

Orders Due: Sunday, November 8
 Pick Up Sandwiches: Wednesday, November 18
 Order Forms are in your mailboxes with extra on the table in
 sanctuary and downstairs usher stand

COMMUNION SERVICE
 Sunday, November 15
 6:30 p.m.

THANK YOU
Lord
Sunday

Sunday, November 22
 Regular morning services and Sunday School will be held
 A luncheon will follow the 10:45 service
 Meat and beverage will be provided
 Bring a side dish **and** dessert to share
 Sign-up sheets are at entrances to church

Goal for the special offering is \$14,000
 to be used for Missionary Christmas gifts and Building Fund

Food items will be collected to provide Thanksgiving Baskets
 to those in need. Give your deacon names of those who would
 benefit by receiving a basket. Place your food items to fill the
 baskets in the back of the sanctuary.

Evening Service/Activities will not be held

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Tuesday, November 24
7:00 p.m.

Though life may bring us trials, we are not alone. And though offering up thanksgiving in the midst of those trials may be a sacrifice, it is a rewarding one.

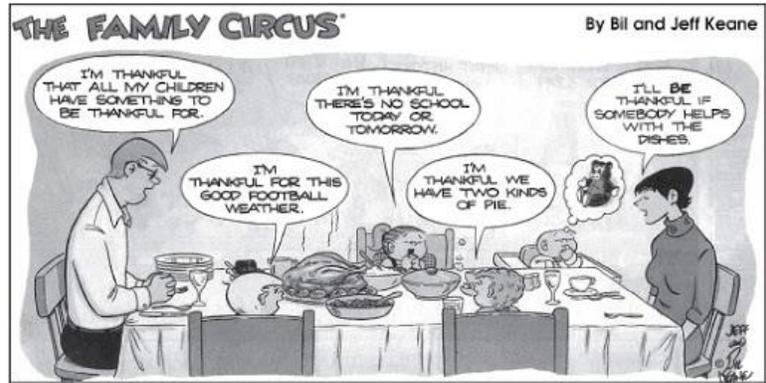
“When I look at those pieces of my life that look overwhelmingly difficult or disappointing and can thank God for whatever good He plans to bring out of them, I am offering a sacrifice of praise. When I can entrust what looks like something that is broken beyond repair to my heavenly Father’s goodness and love, I am offering a sacrifice of praise.”

This world and the life we live in it is often a thankfulness-stealer. But in Christ, we know that we can “Rejoice always” (1 Thessalonians 5:16) because the trials and hard times are not a test, but another reason to trust God who is working all for our good and has already given us “all things that pertain to life and godliness” (2 Peter 1:3).

What prevents you from being thankful this Thanksgiving? How can you seek to have thankfulness through the trials?

~April Motl

It’s time to select a Sunday School class for the Winter Quarter which starts December 6. Check your church mailbox for your elective sheet and don’t wait—make your decision and return to the CE basket above mailboxes right away!!



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