Moving Forward With Hope , February 1st, 2025: I'm Glad Trump Won the Election!

Dear Friends, Colleagues , and Family .... Now that I have your attention (assuming you didn't auto delete!), here is my rationale for saying "I'm glad Trump won the election":

* The campaign and the election are over; Trump won, Harris lost. I didn't vote for Trump but more people voted for him than Harris even though less than half of the actual total votes went for Trump; i.e. not the mandate he is claiming, if one at all
* But to repeat the obvious, as of January 20th, less than two short weeks ago, he's our President like it or not and he is no longer Candidate Trump
* Many of the reasons I could not vote for Candidate Trump were marginalized by many of his supporters by claims of denial and suggesting that  he's only saying outrageous things to get elected, that he doesn't mean them, and that they will never happen such as those outlined in Project 2025, drafted by his high ranking supporters, which he claimed he didn't know anything about
* In 12 short days since January 20th the real truth has been revealed in hundreds of ways; i.e, his Executive Orders and other actions
* So now you may ask why I am glad he won?
* The reason is that similar to the metaphor of the "Full Monty", former Candidate Trump has now fully revealed his actions and intentions as President Trump to all Americans including his MAGA supporters
* And the impact of his Executive Orders and actions on all Americans will sooner vs. later also be fully revealed, some of them with extremely dangerous consequences so numerous and which have been so publicly critiqued that I don't even have to try and list them. Essentially the outcomes so far, notably over 1500 pardons of the January 6, 2021 Insurrectionists, and by association President Trump, are characterized by lawlessness and cruelty
* **So I'm glad Candidate Trump won because I believe President Trump has now provided us as Americans an opportunity to really reflect and decide who we really are  as Americans and who we want to be; many, many genies are now out of their respective Candidate Trump bottle(s)**
* This presents us enormous challenges both individually and collectively, but also abundant opportunities to authentically talk about the many issues that divide us as citizens, neighbors, brothers, and sisters and to take actions to preserve our freedoms
* So, a big thank you to President Trump for revealing his true self as President vs Candidate Trump to all of us. Perhaps paradoxically, I am looking at his election as a gift to America
* Try to think about this gift in the following way: each of us has now been showered with the now realization that our rights, liberties, and freedoms are at stake whether morally, spiritually, financially, physically, emotionally, and on and on based on the torrent of anti-democracy, oligharical distractions swarming us every day since January 20th
* If you don't believe these impact you in some harmful way, just wait ... but I suggest not too long. Related question as an example to ponder: why does Musk want access to the Treasury system that pays out things like Social Security payments?
* Therefore, we must at the same time remain steadfast, wary, and vigilant of forces that may seem, and in many cases are, out of our immediate control and seemingly overwhelming
* What I try and do when I feel overwhelmed is rely on God through the help of others to provide the fortitude, patience, and resilience necessary to help me navigate through the many cringe-worthy and in some cases illegal complexities President Trump is inundating us with
* My hope is that somehow we can then move to a more enlightened understanding of each other and the common ground we share premised on a mutual bond of our personal and Constitutional values vs. those of President Trump and his many billionaire cronies who are doing a power and wealth grab right before our eyes ... and destroying entities such as the Justice Dept., the FBI, and even the Constitution while they're at it
* Despite all this and despite differences in perspective among us as Americans, we must try to discover what is common among us; probably a lot
* Crazy? Impossible? I think not since I firmly believe that we do not have a choice but to take our masks off, drop our gloves, open our eyes, ears, and hearts, and begin really opening up with each other
* The time has come, and President Trump deserves some credit for reopening these doors that have always been there, but our individual and collective blindness prevailed during his time as Candidate Trump and really going back to 2015
* As historian Heather Cox Richardson recently said about Trump's Presidential reality in less than two weeks: *" It seems that Musk and the technology billionaires want to smash the government to enable their futuristic visions, and Christian Nationalists like Russell Vought want to smash it to replace it with religious rule. Trump wants to smash it for money and power."*
* Related: she also pointed out today that*".... the U.S. government under President Donald Trump has revoked a 60-year-old executive order that protected equal opportunity in employment and has called for an end to all diversity, equity, and inclusion programs. This February 1 (today), neither the Pentagon nor the State Department will recognize Black History Month.*
* I hope you can see this rapidly accelerating quicksand around us and it's up to each of us to participate in determining if President Trump and Musk's direction is what we really want for our country and whether we want to live in fear of what he's doing to our lives ... including his attempts to create fear of each other which is polar opposite to his inauguration claim of being the 'Great Unifier'. For example, it could be said that President Trump's fully revealed blatant racism has now been replaced, and again fully revealed, by his actually being a full-fledged segregationist
* Let's have the discussion wherever and whenever we can ... our children and grandchildren are watching as well as the world!

So in that spirit, I offer the following for your consideration and in advance apologize for the length of this email ... it could have been longer!

