

A Word From the Publisher

Geez...it's hard to believe it's August and we have five months left in 2024! I can't even believe it. And now, in 12 days, school will be starting. Time flies, whether you're having fun or not. How very important it is to live life to the fullest each and every day, as we don't know what tomorrow may bring.

August also brings for us an election. This week, we have a 'Meet the Candidates' section in the center of the paper. All candidates were sent a questionnaire and most responded. Please make sure to take time to read through them to help you make your decision of your choice, before you head to the polls. Early voting will begin next week on Wednesday, August 7, allowing people to vote at any of the voting precincts within the county. Election Day is Tuesday, August 20 and if you haven't voted by then, you have to vote in your precinct listed on your Voter Registration Card. Most of the candidates in this primary election are local candidates. The General Election will not be held until November. Just remember when you're trying to decide your candidate (in the Primary and General Elections), do your homework. Read about them and find out what they stand for on different polices. Most important, pray about your choices.

Our world is completely broken. We must be serious about our options, starting at the local level. Somehow, we, the people, have forgotten that we live in the most wonderful country in the world. God has blessed America completely. Sometimes I feel like we (me included) have become a selfish bunch of spoiled brats that don't really stand for anything. As long as 'our' world is not disturbed, we can't be bothered with all this nonsense

that has been going on. Remember, our God created us all to be responsible God-fearing people and productive citizens. All He asked is that we turn from our sins and this sinful world and look to Him for guidance each day.

Pastor Ryan shared Sunday, how appalled we are were to get a glimpse (as I didn't see all of it) the opening ceremony at the Olympics. What did we expect? These are lost people living like the world does and yes, it is so sad. That's how lost people are. They have no hope. It's truly past time for us to stop being okay with everything and stand up for what we believe in. Right is right and wrong is wrong. There is no gray area.

I pray to God Almighty to heal our country and our people. I know, from reading biblical times, that life back then was much worse than we are however, we are on a fine line. God is our only hope. If you haven't asked Him to come into your life and be your Savior and Lord and ask forgiveness of your sins, and turn from your sins, there's no time like the present. Only Jesus can give us life eternal not man. Feel free to come and talk to me or visit any of our churches to find out more about my Jesus.

Make sure to do your constitutional right to cast your ballot. As an American, I am so proud to have this honor to vote. I still remember my daddy making me register immediately when I turned 18 and I've been voting ever since!

God bless you all and God Bless America!

Dawn S. West