

# River Drive Reporter

River Drive Christian Church Publication

July 2017

Shortly after last year's presidential election, the Washington Post ran a story with the tagline: "**Half of the country is full of hope. The other half is horrified.**" And today, there are some who believe that our President can make America great again, while others believe that he is out to destroy all that we stand for. As for me, there are people that I care about on both sides of the issue.

As we approach Independence Day 2017, I want to share some thoughts about how we as Americans should respond to moving on as individuals and as a community of God's people. I believe there are three attitudes that we need to take under consideration throughout the remainder of this presidential term. These three attitudes will help us keep in perspective what really matters most.

First of all, we need to come with... **An attitude of RESPECT.**

Most would agree that our cultural climate today is more mean-spirited than ever before. Candidates no longer refer to one another as "*my worthy opponent.*" They just hurl insults and threats at one another ... and the idea of "*I respectfully disagree with your opinion,*" has all but disappeared. It's up to each of us to change this trend.

You can disagree with someone and still show respect and, even if you can't show respect for the individual, you can show respect for the office.

**1 Peter 2:17** says; "**Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.**" Peter was writing these words in turbulent times when the emperor considered the church to be his enemy, and he aggressively persecuted people for their faith in Jesus ... And yet, Peter says: **Honor the king.**

**Romans 13:6-7** says; "**Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor.**" Just as we are commanded in Scripture to honor our less-than-perfect father and mother, we are to honor, our less-than-perfect leaders. This doesn't mean that we don't hold them accountable. Absolutely we must hold them accountable.

Should we express our disagreement? Absolutely, **but it is possible to disagree with respect.** We cannot accomplish an attitude of unity when we look at the other side and say ... "*Look at what they did. They started it.*" This attitude is fit for the playground, but at some point those who are mature in their faith need to step up and do their part in changing the atmosphere around them. So let's make a commitment to proceed with an attitude of honor and respect toward those with whom we disagree. We can hammer out our differences without resorting to using real hammers.

We also need to approach others with ... **An attitude of PRAYER.**

**1 Timothy 2:1-2** says : "**I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone — for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.**"

I suspect that many of us spend more time complaining about our nation's leaders than we do praying for our nation's leaders. I hope that isn't true, but I imagine it is because it's easier to complain than it is to pray. But in this verse Paul *urges* us to pray. Urge is a strong word that he uses because he knows the situation is, in fact, urgent ... if not desperate. Remember, this is the Emperor Nero that Paul is urging his readers to pray for. Nero was anything but a friend of the church and yet Paul *urged* us to pray for him.

Whether or not it was your preferred candidate elected into office last year, we all now have the same responsibility moving forward: To pray for our president on a daily basis. Pray that he will take seriously his responsibility as leader of the free world, that he will perform the duties of his office with dignity and integrity, and that God will be able to use him in accomplishing God's plan for his people on planet earth.

That's a prayer that we need to pray for any leader, whether or not we voted for them. Our nation desperately needs those prayers.

Here's a third attitude we need to take into the coming presidential term ... **An attitude of TRUST.**

Some are celebrating the results of last year's election and others are mourning the results. It could be argued that both groups are wrong because they're looking in the wrong direction for hope. Our hope is not in any man, or any woman, or any leader, or any political platform. Even though we show honor to the king and we pray for the king, our hope is not *in* the king.

**Psalms 20:7** says; "**Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God.**"

Before the election some people were saying that the future of our nation depends on the outcome of that election. I respectfully disagree. Our hope for the future is not based on our government. Our hope for the future is base on our great God. It is in him we need to place our trust.

It goes without saying that we need to do everything we can do to be responsible citizens and promote healthy government. But above and beyond this, we need to put our trust in our God to control those matters that are beyond our control and watch over us every step of the way.

I would say that the future of this nation depends on you and me more so than any person who holds office. That's because we have the power to call on the One who holds all the power in the universe.

