Dear Pastor,

A Church faithful to the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20), is a Church whose mission seeks to impact culture and influence governance with the values of the Kingdom.

We are asking you and the church you lead to Get Out The Vote in Texas in record numbers in the November 5, 2024 President Election.

According to Barna Research: It is estimated that 40-50 million of the 82 million Evangelicals in America DO NOT VOTE and as many as 25 million are not even registered to vote.

According to the Texas Secretary of State, 18% of Texas registered voters cast ballots in the March 2024 Primary Election. The voter turnout during the May 28th Primary Runoff Election was even less. We must reverse this trend before the November 2024 Presidential Election!

No matter the season, God is at work and we need to join Him. And this is where we come in. His Ekklesia must rise up in the November 5th President Election to restore our Constitutional Republic and win the war between good versus evil that is raging in America. Scripture is clear that our war is not against flesh and blood, nor is it a political war, but a spiritual war.

The last day to register to vote in the November 5th President Election in Texas is October 7th. Attached is a fast-track process to launch a voter registration drive at your church if you do not already have one. Just imagine the positive impact Christians can have on the upcoming election and our nation's future if more were encouraged to register to vote by their pastor, and then voted Christian values in every race on the November 5, 2024 ballot.

The 2024 President Election may be our last chance to restore our Constitutional Republic and just may be the most important election in American history! This election is an opportunity to elect leaders at all levels, from the President to local School Board Trustees, who will influence whether our nation follows the biblical principles and values that are the foundation of the U.S. Constitution.

If you or the individuals you select to launch a voter registration drive at your church have any questions, please contact Joe or Cathie Locetta (Grace International specialized ministry leaders and co-leaders of Grace Woodlands Church's We the People/Faith Votes Community Impact Team).

For the Kingdom, Jason J. Nelson

Associate Pastor Grace Woodlands / We The People Ministries

FIVE STEPS - GET OUT THE VOTE (GOTV) in Texas

STEP 1. ASK:

Think about the members of your church who frequently want to discuss political issues and current events with you. Invite one of them to lead the effort to launch a church voter registration drive without delay.

STEP 2. PREPARE:

Here is a suggested action plan for the selected leader and other volunteers to follow:

- For Texas voter registration and other information including online registration, visit: www.votetexas.gov. The online registration process is an option; however, it is best to have Voter Registration Application cards available in the church lobby.
- To request multiple copies of the Texas Voter Registration Application cards, send an email to elections@sos.texas.gov with a brief note "Please send XXX Texas Voter Registration Application Forms to be made available to church attenders in anticipation of the November 2024 Election."
- Registration forms are also generally available at County Election Administration offices, post offices, and local libraries in small quantities.

STEP 3. REGISTER:

- Set-up a GOTV table in a high-traffic area of the church lobby and include Voter Registration Application Forms and a list of key Election 2024 dates including Last day to register; First day early voting; Mail ballot application deadline if applicable; Last day early voting; and Election day.
- Assign the leader to make sure trained volunteers are available before and after services at the lobby voter registration table. The volunteers can answer questions and help people fill out the registration form.

If people are not sure if they are registered, this can be quickly determined by using their personal device and visiting www.votetexas.gov and clicking the "Am I Registered" tab. If people are already registered, ask if they have moved since the last election, married with name change, or if they have not voted in the last several elections. If so, re-register them.

 Ultimately, the pastor is the key to promotion because when the pastor leads, the people tend to follow.

STEP 4. STAY LEGAL:

- Voter registration drives must be conducted in a neutral and nonpartisan manner.
- To help you fulfill your high calling to fearlessly speak the truth, Family Research Council provides free information about what pastors and churches may do with respect to political candidates and elections.

Visit: www.communityimpact.frc.org/voterguides and click on the "Legal Do's and Don'ts" button.

You may be surprised at how much influence you can have.

STEP 5. FOLLOW-UP:

- Promote your registration drive from the pulpit and on the church website, social media, and church communications periodically between now and the last day to register to vote in the November 5 th President Election in your State.
- Encourage voters who cannot get to the polls during early voting or on election day to request a Ballot By Mail: www.votetexas.gov. The last day to Apply for Ballot By Mail is October 25, 2024.
- Provide periodic information about voting locations and dates for both early voting scheduled between October 21st and November 1st and on election day, November 5, 2024.



A Biblical Mandate

The Church has a biblical mandate to engage in the political and governmental affairs of this world in an obedient and faithful manner. Here are just a few biblical examples of how God's people engaged and influenced governance:

- Throughout Hebrew history, God spoke through the prophets to appoint and anoint, condone and condemn, mold and mentor, rebuke and redirect both kings of Israel and of other nations.
- Moses commanded Pharaoh to set God's people free, introducing him to the Great I AM (Exodus).
- Samuel anointed the first king of Israel (Saul) and established the rights of kingship (1 Sam 9 & 10). Then, he was used by God to rebuke, reject, and replace Saul with David (1 Sam 15).
- Nathan held King David accountable for his actions and called him to repent of his sin (2 Sam 12).
- Joseph and Daniel were elevated by God to offer spiritual leadership and advice to rulers, becoming high ranking government officials themselves (Gen. 41:39-40; Daniel 4:27).
- Jonah delivered God's Word to the King of Nineveh; as a result, the entire city repented, turned from their evil ways, and were saved (Jonah 3).
- Jesus sent out His disciples with a charge to evangelize political leaders. After He commissioned and equipped His twelve disciples, Jesus told them they would be "brought before governors and kings for My sake as a testimony to them..." (Matthew 10:18).
- According to Luke 1:3 and Acts 1:1, Luke is writing to Theophilus; Luke refers to him as most excellent (Luke 1:3), a title used to address governors (Acts 23:26; 24:3; 26:25).
- In Acts 9:15, God specifically chose Paul to evangelize kings: "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel."
- Of the thirteen individual conversions recorded in the book of Acts, seven are politically related people in positions of authority (8:27; 10:17; 12:20; 13:7; 16:27; 17:34; 28:7).
- For the sake of the Gospel (*Evangelion*), the Apostle Paul traveled to Rome, as well as eight other capital cities within the Roman Empire (Paphos, Perga, Pisidia Antioch, Iconium, Thessalonica, Athens, Corinth, & Ephesus) and was chosen by God to stand before Caesar (Acts 27:24).
- In Acts 17, the Apostle Paul introduced "the Lord of Heaven and Earth" to the people of Athens in the Areopagus, which was the center for conducting city governance.
- Philippians 4:22 indicates that Paul ministered to those in the emperor's palace: "All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household."

The Biblical narrative clearly demonstrates God's desire for the Church to impact governance, not for the purpose of establishing a theocracy, but to transform the hearts and minds of those whom God has placed, or has allowed to be, in positions of authority. Although there should be intuitional separation between Church and State, there must never be influential separation. In fact, the Church's influence and impact upon the State should be both significant and strategic.