

I received this thoughtful email this week from Greg Taylor of Wine-skins magazine. It concerns Tuesday's presidential election so I thought I would share it with you this morning. Curtis

A Call to Pray for the Election

I've gotten one too many emails saying there's only one way my prayers can be answered on November 4.

Are you undecided? Confused and fatigued? Perhaps it's because your conscience says this line of reasoning in the emails does not ring true. Not theologically. Not biblically true. Not politically true. Not true in our experience or historically. Not even true using basic horse sense.

Why not rather pray for discernment, decisiveness, and humility, realizing that the person you vote for, if elected president, will make more world-changing decisions in one day than we'll make in a lifetime?

Yet, the future of our world does not rest on the shoulders of the elected president, much less a particular one.

Your nerves may be shot but don't get caught up in the polarizing cross-fire. Pray for wisdom and God will give it to you. As foolish as email forwards are getting these last days before the election, this is a call to stop forwarding them and pray instead with an open heart for our nation and the world. Pray the Lord's Prayer, that God's will be done, not a party's will be done. Below is a real live "forward to a friend" button to practice resisting the temptation. Don't do it. Just read on.

This week on the Writer's Almanac, Garrison Keillor quoted John Adams, who said, "Democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There was never a democracy that did not commit suicide."

Are we in danger of committing democra-cide?

Isn't it ironic that we are now trying to nurture democratic nations internationally while we rush headlong into the fire that burns with a white hot passionate hatred toward people different from us in our own nation? And we're just talking about people in different parties, to say nothing of the other racial, religious, social ways we express disunity and hatred.

How many times in the last few weeks have you uttered, "He's an idiot" or "She's an idiot" about a candidate or friend who emailed you a newly minted narrative to discredit a candidate? If we think we can barely live in a world led by the party we oppose, what does that say about our world view, what we trust in.

This week, Newsweek's Sally Quinn and Jon Meacham asked the question, "Is there a religious reason to vote for or against Obama or McCain?"

Judging from the pile of desperate emails we're getting, the answer is

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A Call to Pray for the Election (continued)

yes. And many on both sides of the aisle believe there are religious reasons to vote for one or the other party or candidate.

I'm of the party of people who have grown exasperated at the notion that religion can only be expressed through one particular party. That doesn't make me a Republican or Democrat. My conservative friends think I'm a Democrat. My liberal friends probably think I'm Republican.

My voter card still says Independent. Maybe next time I get a card, I'll ask if they can record "Christian" on my party affiliation. Because I'm a Christian who believes a particular political party or candidate is not the answer to my prayers.

Shane Claiborne and more than 2000 years of Christian teaching is right. Jesus is our Messiah, not a political candidate. So perhaps we ought to write in Jesus for President this year. Perhaps not.

No, Jesus told his disciples he didn't come to be president. They trusted in political power, and we are just as guilty as they were about this.

Our vote is for someone to protect and defend the constitution of our nation, to be a good leader and caretaker of what we think we own right now, not a Republican or Democratic or Independent Messiah.

So this is a call to disable your email over the weekend, get some fresh air, sleep, read the Bible, pray, and when you go vote—one of the great rights we have in a democracy—go in the knowledge that God is sovereign, the king over all the earth.

Greg Taylor
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Sunday morning schedule

Bible classes.....9:30 am
Worship service.....10:30 am

North Pointe Shepherds

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North Pointe Web Page
www.northpointecofc.org



"Pointing People to Real Life"

November 2, 2008

Order of Worship

Opening Songs
Welcome & Call to Worship

Song: *Shout Hallelujah*
Song: *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High*

Scripture Reading

Song: *Hear, O Israel*
Song: *I Love You, Lord*

Communion

Song: *Amazing Grace*
Song: *Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?*

Offering

(Children's Offering* and kids dismissed to Children's Worship**)
Song: *Make Me a Servant*

Message

Song: *Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord*
"Face-to-Face"***

Family News

Scripture Reading
Song: *O Lord, Our Lord*

New to North Pointe and have children?

