

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord



### **Providence Presbyterian Bustling's**

Sunday, November 1, 2020

reetings! Today is Sunday, November 1st. The 29th Sunday in ordinary time and the 21st Sunday after Pentecost, as well as All Saints Day.

All Saints Day is a Christian solemnity celebrated in honor of all the saints, known and unknown. Its intent is to celebrate all the saints, including those who do not, or no longer, are celebrated individually, either because the number of saints has become so great or because they were celebrated in groups, after suffering martyrdom collectively.



### As We Go To The Polls

### Randy York

Four more years? Thankfully, it's only three more days until Election Day. The constant stream of commercials, the barrage of red/blue pundits, and the anxiety laced rhetoric is all near an end. Fourteen billion dollars will have been spent to gain election to jobs whose average annual salary lies between \$175,000 and \$400,000. How do we attribute trust to candidates who make the truth a casualty every time they open their mouths? The debate is mercifully almost over, but a question may linger, is the burden on us for the election's outcome or is it all on God?

The balance between faith and action is a fragile one. Each day we face situations that force us to choose between trusting ourselves and trusting God. Is it truly an either/or equation or can a balance exist?

In Nehemiah Chapter 4, Nehemiah wrestles with just that issue. After 70 years in captivity, a remnant of the Jewish nation has been allowed to return to Jerusalem. They find a city in ruins, with its walls broken and its gates burned by fire. They petition Nehemiah in despair for help. Nehemiah relates the problem to the Persian king he is serving and with the king's blessing, Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem to lead the rebuilding of the wall for the city's defense. The project is moving along until enemies of the Jewish people plot to ambush the workers and put an end to the project. In God's wisdom, Nehemiah discovers the plot and has a choice to make. Does he trust God to protect them or does he take action so that they may protect themselves? His faith dictated that if God had called him to this work, he will protect them.

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Fear would say that the enemy was strong and how can you know for sure that God will indeed offer protection? The workers on the wall added to his anxiety by "again and again" reminding him of the danger and insisting on action. Nehemiah knew two things, first, that God had called him to this work, and second, that God would help him to see it through.

His answer to the predicament casts a light to us when we are confronted with the tension between trusting God and acting on our own. Nehemiah 4:9 tells us, "We prayed to our God and guarded the city day and night to protect ourselves." His action shows us that we should take whatever reasonable action God leads us in to satisfy the needs of the moment, but in the end, we must trust God to care for us. Nehemiah found the balance. He sought God's counsel, acted wisely and trusted God for the outcome. Pray and work, trust and act.

As we move toward Tuesday remember in deference to the folks who trot out the verse from 2 Chronicles 7:14 to attribute to America, "If My people, who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." This is not a verse for America. There is no modern nation that God will address as "My people." It is a verse for the people of God. It is not to glorify America, it is a call for the people of God to live like the people of God. It calls us to come to grip with ourselves and our relationship with our loving, merciful God, to know we have a civic duty, but a higher calling. In that spirit, vote to make a difference as the people of God, but remember God is in control. As Randy Scruggs sang: "It's a mighty world we live in, but the truth is we're only passing through."

PS: The Burlington Food Pantry provided food to 109 families this past Wednesday.





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From All of Us — For Polly Grobelny, Who was exposed to the virus last week. God's protection and good health.

Becky Jensen — For continued *prayers* for the **PNC** as they carry on their mission.

From All of Us — For Brynna. A 7 year old fight lymphoma cancer.

From All Of Us — Continued <u>prayers</u> for Wendy Kasper.

Barbara York — God's Healing and comfort for Liz Duffy.

Sheila Zier — Prayers for healing and strength and encouragement for her daughter, Brittany Zier as she is battling a serious long term disease.

Michelle Cox — <u>Prayers</u> of healing, comfort, encouragement & strength for her mother, Jennifer as she is battling serious long term illnesses.

Margo Mattis — For her Mother, Jean Miller

Robin McCarter — For her Mother, Betty Jenkins who is residing in the Masonic Home.

For All of us — Safety and God's blessing as we continue live worship services.

**Bring your Requests to Services On Sunday** 

#### Blessings — Anniversaries — Birthdays

Betsy Reeder — The birth of Hudson Andrew, son of Andrew and Katie Reeder (and little brother of Landon!) on October 29th. (Her son and daughter-in-law).

Eileen Hill — November 3



### Bustleton's Best — Church Cookbook Recipe of the Week

We have arrived at the confluence of the end of Apple Harvest and the time we usually prepare for the annual Roast Beef Dinner. Sadly, there is no Roast Beef Dinner this year because of course it is 2020 and everything is off. That does not mean we can't enjoy this annual tradition in our own homes and fondly recall festive dinners past.

#### **Enjoy & Thanks Annette!**



#### **Apple Pie Dessert**

Annette Slaney

"This recipe is from a friend of mine and has become a favorite as the standard dessert offering at our annual Roast Beef Dinners. This recipe is only for a single pie, but it can easily be doubled, tripled, or even quadrupled and made in a quarter, half, or full size serving pan. Use whatever type of apple you like to bake with, I prefer Stayman Winesap. I like more crust so often I make 2 pies at a time and then triple the crust recipe."

5-6 large apples cinnamon sugar 1 stick of butter 1 egg

1 pinch salt 1 cup flour 3/4 cup sugar

Peel and core the apples and cut into chunks. Place in a bowl and sprinkle the apple pieces with cinnamon sugar and stir until all the pieces are coated. Place the apples into a greased deep dish pie plate (9 inch). Melt the butter and take off heat. Beat in the egg then add salt. Mix in the flour and sugar and spread over top of apples. Bake at 350 for about 1 hour till crust is lightly brown all over.



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### Name That Youth!

**So,** Who is this young lad resplendent with golden curls, bright eyes and broad smile. He was in the sanctuary last week, and he was in front of all of you the whole time. It was none other than the Reverend Dr. Jim Kraft! Thanks for joining the game Jim!



Now let us turn our attention to the left, and in particular the young lad on the left. He is a mainstay here at our church. Bonus points awarded if you can also name either his brother on the right or his cousin in the center.



Send your guess in for bragging rights, or better yet send in some photos of your own to join the game!





Don't Forget to turn your clocks back one hour tonight. Your penance for failing to do so will land you one extra hour in Church because you will arrive early!

Also now is the time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Stay Ready — Stay Alive!

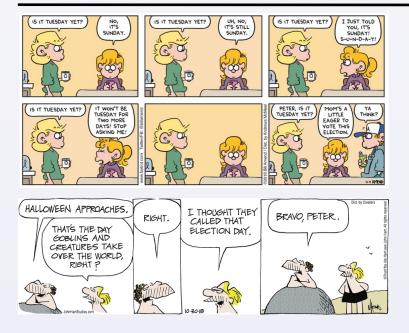


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Remember! "Annette Slaney's daughter, Emma, has started an Etsy shop selling her beautiful resin art craft items. Please take a visit to the shop and keep it in mind while you are Christmas shopping this year!" If you are reading this online simply click on her ad to link straight to her shop.



Check out Emma Slaney's new shop for handmade resin homegoods and gifts!





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#### STAY SAFE! - MASK UP! - WASH HANDS! - KEEP AT SAFE DISTANCES!

