



CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: MINISTRY TO ME

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

THE PASTOR'S PEN August 4,

FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION ON THE AUGUST REFERENDUM QUESTIONS IN WISCONSIN:

QUESTION 1: "Delegation of appropriation power. Shall section 35 (1) of article IV of the constitution be created to provide that the legislature may not delegate its sole power to determine how moneys shall be appropriated?"

QUESTION 2: "Allocation of federal moneys. Shall section 35 (2) of article IV of the constitution be created to prohibit the governor from allocating any federal moneys the governor accepts on behalf of the state without the approval of the legislature by joint resolution or as provided by legislative rule?"

A "Yes" vote on these referendums would require Democratic Governor Evers to get legislative approval from the Republican led state legislature to spend federal money.

Republicans and conservative groups support voting "Yes" on the two questions. Democrats and liberal groups support voting "No" on the two questions.

When President Biden announced he was withdrawing from the presidential race and later endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris, there was an eruption of emotions. For many, there is a serious expectation that the next president of the United States will be a Black, South Asian, woman named Kamala Harris.

The energy and momentum has been overwhelming and immediate. There are numerous groups that have convened Zoom calls that have gathered hundreds of thousands of people, representing different ethnicities, genders, orientation and raising tens of millions of dollars.

Sadly, with the energy, enthusiasm, expectation, anticipation and excitement also comes the negativity from the other side. Whereas we will not share the vile, despicable and abhorrent things they are saying, suffice it to note that they are attacking her ethnicity, her gender, her education, her affiliations (Black sororities) and her family situation.

We know that these attacks against her do not highlight her weaknesses. Rather, they highlight her strengths. These attacks are expressions of their jealousy and envy towards her, and their hidden desire to be who she is and accomplish what she has.

They are so desperate to find a way – any way – to diminish her, they are attacking her laugh. Can you imagine? They are attacking the joyful expression that emanates from her soul and is received by others through her bright eyes, jovial smile and hearty laughter. Yes, it is jealousy and envy.

Nevertheless, she will be Ok. She has been here before and God has sustained her through it. She has been cut before, healed and gone on to fight again. God is going before her and God is with her. Additionally, we will pray for her and with her, and we will fight for her and with her.

Following is a quote from a speech she delivered at Asian American Pacific Islander event:

"Here's the thing about breaking barriers," Harris said during her speech. "Breaking barriers does not mean you start on one side of the barrier, and you end up on the other side. There's breaking involved, and when you break things, you get cut, and you may bleed, and it is worth it every time. To especially the young people here, I say to you, when you walk in those rooms, being the only one that looks like you, the only one with your background, you walk in those rooms, chin up, shoulders back, be it a meeting room, a boardroom, a courtroom, a hearing room, you walk in those rooms, knowing that we are all in that room with you, applauding you on and expecting certain things from you, including that you will not be silent in those rooms."

WORK FOR THE WEEK

AUGUST MEMORY VERSE

¹²For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:12 (NLT)

AUGUST MEDITATION QUOTES

“It’s not enough to conquer the opposition. In a nonviolent struggle, we are committed to fight on until we win our adversaries as friends.”

Dr. William J. Barber, II

TODAY’S STUDY QUESTIONS AND MEDITATION:

Who has God created me to be? _____

What has God created me to do? _____

Am I being and doing it? _____

FOR THE YOUTH

It is OK to not be OK _____

Am I being me or someone else? _____

	Educational Enrichment	Technology Literacy	Athletics & Recreation	Performing Arts	Facility Innovation
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 Subject books for elementary (math, literature, history, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 iPad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 basketballs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 art sets for aspiring artists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External security lighting to keep the street well-lit and safe
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Summer Bridge books to help students retain learning during breaks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 "learn how to code" kits for elementary students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 tennis rackets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 beginner saxophones or 8 beginner violins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camera security system to keep everyone safe
\$2,500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 students can be challenged to excel using interactive problem-solving programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 computer for graphic design and website creation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 sets of golf clubs for children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 Play Scripts with performance/ licensing fee and cast instructions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wireless PA system to easily communicate at the school
\$5,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 smartboard to help teachers engage students in learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 STEM lab cart of materials for a classroom with multiple activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-day Speed and Agility workshop for 15 young aspiring track stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 pairs of tap shoes for aspiring dancers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery operated floor scrubber to keep the building looking its best
\$10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 trip for 15 students to visit 1 HBCU 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100 Robotic kits to reinforce studies in STEAM subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open gym for 20 young people 1 X a week throughout the winter in a safe place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200 tickets to see Alvin Ailey Dance Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LED light fixtures throughout the school to promote learning and natural light