·         **Overview of our current situation**: A view from North of the border … <https://robertreich.substack.com/p/a-view-from-north-of-the-border>

o   Another one: <https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com/p/january-24-2025>

·         **Courage**: <https://youtu.be/5ESheItSWy4?si=c8e0O8pGg6Kwbcvy>; Note: see my 12/31 update re: engagement at local churches

o   Related:*“We are so blessed in the Christian tradition to have so many amazing leaders and teachers who have been creating circles of healing and peace for generations. It is truly inspiring to learn from their examples. But our job is not only to learn from them, but more: to join them in this ongoing work in the world. Marine biologist Ayana Elizabeth Johnson and climate activist Katharine K. Wilkinson write, “Let’s move forward with love, not conquest; humility, not righteousness; generous curiosity, not hardened assumptions. It is a magnificent thing to be alive in a moment that matters so much. Let’s proceed with broken-open hearts, seeking truth, summoning courage, and focused on solutions.”* (Richard Rohr, 1/10))

·         **Hope and Inspiration**: MLK series at Pittsford United Church of Christ concludes this weekend … see <https://pittsfordcommunity.org/>

Also: *“Take Us Home by Another Way,” by Christopher Grundy*

*Spirit, take us home*

*take us home by another way*

*take us long way ‘round the tyrants*

*and their schemes,*

*Give us strength to walk*

*Show us dreams of a better day*

*and we’ll pave the way with justice.*

*going home by another way.*

*The mountains and the hills made low*

*the rough places made plain*

*the despots thrown down from their thrones*

*‘til only love remains.*

*Spirit, take us home*

*take us home by another way*

*take us long way ‘round the tyrants*

*and their schemes,*

*Give us strength to walk*

*Show us dreams of a better day*

*and we’ll pave the way with justice*

*going home by another way.*

*No offerings for billionaires*

*to make them richer still*

*bring all your frankincense and myrrh*

*that the hungry may be filled*

*Spirit, take us home*

*take us home by another way*

*take us long way ‘round the tyrants*

*and their schemes,*

*Give us strength to walk*

*Show us dreams of a better day*

*and we’ll pave the way with justice.*

*going home by another way.*

*So when the Proud Boys and the Klan*

*ask where the Christ child lies*

*just tell ‘em that you’ll let them know*

*next time you’re passing by*

*Spirit, take us home*

*take us home by another way*

*take us long way ‘round the tyrants*

*and their schemes,*

*Give us strength to walk*

*Show us dreams of a better day*

*and we’ll pave the way with justice.*

*going home by another way.*

*So, when things get tough and feet are tired*

*we’ll know it’ll be okay.*

*cause we’ll pave the way with justice*

*going home by another way.*

·         **Prayers & Reflections**:

o   <https://www.klove.com/djs/scott-and-kelli/blog/life/8-prayers-for-unity-in-times-of-division-9362>

o   <https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-swfyd-tlkrtkjkyd-g/> (Rohr)

o   <https://email.cac.org/t/d-e-swftd-tlkrtkjkyd-z/> (Rohr)

·         **Mobilization/Action Opportunities**:

o   ‘People Power United’: <https://www.newsletter.peoplepowerunited.org/p/follow-up-reclaiming-people-power>

o   ‘Coalition on Human Needs’: [www.chn.org](http://www.chn.org/)

o   ‘INDIVISIBLE’: <https://indivisible.org/>

o   ‘NETWORK’: <https://networklobby.org/>

o   ‘Pachamama Alliance of the Rochester Area’: <https://www.pachapeopleroc.org/>

o   <https://robertreich.substack.com/p/what-you-can-do>

o   ‘How To Resist’:  ... <https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/politics/i-refuse-to-be-trolled-how-to-resist-trump-and-maintain-peace/ar-AA1x2l9I?ocid=hpmsn&cvid=e92862981c794f6ee57a426094a03581&ei=14>

o   ‘The Rochester-Monroe Anti-Poverty Initiative’ (RMAPI)… <https://rmapiny.org/>

o   ‘Empire Justice Center’… <https://empirejustice.org/>

o   ‘Our Local History’ … <https://www.ccsi.org/ourlocalhistory/>

o    ‘Reconnect Rochester’ … <https://reconnectrochester.org/>

o   Perhaps consider just one significant issue … e.g., Housing/Inclusivity; for more info, see <https://www.urbanleagueroc.org/powerbrokersrasecart>

o   ‘Exploring Race Group’ (ERG) update: <https://exploringracism.org/weekly-update-02-01-2025/> (note Black History Month events, programs, etc.)

·         Another:

o   ‘Eating Our Way to Extinction’: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcJyXjs65rE&t=1s>

Lastly, borrowed from a friend …

*‘At All Times’*

*May I become at all times,*

*Both now and forever:*

*A protector for all who are helpless,*

*A guide for all who have lost their way,*

*A ship for all who sail the oceans,*

*A bridge for all who cross over rivers,*

*A sanctuary for all who are in danger,*

*A lamp for all who are in darkness,*

*A place of refuge for all who lack shelter,*

*And a servant for all who are in need;*

*May I find****hope****in the darkest of days,*

*And focus in the brightest.*

Happy Black History Month!

In peace and with hope ... Bill

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*Author of: 'Understanding and Combating Racism: My Path from Oblivious American to Evolving Activist'*

[*https://www.amazon.com/author/billwynne*](https://www.amazon.com/author/billwynne)

*Website:*[*www.wewynneauthor.com*](http://www.wewynneauthor.com/)

***My Personal Mantra***

*As a Servant Leader, strengthen and broaden relationships within a prayerful, vulnerable, inclusive, loving, nonviolent, forgiving (“70x7”), yet relentless “Jesus” spirit of allyship and solidarity in my never-ending pursuit of racial justice for the “common good”!*

*References: Luke 6:27-31; Matthew 5:16; Joshua 24:15; My memoir*

Attachments area

[Preview YouTube video WOW: Bishop calls out Trump TO HIS FACE at church](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ESheItSWy4&authuser=0" \t "_blank)

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