

## For whom shall I vote?

By Reverend William Randall

The polls will soon be open. Voting is a privilege and responsibility we should engage in seriously and with confidence. The outcome will affect the lives of the constituents. The Bible says, "When the wicked rise to power, people go into hiding; but when the wicked perish, the righteous thrive." (Proverbs 28:28). There are several passages that speak of a ruler's influence. Proverbs 29:4 states: "By justice a king gives a country stability, but one who is greedy for bribes tears it down." Voters need to rightly evaluate candidates to the best of their ability. I am, therefore, suggesting a few criteria that are important to me. Readers might add others.

Truthfulness is basic. Even honest men can easily be caught up with political manipulations and pressures coming from special interest groups. A candidate needs to have integrity.

Secondly, God honoring is a basic requirement for good leadership. God gave some definite moral laws for mankind to live by as well as principles for everyday decisions. A candidate who worships and exalts man above God will also exalt himself. Worshippers of man live for power, possessions and pleasure. This is not the type of leadership we need today in any area of government.

The third area for consideration is the value of life. Does the candidate see man as having been made in the image of God? Does he protect the life of the unborn by standing against abortion? Does he or she respect the life of the elderly as well? Does he value marriage as an institution established by God with one man and one woman united as one? Does he himself have a healthy family life?

Fourthly, does the candidate understand and support the constitution as the basis for government? Does he value the balance of powers stated in this document and will he work to defend it against revisionists?

The fifth question has to do with taxes. Taxes are necessary. Jesus advised the payment of taxes. Does the candidate see taxes as an opportunity to finance bloated government programs that could better be done by the private sector? The question is, does the candidate have some knowledge in business and economic issues and does he intend to halt the growth of big government? Those running for local and state positions need to answer if they intend to promote casino gambling, which is a detriment to the community as a means of raising tax dollars for local or state government.

The final question is this: Does the candidate have a servant's heart? This requires some investigation. Don't just go by the list of things printed on the campaign literature. You might check to see if the things listed were done with an attitude of servanthood or just for the resume. Did the candidate have a servant's heart long before there was any candidacy in mind? Is the candidate running for office because he wants to serve or to be served? Hopefully, those who are elected will be public servants — not politicians.

As candidates often close their political addresses with these words: "And may God bless America," may God bless and guide you in fulfilling your responsibility to vote. •

## Precious in (His) sight

By Al Wezeman

Tucked away in Psalm 116 is a precious verse; precious to those who have lost loved ones. What a wonderful thing to know that God has taken our loved one to Himself and he/she is now in His loving presence.

No, we do not want them to be gone, but we trust a sovereign God who knows best. God not only does what is best, but that best is part of an eternal plan He has had for all of eternity. Knowing that fills us with a peace and hope that cannot be comprehended or understood except by those who have put their trust in God and rest in the salvation they have through their Lord Jesus Christ. Psalm 116:15 says, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

When our life may be suddenly taken from us, we need not only to have put our rest and hope in Jesus, but we need to realize that while we are still in our present bodies we live for God. 1 Peter 1:22-23 gives us words of wisdom in how to live pleasing to God on the earth: "Purify yourself by obeying the Truth — love one another — (we) have been born again — through the living and enduring Word of God. For all men are like grass — the grass withers and the flower falls, but the Word of the Lord stands forever."

How do we deal with overwhelming grief and sadness? Yes, we grieve and sorrow and will continue to do so as we continue in this life, but not without hope. The Apostle Paul says we can have hope. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13.

We also are given hope in 1 Corinthians 15:50-56: "Death has been swallowed up in victory — but thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

We will continue to grieve for our loved ones and want them back, but even when we ask "why?" we rest assured in God's love through Jesus Christ. •

# Experience Matters!!

Vote

## DAVID FISHER

### Muskegon County Drain Commissioner



Experience	David Fisher	Opponents
<b>Years Experience in water related jobs</b>	<b>35 Years</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Experience with local municipalities in water &amp; sewer related areas</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Experience with engineers, developers, site plans, stormwater and erosion control approvals.</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>Experience with Muskegon Wastewater Management Committee</b>	<b>Yes</b> Chairperson	<b>None</b>
<b>Experience with Muskegon County Regional Water System Policy Board</b>	<b>Yes</b> Board Member	<b>None</b>
<b>Experience with Muskegon County Regional Storm Water Committee</b>	<b>Yes</b> Committee Member	<b>None</b>

MUSKEGON RESIDENTS WANT CLEAN WATER

## David Fisher - The EXPERIENCE We Need For Our DRAIN COMMISSIONER

**"I appointed Dave because he is the most qualified person for the job. You should vote for Dave because he is the most qualified candidate."**

**Tony Tague, Muskegon County Prosecutor**

**"Most experienced and capable professional..."**

**Robert L Carter, Retired Muskegon County Sheriff**

**"Dave Fisher is eminently qualified....."**

**Bob Kuhn, Retired City of Muskegon DPW Director**

**"His skill set is very well suited for the position of Drain Commissioner"**

**Alan D Steinman, Ph.D., Professor and Director  
Annis Water Resources Institute**

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