



November 13, 2018

PRAY FOR A TRUE RESULT IN THE FLORIDA ELECTIONS

Heavenly Father, help our nation walk with integrity and deliver us from the evil intensions of the few who would wish us harm.

...deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen (Mt 6:13b).

Three statewide races in Florida are headed to a recount and all depend on results from a county whose supervisor of elections has a history of losing ballots and breaking laws by allowing illegal immigrants and felons to vote, as well as illegally destroying ballots.

Broward County supervisor of elections Brenda Snipes' office has admitted "they don't know" how many ballots there are still to count.

Snipes' latest failure to finalize Tuesday's election returns days after the polls closed is also in violation of Florida law, which requires elections officials to "report all early voting and all tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State within 30 minutes after the polls close. Thereafter, the canvassing board shall report, with the exception of provisional ballot results, updated precinct election results to the department at least every 45 minutes until all results are completely reported."

This should alarm anyone hoping for fair and accurate election returns, as Snipes' history in Broward is checkered with numerous examples of facilitating illegal voting practices.

In 2017, Dr. Snipes admitted in court that her office had allowed non-citizens and felons to vote and was particularly vulnerable ahead of major elections.

In 2012, a Broward elections official complained about Snipes tendency to "find" additional ballots in close elections. Ilene Lieberman, a Broward County Commissioner and Canvassing board member, told the Miami CBS affiliate in 2012, "When the canvassing board recessed on Saturday we were basically told there were between 150 and 165 ballots remained to be counted, that they had to double check, that they hadn't been counted before. And when we came back on Monday the report showed 963 new ballots."

Snipes also presided over a “phantom voting district” of 2000 voters who were using illegal addresses, many of them at a UPS Store, claimed as their places of residence.

Republican Party officials sued Snipes’ office in 2016 over the illegal counting of 180,000 mail in ballots, she admitted that she didn’t know the meaning of the word “canvassing.” Snipes’ office had been opening ballots illegally, without the legally required participation of other members of the canvassing board.

But Snipes hasn’t just been accused of malfeasance from Republicans.

A 2016 Democratic Congressional candidate, Tim Canova, challenged the results of his loss to Debbie Wasserman-Schultz in court, only to have Snipes’ office illegally destroy the ballots, preventing additional inspection....

Morgain marveled, “Broward County was our best county last time. And I don’t believe in accidents.”

Snipes was originally appointed to her office by Republican Governor Jeb Bush in 2003, after her predecessor was removed from office for gross mismanagement. A former school administrator and principal, Snipes won election in 2004 and has been successfully been re-elected by Broward County voters every four years, most recently in a 2016 primary, where she received 76% of the 122,782 votes cast.... Snipes office inadvertently released the results of the elections 30 minutes before polls officially closed.

According to Florida law, “Any supervisor of elections, deputy supervisor of elections, canvassing board member, election board member, or election employee who releases the results of any election prior to the closing of the polls in that county on Election Day commits a felony of the third degree.”

Despite the Florida Secretary of State asking the Broward County Sherriff and State Attorney for an investigation, like other election-related crimes in Broward County, however, that also went unpunished. (Excerpts from Eric Eggers article on [Breitbart News](#))

THANK GOD FOR PRO-LIFE ADVANCES ON ELECTION DAY AND PRAY AGAINST ONLINE ABORTION PILLS

Pray for continued wisdom and strategies in this battle for the lives of pre-born children.

Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations. (Jer 1:5)

Voters in Alabama and West Virginia [last] Tuesday approved “trigger” measures that could lead to state abortion bans if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns Roe v. Wade — a possibility raised by the appointment of Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the court.

Even while Roe’s constitutional right to abortion remains in place, abortion has become so hard to get in many parts of the country that an online service called Aid Access launched in the summer to provide prescription abortion pills by mail to women in the U.S. Founder Rebecca Gomperts, a Dutch physician and activist, has for years run Women on Web, which ships abortion pills to women in countries where abortion is illegal.

Meanwhile, the Self Induced Abortion (SIA) Legal Team last month announced a help line and website to provide information and attorney referrals for women who have ended their pregnancies and fear they will be arrested or prosecuted.

