



August  
2015

# Pastor's Page



Zion Lutheran Church

110 East Grand Avenue  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
Website: [www.cfzionlutheran.com](http://www.cfzionlutheran.com)

## “Doctrinal Errors—Salvation is at Stake”

*How do Doctrinal Errors Rob Us and Others of the Comfort of the Gospel?  
(Article #3 continued from June and July)*

### Error X. Dispute Resolution

*Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions declare that all things within the Christian congregation should be done in a spirit of Christian love, be ordered ethically, and in accord with God's Word. Today the Dispute Resolution Process of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has placed a manmade Constitution and Bylaws, convention resolutions, and Commission on Constitutional Matters opinions above Scripture and the Confessions, and has therefore failed to provide either a fair hearing or justice to aggrieved members of the Synod. We reject this error.*

*The system today gives preeminence to the LCMS manmade Constitution and Bylaws. It fails to redress those seeking correction to errors either officially adopted by Synod or tolerated by its elected officials. There can be no discipline unless it is instigated by a District President and if a District President (Ecclesiastical Supervisor) does not discipline an errant pastor or congregation, there is nothing that can be done. As shown by the citations from God's Word, The Lutheran Confessions, and Lutheran theologians, the laity and Pastors have the primary role in judging doctrine. However, Synod has removed the role of the laity and Pastors from judging disputes.<sup>1</sup>*

### The Runaround

Some companies, sometimes deliberately and sometimes not, have customer service dispute resolution processes that make it near impossible to dispute, much less resolve, a problem. For example, a big company makes an error on your bill and clearly violates your contract. You call the customer service number on the back. You listen to the automated options and wait, then wait some more. You finally get through to someone who is in another country and the connection is bad. You explain your situation for 30 min. then the phone call gets dropped. You then go in person to the company's home office and finally find someone who will speak to you. They tell you that you need to go to a different location. You go there and they ask you if you brought with you a notarized #666 Form as was specified in the small print of the contract update that they mailed out. You bring back your notarized form with your dispute, “You clearly violated the contract; simply read the contract and read my bill.” They inform you that their lawyers will look it over and you will get a response by mail. A year later you get a certified letter that says, “We don't interpret the contract that way, five dollars means ten dollars to us, and there is nothing more you can do. Also, if you speak to anyone publicly about this process we are going to sue you. Have a blessed day.”

It used to be so simple; someone made an error on your bill, you contacted them and compared the evidence with the contract. And since contracts, handshakes, and words had meaning, a resolution could be made easily. Now we shouldn't be surprised when greedy companies have dispute resolution systems that do everything they can to silence problems so that the brand name and bottom line aren't hurt. We also shouldn't be surprised when our judges reinterpret the U.S. Constitution until they get the meaning they want. But, it should not be this way in our Synod.

Whether it is intentional or not, the dispute resolution process is broken. The process is set up more like a huge corporation with bylaws and lawyers than the Church humbly submitting to the Word of God alone. Not only is the system needlessly confusing and cumbersome, reflecting a bloated bureaucracy, **but disputes are not received and resolved under the Word of God alone.** That, my friends, is the issue. Once we as Synod decide not to decide disputes by the Word of God alone, then all hell breaks loose rejoicing at our apostasy. If we lose Scripture, we lose the Gospel. These doctrine errors matter, salvation is at stake. – Pastor

<sup>1</sup> [http://s3.amazonaws.com/mychurchwebsite/c2001/outline\\_-\\_dispute\\_resolution.pdf](http://s3.amazonaws.com/mychurchwebsite/c2001/outline_-_dispute_resolution.pdf)

## **We are for life, no matter the cost'**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We logged on to the Internet and Facebook yesterday only to be hit with a sickening story: undercover video footage seemingly implicating Planned Parenthood in the sale of the body parts of aborted children.

In the video, Planned Parenthood Federation of America's Senior Director of Medical Services, Dr. Deborah Nucatola, discusses how she adjusts abortion procedures to procure certain parts of a child's body, even as she notes that "we've been very good at getting heart, lung, liver."

