

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – AUGUST 16, 2015

### DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Today: 5:30-8:30PM Joint VBS at St. Peter's, Belvidere  
Monday: 5:30-8:30PM Joint VBS at St. Peter's, Belvidere  
Tuesday: 5:30-8:30PM Joint VBS at St. Peter's, Belvidere  
Wed: 5:30-8:30PM Joint VBS at St. Peter's, Belvidere  
Thursday: 12:00PM Ladies Aid Picnic at Bay Point Park  
5:30-8:30PM Joint VBS at St. Peter's, Belvidere  
7:00PM Women's Bible Class  
Friday: 10:30AM KWNG Recording Session  
2:00PM Plaza Service  
TBA Board of Elders  
Next Sunday: The 13th Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30AM Worship

### HAPPY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

Today - David Arndt, Jeremy Schafer  
Thursday - Dylan Frazier, Bill & Sheila Boyer  
Friday - Ashleigh Gernentz  
Saturday - Adam Bremer, Alex Simanski, Dean & Laurie Budensiek

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Willard Holst, Jeanette Falkner, Bill Langhans, Leonard Dicke, Melissa Barbey, DaWayne Wichern (lung cancer), Jomar Dicke (lung cancer), Neil Stemmann (recovering from surgery), and Colleen Kahn.

### LIFE QUOTE

**August 16** "As Man alone, Jesus could not have saved us; as God alone, He would not; incarnate, He could and did." *Malcolm Muggeridge, British journalist – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

### VBS SUPPER

The Immanuel congregation is responsible for the supper that will be served to VBS participants at St. Peter's of Belvidere on Tuesday, August 18th. A sign-up sheet for those who are willing to bring food and/or serve has been posted on the bulletin board. If you are not able to be present on the evening of the 18th and would still like to share a food item, just let Pastor Sorenson know and leave your item in the refrigerator/kitchen. Thanks!

### CONFIRMATION MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

If you would like to serve as a mentor for the 2015-2016 confirmation year, please fill out the required form and give it to Pastor Sorenson or a member of the Board of Education (Bonnie Kassen, Doug Dankers, or Bob Augustin). You may sign up as a married couple or as an individual. You will be contacted once the pairing of Mentor/Mentee has occurred. A schedule of planned group activities/dates will also be available at that time. Thank you for your consideration.

### "THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, August 23, 2015

8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)

#### "Faith Faces the Future"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

"If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31)

(OVER)

## REVIEW: THE DOCTRINAL POSITION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

### Of the Church (From "The Brief Statement")

We believe that there is one holy Christian Church on earth, the Head of which is Christ and which is gathered, preserved, and governed by Christ through the Gospel.

The members of the Christian Church are the Christians, that is, all those who have despaired of their own righteousness before God and believe that God forgives their sins for Christ's sake. The Christian Church, in the proper sense of the term, is composed of believers only, Acts 5:14; 26:18; which means that no person in whom the Holy Ghost has wrought faith in the Gospel, or -- which is the same thing -- in the doctrine of justification, can be divested of his membership in the Christian Church; and, on the other hand, that no person in whose heart this faith does not dwell can be invested with such membership. All unbelievers, though they be in external communion with the Church and even hold the office of teacher or any other office in the Church, are not members of the Church, but, on the contrary, dwelling-places and instruments of Satan, Eph. 2:2. This is also the teaching of our Lutheran Confessions: "It is certain, however, that the wicked are in the power of the devil and members of the kingdom of the devil, as Paul teaches, Eph. 2:2, when he says that 'the devil now worketh in the children of disobedience,'" etc. (Apology, Triglot, p. 231, Paragraph 16; M., p. 154.)

Since it is by faith in the gospel alone that men become members of the Christian Church, and since this faith cannot be seen by men, but is known to God alone, 1 Kings 8:39; Acts 1:24; 2 Tim. 2:19, therefore the Christian Church on earth is invisible till Judgment Day, Col. 3:3, 4. In our day some Lutherans speak of two sides of the Church, taking the means of grace to be its "visible side." It is true, the means of grace are necessarily related to the Church, seeing that the Church is created and preserved through them. But the means of grace are not for that reason a part of the Church; for the Church, in the proper sense of the word, consists only of believers, Eph. 2:19, 20; Acts 5:14. Lest we abet the notion that the Christian Church in the proper sense of the term is an external institution, we shall continue to call the means of grace the "marks" of the Church. Just as wheat is to be found only where it has been sown, so the Church can be found only where the Word of God is in use.

We teach that this Church, which is the invisible communion of all believers, is to be found not only in those external church communions which teach the Word of God purely in every part, but also where, along with error, so much of the Word of God still remains that men may be brought to the knowledge of their sins and to faith in the forgiveness of sins, which Christ has gained for all men, Mark 16:16; Samaritans: Luke 17:16; John 4:25