

October 31, 2024

Parkview Blog – Voting

On November 5, 2024, we have the opportunity to exercise one of our greatest rights – the right to vote. Though I will not miss the constant barrage of television ads, political flyers, pollsters and emails dealing with the various candidates, I personally believe that voting is one of our most valuable rights. Voting gives us a voice in the political process and all of our votes are equal – each citizen gets one vote and that vote carries the same weight as everyone else’s vote. If you have not yet voted, I encourage you to do so.

Though I never served in the military, I have several family members that have served our country in the armed services. My father-in-law enlisted in the Navy when he was seventeen (17) years old, so that he could help defend our country during WWII. He served as what he called “a tin-can sailor” on the USS Higbee. Two of my uncles served in the army during the Korean War and one of my relatives died during the Vietnam War. My son-in-law was a Marine and served as a guard in the embassies in Saudi Arabia and Belgium. What each of these individuals had in common was an intense love of country and the desire to protect the sacred rights of our country – one of the most important being that of voting.

As Americans, we can support different candidates based on our personal beliefs and situations. Who you choose to vote for is totally up to you. You make that decision based upon the various factors that affect you and your family. One thing that has impressed me over the past few weeks is the number of people who have already voted. In some states, more individuals have already voted early this year than voted in any of our previous elections. This year, we could have the largest numbers of voters ever recorded and for this I am glad. I am glad that so many individuals have chosen to exercise their right to vote as an American.

I am certain that Tuesday night, I will turn on the television set and scroll through a number of channels to find out who is winning in the Presidency, the federal and state legislature and other political offices. I am also certain that I will fall asleep well before knowing who wins or is projected to win, but my bed time is usually around 9:00 p.m., so that is not surprising. I will rise early on Wednesday morning and check the headlines to see the latest results.

No matter how things turn out. I will be glad that I cast my vote. I will also think of the song “I’m Proud to be an American” by Lee Greenwood. I still believe in my heart that we live in a great country, where we can achieve our dreams and each day I see and talk to people who reinforce this belief by the dedication they show in helping others.

Thank you for indulging me and allowing me to encourage you to vote. It is a right and privilege that we all share.