



June 2015

Pastor's Page



Zion Lutheran Church

110 East Grand Avenue

Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Website: www.cfzionlutheran.com

“Doctrinal Errors—Salvation is at Stake”

How do Doctrinal Errors Rob Us and Others of the Comfort of the Gospel?

We are members of the *Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Congregations* (ACELC). Along with several other LCMS congregations, we, out of love, have identified ten chief doctrinal errors that are dividing our Synod and hurting our witness to the world. And, even though we as a congregation have studied the pages and pages of Scripture, our Lutheran Confessions, and the ACELC documentation of these doctrinal errors in our Synod--sometimes it is hard for the unstudied to easily grasp the errors and their serious consequences.

Therefore, I am going to attempt to summarize one of the ten errors each month in a way that makes it easy to understand and communicate, especially how it relates to the comfort of the Gospel. I will also attach the ACELC teaching outlines for any further study that you may want to do or do again. You may also want to read or reread the longer documents on the ACELC website. Hopefully, all of this will continue to aid us in speaking the truth in love for the sake of Gospel of Jesus.

I begin this month with **Unionism and Syncretism:**

Unionism and Syncretism rob the comfort of *the* Gospel by offering It alongside false gospels. When *the* Gospel is presented as one option among many, It is no longer *the* Gospel.

Lutherans love potlucks. Imagine a table full of hot dishes. Now imagine that all but one are tainted with various poisons. Then you are served and made to eat a plate that includes all the dishes. Would it matter that one of the options you swallowed was pure? No; when the pure is served with the impure, it is no longer pure. Would you want your kids, grandkids, and friends to also be served such a buffet? Of course not.

When an LCMS pastor participates in a joint worship service of prayer with other religions (syncretism) or erring Christian denominations (unionism) the comfort of the pure Gospel of Jesus is robbed. The Gospel of Jesus is that He came for all, He is the only way to the Father, and He saves us by grace alone, through faith alone, apart from works of the Law. How can the Gospel not be robbed of Its pure comfort when an LCMS pastor politely takes his turn to pray after a Muslim or Mormon, who both deny that Jesus is the only way to the Father? How can the Gospel comfort not be robbed when an LCMS pastor then politely hands the microphone over to a Roman Catholic priest who prays for those in purgatory, a Presbyterian who says Jesus only died for the elect, or an ELCA priestess who is a proud lesbian? Might one of the little ones in our LCMS congregations listening conclude that all roads lead to the same place, you can be prayed out of purgatory, or that you can live in unrepentant sin and still go to heaven? Might LCMS participation in syncretistic and unionistic events hurt our proclamation of the pure Gospel to the world by serving It with poison? Most certainly, yes! No matter how it is advertised, when the Gospel is publicly mixed with false gospels no clear and pure comfort remains for the hearers.

We must acknowledge, especially in times of crisis, there will always be pressure from the Nebuchadnezzar like world to bow our heads to the god of tolerance and that all roads lead to heaven. Jesus, The Way, however, tells us to flee false doctrine and wolves in sheep's clothing. Refusing to worship alongside false teachers might get us thrown into the fire, but we should count such cross bearing a blessing for the sake of the comfort of the Gospel. These are very serious issues for our Synod; souls are at stake, not only those outside the LCMS, but ours and our children's.

Pastor

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL
THE MEMBERS WHO HAVE
JUNE BIRTHDAYS!!

Karen Ewings	6/1
Rita LaNou	6/2
Linda Woll	6/5
Dean Verch	6/6
Arlene Potts	6/9
Jenna Welke	6/9
Brian Schoelzel	6/11
Dale Potts	6/14
Karles Blake	6/15
Cody Sarauer	6/16
Anamae Verch	6/19
Anthony Welke	6/21

♥ HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: ♥

Scott & Amanda Ziebarth	6/2/2006
Justin & Christa Taylor	6/8/2013
Roderick & Laurie Hurt	6/10/1972
Jeff & Regina Arndt	6/11/1994
Russ & Jan Blair	6/12/1964
Greg & Beth Welke	6/12/1993
Joe & Arlene Hakes	6/22/1957
Kevin & Stephanie Taylor	6/29/2013

**WE ASK YOU TO REMEMBER IN OUR
PRAYERS THE HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:**

Mavis Berry

Helen Hempelman

Isabel Lenz

WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

Women's Society met Thursday, May 21st. Table prayer was said. A delicious carrot cake and ice cream was enjoyed by 17 members, 2 guests and pastor. The hostesses were Diane Gettler and Arlene Hakes. Pastor Stark opened devotions with a prayer. Devotions were based on John 17:11-19. It is sometimes called "Jesus high priestly prayer". Devotions closed with prayer. Women's Society is hosting a salad luncheon on June 11th at noon. Ladies are invited from other LCMS churches. All ladies of Zion are also invited to come. (They do not need to bring anything). Please call Sharon Sahr or the church office by June 8th if you can attend. We will eat and then have a short devotion. A musical group from Chi Hi will entertain us. There will be time to visit with our guests after the music. Come and join us for an enjoyable afternoon!



SAVE THESE DATES:

Monday, June 22nd - District Day @ Noah's Ark 8a.m. - 7p.m.

Sunday, July 19th - Swimming in the afternoon. Place to be determined.