“We know of at least 21 people who have been arrested, and some prosecuted, either for ending their own pregnancy or helping others” since 1973, said Jill E. Adams, a Berkeley, Calif., lawyer who founded the SIA team. “Now that we have the help line, we expect we’ll learn about more.”...

If Roe’s legal framework is abolished, 20 other states already have laws that could be used to further restrict or ban abortion, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a research center that supports abortion rights....

Americans United for Life, an anti-abortion law firm, contends that the Aid Access model is not only unsafe, but also in violation of U.S. postal and other regulations. (Excerpts from Marie McCullough article in [The Philadelphia Inquirer](#))

EXIT POLLS: REGULAR CHURCHGOERS VOTED REPUBLICAN IN MIDTERMS

Offer thanks to the Lord for the informed electorate in the midterm elections this year.

And now let Pharaoh make search for a man of wisdom and good sense, and put him in authority over the land of Egypt. (Gen 41:33)

Americans who say they attend religious services regularly were far more apt to vote Republican in the midterm elections than those who attend seldom or never, exit polls revealed.

According to CNN, 68 percent of voters who said they never attend religious services voted Democrat in their respective state and local elections, while only 30 percent of this group voted for the GOP.

Conversely, among those who replied that they attend religious service monthly or more, 55 percent voted Republican and 44 percent Democrat. As church attendance grows more frequent, the probability of voting Republican also rises.

Among those who attend religious services weekly or more, 58 percent voted Republican while only 40 percent voted for Democrat candidates.

A separate AP VoteCast poll conducted by National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago for Fox News and the Associated Press found an even a starker divide.

According to this survey, a full 61 percent of those who say they attend service once a week or more supported the Republicans, while among those who go to church at least once a month, 57 percent went for Republicans....

The most recent voter data confirms polls following previous elections showing that the more religious a voter, the more likely they will support a Republican candidate, while the less religious will overwhelmingly tend to vote Democrat. (Excerpts from Thomas D. Williams article in [Breitbart News](#))

DID YOUR CHURCH CELEBRATE ORPHAN SUNDAY?

Pray for the Church to listen to God's heart for children and to act on it.

Learn to practice what is good; seek justice, alleviate oppression, defend orphans in court, and plead the widow's case. (Is 1:17)

Enjoy this powerful testimony by a foster parent, part of the IFA 5-day devotional series, [The Immense Value of Children in God's Eyes](#).

My husband Ian and I first had thoughts of becoming foster parents when our youngest child was just a year old. We knew that choosing this path was a massive commitment. We were willing but there were so many details that needed to be worked out first. He and I faltered back and forth as to who was ready when we should start the process. I was ready, he was not. He would be ready, then I would have my reasons as to why it was not a good time.

At this time, we faced some above-average obstacles in life. We didn't have family living near us. Ian just changed jobs, again. We just moved, again. I have been on a roller coaster with Lyme disease and had just started being able to climb stairs, again. Our oldest son struggles with OCD and anxiety and had just started a new med, again. Our new house needs a lot of work and progress is really slow because we are doing the work ourselves (oh, no, not again!).

When things settle down...When we have formed a tight support network of new friends...When we meet more people from church...When I am 100% healthy...When you are settled in your new job...When we get unpacked...When we finish at least half of the remodeling...When the boys are better behaved... The legitimate reasons for not starting the process continued. We have to have it all together before starting this, right?

One morning during a business trip, Ian called me early and said, "I had a dream. I can't really explain it, but we need to start the foster care process." He spoke with such conviction. But....but...how can we bring a child into this mess?! We've never even met any foster parents. That day we began not only listening, but acting.

Our first long-term foster placement came into this mess of ours. But Jacob didn't see a mess. Jacob saw a loving family, food in the kitchen, and three meals a day. He went to school and attended church for the first time. He developed friendships, ate new healthy foods, rode an escalator, had a birthday party, saw the ocean, and created his own 'fun day journal' to document it all. He learned responsibilities and roles in a family, learned manners and social skills, and learned to pray. He made the honor roll for the first time. He was baptized. Jacob didn't notice the trim missing in some rooms or that some closets were without doors. He didn't notice the dated cabinets and kitchen appliances, only the awesome food prepared and served in that kitchen. He didn't notice the days when I was feeling poorly or Ian was stressed with work. He saw only a movie and popcorn night with brothers.