Listen long enough, if you can handle it, and you'll hear her suggest that such items could eventually be listed on a Planned Parenthood "menu" for affiliate organizations to purchase for a price.

Later in the day, Planned Parenthood released a "nothing to see here" kind of statement, asserting that the discussion was merely one revolving around a patient's right to donate tissue, as with any medical procedure. But why does Nucatola then mention the costs of body parts ("Thirty to one hundred dollars," she says)?

Lord, have mercy.

If what Nucatola says is, in fact, the truth, we as Christians cannot allow this story to go untold or be buried by the media. We simply cannot remain silent while the reprehensible act of killing a child in the womb is made even worse by selling portions of that child's dismembered body simply because there is a market for them.

Speaking up about the shameful act of killing children — as well as harvesting their body parts — may be uncomfortable. We may lose friends and create awkward tension at work. Our professors may mock us, and our family may roll their eyes at us. If that is the case, so be it. Because as Lutherans, as Christians, we are for life, no matter the cost.

As Lutherans, we confess that every life has value, that it has worth, that it matters ... from the moment of conception until natural death occurs. We confess that what Nucatola calls "17-weekers" are actually children — with beating hearts and little moving fingers and toes.

We confess that even the tiniest of humans are just that — regardless of what scientific term the culture uses to make them seem like something less. We confess that they are created in the image and likeness of our Lord Himself. And we confess that because of Him, their hearts and lungs and livers matter, no matter how small they might be.

We also admit our own failings in this regard. Where we have failed to speak and act for life, we repent. Where we have not cared for mothers in crisis-pregnancy situations, we ask for forgiveness. Where we have thought more of ourselves than giving to an organization that can assist those moms and babies, we are sorry. Where we have been apathetic to this pandemic of death, we grieve.

But we are not without hope, because our Lord is for life too.

He is so pro-life, in fact, that He has given His own life for us, even as He has laid it down for these tiniest of children. Where their short lives are taken, He offers up His willingly. Where their little bodies are sold, He gives His freely to us at His holy table for the forgiveness of our sins.

Today let us confess life with renewed vigor — to our friends over supper, through letters to the editor of our local paper, by writing our congressmen, in tweets and emails to Planned Parenthood, on our Facebook pages.

Let us pray that our Lord would bring an end to abortion altogether and that He would stop the horrible sale of infant bodies.

And let us pray that He would forgive us, renew us and bolster us to make a good confession in season and out of season: one

that is always, no matter what, for life.

Rev. Bart Day, executive director  
Life and Health Ministries  
LCMS Office of National Mission

### **TABLE OF DUTIES MONTHLY REVIEW: TO WORKERS OF ALL KINDS**

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. **Eph. 6:5-8**



### **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*

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

Karen Ek	8/1
Roderick Hurt	8/5
Barbara Berthiaume	8/9
Sam Hunt	8/9
Rev. Charles Yunghans	8/9
Kristina Lyberg	8/14
Bradley Sundell	8/14
Dorothy Liddell	8/16
Anita Dommer	8/24
Matt Milkert	8/28
Bonnie Jacobson	8/29
Gary Jacobson	8/29



♥ HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: ♥

Brian & Laurie Schweisthal	8/8/1981
Donald & Anamae Verch	8/8/1959
Tony & Christy Welke	8/11/2000
Jacob & Kristy Heisinger	8/13/2005
Roger & Karen Ewings	8/15/1964

Rev. Erno & Doreen Szedlak 8/18/1963

Wayne & Barbara Berthiaume 8/19/1972



### WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS

Women's Society met on Thursday, July 9<sup>th</sup> for a potluck picnic on Flag Hill in Irvine Park.

It was a beautiful sunny day. Fourteen members, six guests and Pastor Yunghans attended.

We enjoyed the good food and fellowship. After eating we played bunco and exchanged small gifts. We thank Lois Eichinger and Carol Evenson for bringing the table cloths and the plates and utensils and setting the tables up.

