



## PEACE IN AN ELECTION YEAR

I was listening to a radio report today and I heard that 52 percent of American adults report that the 2016 election is a very or somewhat significant source of stress. "We're seeing that it doesn't matter whether you're registered as a Democrat or Republican — U.S. adults say they are experiencing significant stress from the current election," said Lynn Bufka, PhD, APA's Associate Executive Director for Practice, Research and Policy. Across party lines, those registered as Democrats (55 percent) and Republicans (59 percent) are statistically equally likely to say the election is a very or somewhat significant source of stress. Finally – something on which both parties can agree!

So, what is a Christian to do these days? It seems that nothing is very "Christian" about our politics these days, nor our media. Should we just stick our heads in the sand and wait until after the election is over? Do we just dismiss it as "politics" and separate it from our daily lives?

***"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."***

**JOHN 14:27**

In the passage above Jesus tells us that he has given us peace already. So how do we demonstrate and live into that peace? One fallacy that is common is the idea that politics can be kept separate from our faith. As whole beings, we cannot keep the two apart. If we could do that, we'd neither be Christians nor would we contribute much to the political discourse. It is now our obligation, as Christians, to share the peace of Christ with those around us. If even we are anxious, imagine how disorienting this must be for those without the belief that God is in control. In 2 Corinthians Paul tells us that we obtain peace by sharing it with others:

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- 3<sup>RD</sup>:** **JESSIE HUNT**  
11663 BT Washington Hwy  
Hardy, VA 24101  
540-493-7893
- 6<sup>TH</sup>:** **GARY WAGNER**  
5400 Bernard Dr. #C202  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
540-353-1729
- 11<sup>TH</sup>:** **GIL POLLARD**  
250 Sunnybrook Ln.  
Boones Mill, VA 24065  
540-420-7296
- 12<sup>TH</sup>:** **JEANNE BERNARD**  
4428 Pheasant Ridge #94  
Roanoke, VA 24014  
540-725-3921
- 15<sup>TH</sup>:** **WES MORAN**  
565 Charlie Road  
Hardy, VA 24101  
540-493-5499
- 19<sup>TH</sup>:** **STEVEN BRUSH**  
467 Charlie Road  
Hardy, VA 24101  
540-493-9319
- 20<sup>TH</sup>:** **TAYLOR BRUSH**  
467 Charlie Road  
Hardy, VA 24101
- 23<sup>RD</sup>:** **WALTER SCOTT**  
4074 Overlook Trail Dr.  
Roanoke, VA 24018  
540-772-1649

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ON  
NEXT PAGE!**

we obtain peace by sharing it with others:

***“Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” 2 Cor 13:11***

And he continues by saying in Colossians that, as Disciples of Christ, we are called to peace: ***“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” COL 3:15*** And we are called to share that peace - it is our Christian duty. But how do we have a quiet heart and a resting soul? Sometimes it requires us stepping back and unplugging. Constant diatribes from shouting heads on the evening news do nothing to feed our

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



**24<sup>TH</sup>: NANCY MIDDAUGH**  
1665 Webb Mtn. Road  
Boones Mill, VA 24065  
540-797-3415

**26<sup>TH</sup>: MARSHALL BRUSH**  
467 Charlie Road  
Hardy, VA 24101  
540-721-5584

**29<sup>TH</sup>: PENNILYNN McNEW**  
7375 SW Short Road  
Trimble, MO 64492  
712-355-3772

**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
Y'ALL!**

hearts! Instead we could pray, listen to calming music, read the Psalms, spend time outside connecting with God, resting in the peace that God is in control. We are to show peace and compassion to others despite our belief systems and opinions. To demonstrate peace and not divisiveness is how Christians demonstrate to unbelievers the power of love. Instead of challenging or accepting a challenge from another, turn the other cheek and respond softly. Our Scripture says that the early Christians were known by their love. I believe that this political season is an awesome opportunity for all of us to demonstrate the love of Christ and share his peace.

Again going back to the writings of Paul: ***“He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.” Ephesians 2:17,18*** Let us as his followers, the ones that are near, demonstrate the peace of Christ so that those who are hurting and alone may see the love in our hearts. May the peace of God be ours.

*Pastor Pat*

## **DON'T FORGET!!!**

- As noted on the attached calendar, the BMCC Annual Congregational Meeting will take place immediately after worship November 13<sup>th</sup>, and that will be followed by a potluck meal together. We hope to see you there!
- Linda Moore reminds us that we must re-sign up every year for the church to benefit from our Kroger Plus Card purchases through the Kroger Community Rewards Program. It doesn't affect our fuel discounts, etc. It does get the church a few extra dollars every year! You simply go to <https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards/enroll> and “connect” your card to Boones Mill Christian Church – our # is 82675. Thanks!
- Advent is coming! Stay tuned for info on how the children will be involved throughout the season lighting the Advent Candles and singing special music each week. You will note on the attached calendar that the season starts with a brief Hanging of the Green Service on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 followed by a time of decorating the church and a community lunch. Come and start the season in worship together.

# BMCC November 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>ALL SAINTS DAY</b>	2 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	3	4	5 <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS TONIGHT! FALL BACK AN HOUR!</b>
<b>25<sup>TH</sup> PENTECOST 6</b> ELDERS @8:15 STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM	7	8	9 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	10	11	12
<b>26<sup>TH</sup> PENTECOST 13</b> STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING WORSHIP	14	15	16 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM	17	18	19 BMCC FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST 9:00 AM AT THE ROANOKER
<b>27<sup>TH</sup> PENTECOST 20</b> STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM	21	22	23	24 <b>THANKSGIVING</b> 	25	10:30 AM 26 <b>* HANGING OF THE * * GREEN SERVICE * ** DECORATING ** ** THE CHURCH ** *** COMMUNITY *** *** LUNCH ***</b>
<b>FIRST ADVENT 27</b> STUDY @ 9:15 AM WORSHIP @ 10:30 AM	28	29	30 CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 PM			