

The Lakeview Lamp

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105

October 29, 2006

Getting Out the Vote

J. Randal Matheny

Run-off elections for Brazil's presidential race are set for October 27. President Lula, up for reelection, expected to sweep the country in the first round. Corruption scandals tightened the race, Lula refused to join a televised debate, and elections wound up in the run-off. Now, both candidates are working hard to sway voters and get out the vote. Lula tries to smother an investigation of his underlings who illegally offered millions for supposedly damaging information against the opposing party.

The USA will also shortly hold elections. According to reports, one party is discouraging hostile voters from voting, and all parties are working to get voters favorable to their candidates and positions to the polls. Politicians and parties spend millions to win elections. They chart strategies they think will win, hire specialists to spin campaigns, and build up networks to register people and get them to the polls.

No effort is spared to elect candidates. Sometimes party radicals or even government officials resort to illegal means to guarantee (re)election. No idea or strategy is considered out of bounds if it will get out the vote.

I wonder. What if we in the Lord's church put out that kind of effort to save souls? We certainly won't go beyond Scripture, like some, to attract people at all costs. We will remain true to the Word in every possible detail. But with that necessary restriction stated, what would happen if we single-mindedly put the saving of souls at the top of our agenda, made salvation of all people our priority, and refused to cut corners or count the cost of preaching the whole gospel to the whole world?

Paul wrote, *"I have become all things to all people, so that BY ALL MEANS I may save some"* (1 **Corinthians 9:22**, NET). What would happen if we made, on behalf of souls, the same effort politicians make for votes? After all, isn't that what we're all about? Jesus seemed to think so. He died to make it happen.



Preacher's point – What are you willing to do to “get out the vote” for Jesus? What are you willing to do to try and lead lost souls to Him? It is worth whatever the cost may be.

One Man and One Woman

Troy Nicholson

On next week's ballot you will find "The Tennessee Marriage Protection Amendment." It reads as follows:

"The historical institution and legal contract solemnizing the relationship of one man and one woman shall be the only legally recognized marital contract in this state. Any policy or law or judicial interpretation, purporting to define marriage as anything other than the historical institution and legal contract between one man and one woman is contrary to the public policy of this state and shall be void and unenforceable in Tennessee. If another state or foreign jurisdiction issues a license for persons to marry and if such marriage is prohibited in this state by the provisions of this section, then the marriage shall be void and unenforceable in this state."

Voting "yes" for this amendment is a vote for God's design from the beginning. As Jesus said, "*Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female, [qyb://0/anchor/6](#) and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? [qyb://0/anchor/7](#) So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate*" (**Matthew 19:4-6**). God designed marriage to be with one man and one woman, and you can proclaim this design by voting "yes" for this amendment.

This is not a vote about politics but about morals. While we cannot legislate morality (make people live right by passing certain laws), we can institute laws that reflect God's desire for His creation.

Homosexuals – those who are living contrary to God's design (**Romans 1:26-27**, etc.) – are doing all that they can to gain rights that God never intended them to have. We need to do what we can to prevent this from happening. Vote for God's design. Vote "yes" for "The Tennessee Marriage Protection Amendment."

"The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; the LORD has clothed and girded Himself with strength." – Psalm 93:1

Family News

Mary Burnett was admitted to SRMC Friday night. She has fluid build up around her heart. She has had this before.

Metty Fain is in Room B2, 215 Highland Circle Dr, Portland TN 37148.

Elmo Ferrell is doing better this weekend.

Barry Fultz is scheduled to go to the Mayo Clinic on November 6th.

Sandra Hunt saw the heart doctor as scheduled on Thursday. This Tuesday morning she is scheduled to have an arteriogram. Overall, she continues to not do very well.

Remember **Fran Pickens**. She remains about the same.

Cotton Read continues to have problems breathing. **Nancy** is having some stomach problems.

Laura Reed's birthday is today.

Ame White had an MRI on Friday. It did not go well and took all day.

With joy it is reported that the **Williams (Randy & Peggy and Margaret, Elizabeth & Catherine)** family has decided to worship and work with Lakeview. They have attending with us, but if you have not met them please do so. Their phone number is 672-5992. Their address is:

153 S. Palmers Chapel Rd. White House TN 37188

Robert Wray again has increased eye pain. Do not know why.

New Reports: None received.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **David Bansemer** (gone in AM, here in PM); **Allen Malone** (here today, leaves for Vietnam on Thursday); **Jennifer Nicholson**

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"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).