



**November  
2015**

Pastor's  
Page



*Zion Lutheran Church*  
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**“Doctrinal Errors—Salvation is at Stake”**

*How do Doctrinal Errors Rob Us and Others of the Comfort of the Gospel? (Article #5)*

**Error VIII: The Church’s Mission and Her Evangelistic Task**

***Scripture teaches that conversion, the gift of faith, is the work of the Holy Spirit alone, Who calls by the Gospel. Therefore, the Church cannot add one convert to her numbers by her reason or strength.***

We just concluded our October Missions month at Zion. Thank you to all the members and boards who worked hard on all the logistics and festivities! What a joy it was to host Pastor Fehrmann from *The Confessional Lutheran Education Foundation* and Pastor Jastram, a faithful LCMS missionary to Asia. It was refreshing to hear other pastors in the LCMS who hold to the truth and preach the pure Gospel (Sadly, there is no guarantee of this in our Synod today). Additionally, during our Mission’s month we studied Todd Wilken’s paper, “*The Not So Great Commission*” from *Issues, etc.* Let us rejoice together at the faithful service of such missionaries and evangelists in our Synod. While it is easy to see all of the doctrinal errors promoted and tolerated in our Synod, let us not fail to give thanks to our Lord for all of the faithful missions and evangelism taking place both here and abroad. Though none of us deserve It—the Gospel is still being preached among us!

In fact, that is the proper thing to rejoice in—that the Gospel is preached purely and the Sacraments are administered rightly (according to Christ’s institution). This is also the proper definition of *missions and evangelism*. Whenever and wherever the Gospel is preached purely—that is evangelism. And, it is through that means (means of Grace) that the Holy Spirit creates faith when and where He pleases. Sometimes in some places, the Holy Spirit adds many converts to a congregation, and others times not. However, numbers in the church are no indication of faithful evangelism or faith in Christ.

Many churches make it their goal to add numbers and think that is evangelism. Nope. Many also think if they just come up with the right ‘special sauce’, then they will get numbers. Again, no. Sure, you can add numbers in the pews with all sorts of your reason and strength, but Jesus never tells us to make that our goal. Additionally, just because you can fill the pews with ‘special sauce’ doesn’t mean one single soul was added the Church, since this is the work of the Spirit ALONE.

We must recognize that our sinful flesh wants to ignore the ALONE part. We think we can help the Holy Spirit in the Gospel. If we just get the right pastor, music, facility or programs—“If we build it, they will come.” No surprise that there are many LCMS churches swimming in debt with empty gymnasiums and coffee shops. We can’t grow the Church, nor is that what Jesus has commanded us to do. He doesn’t command us to be vacuum salesmen or to use the old “bait and switch” routine. His command is to preach the pure Gospel—make disciples by baptizing and teaching all that He commanded (Matt. 28). It is by the net of the Gospel alone that Jesus fishes for men. It is the proclamation of the pure Gospel and the right administration of the Sacraments that makes a faithful pastor, congregation, and Synod.

At Zion, may we continue to support true evangelism here and abroad, trusting that the Holy Spirit knows what He is doing when it comes to conversion. May we walk by faith and not by sight. And, by God’s grace, may we continue to call to repentance those in our Synod who have swallowed the lie of “evangelism of numbers” hook line and sinker.

“Faith comes by hearing and hearing through the Word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)

To God be the Glory Alone!  
Pastor

## The Lutheran Fathers Conference

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

The Lutheran Fathers Conference is meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 9:30AM to about 3PM, at Zion Lutheran Church in Chippewa Falls. We are studying Martin Luther's *The Bondage of the Will* as translated by J.I. Packer & O.R. Johnston. In August we covered through the bottom of page 238; please prepare pages 239 through 272, which is all of chapter VI in *The Bondage of the Will*. Chapter VI reviews those texts which Erasmus uses to deny 'free will'. It has been a great study which gets at the heart of what the Reformation was all about and we will be finishing it up as the 500th anniversary of the Reformation approaches. There is no cost and prior attendance is not required. These meetings are open to all pastors, laymen, and laywomen. If you have questions or need directions, please contact the

church office at 715-723-6380 or  
zionlutheranconf@charterinternet.com. Please come  
and join us!

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

Joe Calkins	11/2
Nancy Sahr	11/2
Tyler Lyberg	11/4
Richard Hanson	11/7
Patricia Taylor	11/7
Joseph Blake	11/11
Lindy Clark	11/16
John Liddell	11/19
Taylor Schoelzel	11/22
Eric Benson	11/23
Lance Clark	11/23
Mavis Berry	11/24
Jarred Ewings	11/27
Laurie Hurt	11/29

♥ HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO: ♥

Jerry & Karen Clark	11/3/1990
Gary & Katherine Gonyer	11/14/1970
Pastor & Brianne Stark	11/21/2003

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

Juanita Lueck

Myrna Mattison

Lila Pahl

**WOMEN'S SOCIETY NEWS**

Women's Society met on Thursday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>. After the table prayer, Geneva Emanuel and Coila Ziebarth served cake and ice cream.

Pastor opened devotions with a prayer. We read an article from the September Lutheran Witness titled "Death".

Meeting was held following devotions with 13 members, and 3 guests attending. Will sponsor a radio broadcast this month. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Guests are always welcome and encouraged to come.

**MEN'S GROUP** will meet at church on Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Rev. Yunghan's will present a short summary of the basic teachings of Islam, and Pastor will serve smoked pork for supper. Don't miss it; it should be a meaty discussion!

**WE WELCOME** Mr. Earl and Mrs. Marlys Jones by way of transfer from Trinity LCMS, Hayward, WI.

**Table of Duties Monthly Review: To Widows**

The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. **1 Tim. 5:5-6**