July 26th thru 30th - Vacation Bible School

Sunday, August 2nd - Picnic at the Park with Bingo Game

Wednesday, August 5th - Valley Fair... details coming soon

JUNE 11th THE WOMEN'S SUMMER LUNCHEON will be held in the Fellowship Hall at 12:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Sharon Sahr @ 715-720-4864 or Tricia @ 715-723-6380 by June 8th.

TABLE OF DUTIES MONTHLY REVIEW: TO PARENTS

Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. **Eph. 6:4**

HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH FUND: *Gal 6:10 ESV 10* So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith. This fund is for members with emergency financial needs. If you have a need, you may speak with pastor confidentially. The funds are overseen by the Church Council. To donate to this fund, please mark it, "Household of Faith Fund."

COLLEGE BIBLE STUDY will continue to meet during the summer, Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m., in Eau Claire. Contact Pastor for more info. First meeting of the summer is June 10th!

Noah's Ark Day

June 22, 2015

Families and folks of all ages are invited to our annual Noah's Ark Day.

We encourage this to be a family event for the whole congregation.

(Children under age 7 not allowed without parents,)

All children need to have the proper emergency information forms filled out at time of payment.

Your price includes an unlimited use pass at Noah's Ark, lunch, soda, and a chance at great door prizes.

Ages 3 and up \$29 ... 2 and under \$FREE. (You may see other Noah's Ark events at a similar price, but these include less or no lunch, no picnic shelter space for your group and no chance at great prizes).

Activities at Noah's Ark include 4D Theater, bumper boats, arcades, and of course

LOTS OF WATER FUN for all ages.

Bring along sunscreen/ 1 set of dry clothes / and money for a fast-food supper on the way home. *Sandals, or water-shoes and sun-glasses or a hat can make the day easier.*

Eat your Breakfast at home...meet at Church at 8am....we will return by 7pm-ish.

(Friends welcome)

LWML NEWS

Carol Gale, Dianne Schroeder, and Dottie Neumann will be among those attending The 36th Biennial National LWML Convention to be held in Des Moines, IA June 25th – 28th, 2015.

They will be taking "Gifts from the Heart" with them – sharing God's mercy with many others thru Luther Care Services, Lutherans for Life, and Orphan Grain Train. If

you would like to assist in giving support feel free to bring you items to donate and they will get everything to the convention. (See lists of what is needed in attached article or on LWML board).

These ladies will also be going on the “Mission Walk” if you’d like to make a donation to support this mite walk, which provide money for the Mission Grants.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held in the evenings,

Sun. July 26 - Thur. July 30

beginning with a light supper...**Make plans to attend...**and whom you can invite to come along with you. *VBS is a great way to introduce JESUS to your family-members and friends who don't know that HE DIED FOR THEIR SINS, as well as ours.* Our topic will be on the LORD'S PRAYER.

We will hold classes for: PRE-SCHOOL/Kindergarten level; 1st & 2nd; 3rd - 5th. *We hope that the Sixth, Seventh & Eighth grade students will be helping with the various skits, etc. through-out the week.*

(The classes will be assigned as student will begin @ school in the fall).

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the task of sharing the Good News by means of the LORD's Prayer, during this VBS Week. (For more information, speak with Carol Gale or Pastor Stark) *Sign-up on the Education Board by the office before the positions you would like to help with get filled.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Next Fall, we will be looking for a teacher to conduct classes for the 4th, 5th and 6th grade children. **Sept. 13 - May 23**

(It will have about 8-10 students, mostly boys; who can use a good faith-role model leading them; pray-fully consider if you know someone who might be their teacher next term.--we can supply substitutes for when you need to be off).

Zion's Board of Education & Youth

BOARD of EVANGELISM & MISSIONS:

It's a very exciting time for LC-MS Missions... We've more than doubled the number of foreign missionaries in the past two years. We are sharing some of this wonderful news with you . To this end we have chosen to share the information of a couple of men,

who we know,who are getting ready to go to foreign countries. The Szedlaks were missionaries in Japan (1964-74) during the time Dr. Jastram's father was also serving in Japan (1953-76). Rev. David Preus was a classmate of Pastor Stark's at the seminary. We look forward to Rev. Fehrman updating us on the work of CLEF this fall (Oct 4th).

**THANK YOU LETTER FROM CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
WHICH ZION SUPPORTS WITH A MONTHLY DONATION.**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you very much for your on going support of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. This is an exciting time for us here at the Seminary as 32 of our students received their calls into the pastoral ministry this past Tuesday, April 28th. Thank you for partnering with us in our shared mission to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. We are very grateful for your continued prayers and financial support. Thank you again. May God bless you as you continue to serve Him and His Church.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Brian Crane

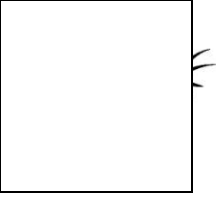
Advancement Office

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne IN



A MESSAGE FROM THE FELLOWSHIP BOARD

May brought us Ascension Day so it was once again time to have our Annual Pizza Supper. Brian Schweisthal and his crew treated those who joined us to many choices of delicious homemade pizzas. If you haven't yet attended one of these suppers you are missing something special. Try to be with us next year.



The next fellowship event will be our Worship in the Park Service followed by our potluck picnic on Sunday, August 2nd. Please mark that date on your calendar. More information will follow closer to that date.