And that's what he's asked us to do: **2 Chronicles 7:14** says; ***"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from the wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."***

You personally can't determine what the president will do, or what the rest of America will do. But today you can decide what *you* will do, what kind of citizen *you* will be, what kind of believer *you* will be.

And you can say: *"I will put my trust in the name of the Lord my God, and I will demonstrate that trust by praying every day for our nation and our nation's leaders, and I will demonstrate that trust by treating others with honor and respect — even when I don't agree with them and they don't agree with me."*

It is this attitude of humble trust that he will honor ... and he will hear us ... and he will heal our land ... and he will be our God.

*Happy July!*

*We will be having Vacation Bible School July 17<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 to 8:30. The theme of VBS is "Hero Central: Discover your Strength through God." There is a sign-up sheet on the back table for volunteers. We need all the volunteers we can get for a fabulous VBS.*

*We will have the kick-off on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> with water inflatable's so come prepared to get wet and to have fun. We will also be taking a trip to Kings Island on July 6<sup>th</sup>. I will have a sign-up sheet on the back table and you can come and see me for more information.*

*Thank you,  
Judy*

## **You're In Our Prayers**

**Our Shut-Ins:** Carol Arthur, Tom & Libby Breeding, Mary Calmes, Emma McClain, Eunice Witt

**Our Members:** Art Beard, Pam Hall, Harry Jones, Anna & Roger Puckett, Betty Wiseman, Ray Witt

**Family & Friends:** Merrill Adams, Josh Adkins, Everett Arthur, Betty Bishop & family, Charles Brooks, Diana Burnell, Frances Caldwell, Marie Campbell, Mary Carter, Bernice Case, Bill Case, Dennis Case, Jeff Case, Carolyn Covey, Anna Marie Cutlet, Peggy Duvall, Reid Elliott, Linda Estes, Rebecca Estes, Norma Farmer, Mary Felmy, Genevieve Gould, Marion Hall, Lewis Hamilton, Mary Ann Haney, Lore Helton, Tonya Henry, Lennie Holland, Kathy Hopkins, Ralph Howe, Ron Isfort, Myrtle Jenkins, Michelle Kirby, Dewayne Lambert, Elmer Lovett, Kathy Mann, Kaden Mckinney, Bill McMillian, Kathy Meade, Nannie Melton, Ruby Meredith, Jackie Miller, Rebecca Moore, Trenton Mullins, Mary Neal, Edith Noland, Todd Puckett, Lisa Rawlins, Darryl Reffitt, Colton Renner, Jerry Rice, Mildred Richardson, Kaden Riddell, Leon Roberts, Bonnie Robertson, Gloria Robinson, Barbara Rogers, Hannah Rogers, Karen Rogers, Scott Rogers, Jarrod Rose, Chuck & Margaret Saucer, Levi Sparks, Mary Sparks, Baron Speaks, Doyle Spry, Aaron Stamper, Edith Stamper, Brooke Stone, Nicky Tucker, Theresa VanWinkle, Matt Vaught, Roger Walker, Eddie Walters, Joe Watson, Robbie Wiseman, Samuel Womack, Wayne Workman,

**Nursing Home:** Eugene Bush, Pauline Cox, Bill Eckler, Tom Henderson, Anita Jones, Ruby Richardson

**Military:** Chase Alexander, Caleb Begley, Jake Bonner, Austin Cunningham, Travis Dunaway, Nathan Groves, Josh Hamblin, Corey Harrison, Colby Kelly, Doug Peterson Jr., Dylan Terry

**Sympathy:** Jeremy Friend family

**River Drive Christian Church**  
**363 River Drive**  
**Irvine, KY 40336**



**Sunday School.....9:45 AM**  
**Worship Service...10:45 AM & 6:00 PM**  
**K.L.I.C. ....6:00PM**  
**Wednesday Meal.....6:00PM**  
**Wednesday Bible Study.....7:00 AM**  
**Phone: (606) 723-2553**  
**Email: rdcc2553@windstream.net**