Children are an important part of the North Pointe church. For this reason we offer the following opportunities for children during our worship service:

Nursery: A staffed nursery with pagers for parents, is provided during the worship service. The nursery for babies, toddlers and two year olds is located in E Hall past the restrooms. A separate, non-staffed nursery is also available for parents to use as needed.

***Children's Offering:** To teach our children the discipline of giving we provide them an opportunity to contribute in a visible way. This money is used for various ministries.

****Children's Worship:** Because children have their own unique level of learning and expression we offer a special worship period for children 3 years of age through 2nd grade. Children are dismissed to Children's Worship following the Children's offering.

***What is "Face-to-Face with God"?

This time during our worship service allows three opportunities for personal prayer. Your may: 1) remain in your seat and spend time privately praying to God, 2) go to the back of the cafeterium where a member of our prayer team will pray for you or with you, privately and confidentially, or 3) come to the front row of seats with your public prayer request where the prayer leader will include your request in his prayer concluding this period.

This Week's Bible Reading Schedule

Date	New Testament	Old Testament
Monday, 11/3	John 14	Ezekiel 17-20
Tuesday, 11/4	John 15	Ezekiel 21-24
Wednesday, 11/5	John 16	Ezekiel 25-28
Thursday, 11/6	John 17	Ezekiel 29-32
Friday, 11/7	John 18	Ezekiel 33-36
Saturday, 11/8	Reflection*	Reflection
Sunday, 11/9	Reflection	Reflection

*Saturdays and Sundays are reserved as days to re-read and reflect upon previous readings, or catch up on readings missed during the week.

North Pointe News

Thank You

Thanks so much for all the prayers and support during Tommy's recovery. Special thanks to the children for all the great cards and best wishes. The visits from the Pastor and church family were so greatly appreciated. See you soon in church.

God Bless All,
Lisa and Tommy (neighbors of **Richard & Linda Knox**)

This Week

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, November 5

10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Home of **Deanna Priebe**

316 Love Bird Lane, Murphy

Future Events

Baby Blessing Day

Sunday, November 16

We will be blessing six babies on this Sunday. We need to fill up baskets with baby stuff! Please be bringing items for the baskets. Suggested items: travel size wet wipes, baby lotions, shampoo, miniature picture frames, socks or any kind of smaller items for babies that will fit into the baskets.

Special Contribution for Orphan Sunday

Sunday, November 16

Lifeline of Hope currently brings aid and assistance to 20,000 homeless children in 11 countries. You will have an opportunity to give to this organization that supplies many needs for orphans.

Holiday Open House

Sunday, December 7

3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Home of **John and Stephan Cathey**
3265 Heatherbrook Lane, Richardson

"... so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation in which you shine like stars in the universe ..."
Philippians 2:15



Today

Leadership Training for Christ

Bible Bowl Practice

4:15 to 5:15 p.m. at the church office

Bring a pencil, three colors of highlighters, and your Bible.

Be sure to read John 1 before you come today.

This Week

Children's Chorus

Wednesday, November 5

6:45 p.m. at the church office

Future Events

God's Girls

Sunday, November 9

12:30 to 1:45 p.m. at the church office

Bring your lunch.

God's Soldiers

Sunday, November 9

3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the church office

Baby Blessing Day

Sunday, November 16

Christmas Cookie Party

Saturday, December 6

1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the church office

Christmas Musical "Visions of Christmas"

Presented Sunday, December 14

9:30 a.m.

Leadership Training for Christ

Friday, April 10 – 11, 2009

Beverly Ritz

North Pointe Youth Ministry

Today

Leadership Training for Christ

Bible Bowl Practice

4:15 to 5:15 p.m. at the church office

Bring a pencil, three colors of highlighters, and your Bible.

Be sure to read John 1 before you come today.

This Week

Teen Pointe Group

Wednesday, November 5

7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Home of **Mike and Frances Campbell**

6006 Pleasant Valley Road, Wylie

Matt Lee

Record for Sunday, October 26

Worship Attendance: 176

General Offering: \$3,066.00

Children's Offering: \$30.83

Future Facilities Offering: \$200.00