On August 13<sup>th</sup> we plan to go to "The Edge" (the former Waters Edge) at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. We will meet at church at 12:15 p.m. and carpool. All ladies of Zion are invited to join us. Reservations need to be in by Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Please call Arlene 715-723-3140, Rosa 715-723-1039 or the church office 715-723-6380.



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

Gertrude Boettcher

Erna Welke

Loretta Erickson

## Heart and Seoul

*Since April, Dan has visited three Asian countries as theological education facilitator.*

*This issue focuses on his most recent trip in June.*

Screen shot of Dan's Viber call: wife (Joan); children (Brian, Hannah, and Eleanor); and grandchildren (Everett and Lily) in swing. (Green Lake, Spicer, MN)

### **I'm HERE!**

I hear the incessant ring of my cell phone. Shaking off sleep, I stretch out my hand, madly groping for my phone in this early morning hour. I miss the call, but text him, "I'm here!" We have just recently moved into our daughter's residence, so I actually was not immediately aware of just where "here" was. And I surely did not know where Dan was either. We had a lapse of communication earlier that week when he was without internet access in Taiwan. Dan had called me upon arrival at his hotel in South Korea—5 pm his time. We were excited to be talking together once again.

Seoul, South Korea. Roof-top view. (June, 2015)

### **Seoul Yesterday and Today**

This was Dan's second trip to Seoul: his first was in the '70's when he was attending high school in Tokyo while his father was a missionary in Japan. He traveled a short distance from Japan by ferry and then by bus to visit his high school friend in Seoul. Back then Korea had bare, brown hills, was in the midst of rebuilding after the fighting, and was one of the poorest countries in the world. "Now," Dan reports, "the city is so modern-looking! How green and lush everything is!" It was the start of a fruitful and enjoyable trip in his capacity as a theological education facilitator. For an example of what this work entails, keep reading.

## **The work**

Here is an excerpt from my “interview” of Dan:

*The purpose of my trip was two-fold. One, to sign a cooperative agreement between our seminary and theirs, and secondly, to work out as many details about a specific program as we could, focusing on the possibility of an advanced degree for Korean pastors to take from Concordia Theological Seminary. . . . The Church has a great opportunity to position itself in a way that gives more prominence to the Lutheran Church in Korea as preparations for the 2017 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation are underway. Part of President Kim’s intent is to better equip their Lutheran pastors to be as highly qualified as possible and to encourage them to further their studies with advanced degrees. That involves theological education, not only at a Master of Divinity level that our pastors receive here and there, but also in continuing education for an advanced degree, whether it is the equivalent of a Master of Sacred Theology or a Doctor of Ministry degree.* Dan learned of Dr. Quill’s nickname: Dr. Kill—the Korean pronunciation.

During breaks Dan shared laughter about popular Korean TV shows we’ve enjoyed here in the States on Netflix!

The Peace Bell manufactured from melted military weapons.

From the plaque: “...we welcome the 21st century as a time of reunification and *peace for all mankind*” (my italics). (Located at the DMZ.)

## **Swords into Ploughshares**

On TV or on posters, Dan witnessed people still seeking to be reunited with family members, torn apart by war. We cannot offer political peace, but we can help our Asian sister churches in spreading the eternal “peace that passes all understanding.” You can help us share our rich theological resources—this is our work—not only in Korea, but throughout Northern Asia. We would be honored to have you join with us in this task through your support!

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THANK YOU to all our supporters, both financial and otherwise. We are thankful for God’s provision through individuals and wonderful congregations.

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To support our work financially, you may give a tax-deductible gift securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/jastram>.

Gifts can also be sent to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

P.O. Box 66861

St. Louis, MO 63179-0089

Make checks payable to the The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod,  
with the memo-line notation: “Jastram—Asia support.” To give a gift  
over the phone, please call 1-888-930-4438.

Drop us a line sometime at [daniel.jastram@lcmsintl.org](mailto:daniel.jastram@lcmsintl.org) We would love  
to hear from you!

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