Early one morning, I was taking Jacob to the dentist before school, in the rain, running late. Cold, wet, grumbling to myself about schedules, appointments, time, etc., driving down our rural road, a massive mutant turkey flew out and I hit it straight on. We both screamed. I kept driving to make that appointment on time. During Jacob's procedure, I called Ian to tell him about the turkey. He asked me if it did any damage to the car. I went out and checked. Sure enough, it cracked the front bumper and grill.

Ugh. I sensed a hint of doubt in Ian's voice as to the size of this turkey. Once we were in the car, I told Jacob we were going to school the long way as we were going to go get that turkey! Jacob squealed with delight. We slowly drove through the spots where we thought it was. We spotted it in a ditch, but had to safely park down the road. We ran in the rain to grab the dead bird. It was so heavy that we each held a leg as we ran back to the car carrying the beast. As we were running, in the rain, carrying a dead turkey, Jacob called out, "This is the best day of my life! This is going in my fun journal for sure!" In that moment, I realized that something remarkable had happened. Jacob had learned resiliency in a less than ideal situation. He felt happiness and laughter instead of anger and aggression when things didn't go as planned. Our self-perceived chaos was his calm.

Several months into having Jacob, we were asked by our caseworker if we were going to adopt him. We knew that parental rights were quickly being terminated. Ian and I were suddenly faced with all kinds of unexpected emotions. We agreed to take a week to think and pray about it separately and then come together again to discuss it. After a week, we both had the same answer, for the same reasons. We were not going to adopt him.

We did, however, agree to wait and tell the agency several weeks from then in order to have more time with Jacob. Just a few days later though, we knew that although so very painful and difficult, we had to tell our decision to the agency without any delay.

We have been asked by many, "But I thought you were an adoptive family?" Yes, so did we. We planned, we scheduled, we talked, we disciplined, we loved, we struggled, we witnessed growth, we witnessed regression, we increased the frequency of counseling, we changed routines, we accommodated all children, we were determined to make it work, we would adjust, we, we, we.....Only when WE listened to God, really listened, did we understand that we needed to get over our own efforts and our own egos telling us that we were what is best for Jacob.

God had clearly called us to foster Jacob. But God had another plan for Jacob's adoption.

God's timing is always perfect. In His time, we were able to have Jacob's adoptive family over for dinner so that they could meet him, see where he has been living, and see him socialize without pressure. God's timing revealed the best family for Jacob. If we had followed our desires and waited, then this family would not have been available. He will be an only child, something that past and present social workers and counselors all have said and agree would be the ideal environment for him. He has room to play, many animals, and his new dad is a cook, which is an area of extreme interest for Jacob. By giving up on our own efforts and trusting in God's, we are able to continue a lifelong relationship with him as aunt, uncle, and cousins. Through His timing, Jacob was able to make a transition. Our whole family took him to their house for the first time to spend his first two nights with them. We have experienced birthdays, sleepovers, and holidays together. We are the extended family Jacob never had.

We still don't have doors on our closets and have unpacked boxes in the attic. The kitchen is still outdated and barely functioning and there are days I don't feel well. Yet, despite these things, we will continue fostering children, knowing that our worst days can be their absolute best.

Prayer Points: Pray for the 400,000 children in foster care in America (Mark 10:13-16); pray for placement of the 100,000 foster children eligible for adoption (Matthew 25:40); pray for God to raise up

families to take in foster children (James 1:27, Matthew 18:5); pray for the Church to listen to God's heart for children and to act on it (James 1:22).

(By Kendra Evans, [Woven Ministry](#). Woven is a ministry of Purcellville Baptist Church in Purcellville, Virginia. Woven strives to EDUCATE the church body about the needs of the orphan and foster child, ASSIST in caring for these children, and SUPPORT adoptive/foster families and those involved in orphan care.)