

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 26, 2011**

**DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK**

Pastor on Vacation through June 30. For emergency assistance, please call Pastor Scott Fiege at 712-880-1226.

Monday: 8:30PM Softball vs. New River, Field 1  
Tuesday: 8:30PM Softball vs. Vasa, Field 2  
Wednesday: St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles:  
Acts 15:1-21; Gal. 2:1-10;  
Matt. 16:13-19  
Friday: 6:00PM Golfing Group—Gopher Hills  
Next Sunday: Third Sunday after Pentecost  
9:30AM Worship with Holy Communion

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

Monday - Shelly & Denise Simanski  
Thursday - Mark Diercks, Erika Beach

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

Philip Sorenson (recovering from full pancreatectomy), Dave Dicke (still waiting for a transplant), Mark Yahn, Jean Bateman, Melissa Barbey, Thor Starch, and Leonard Dicke (healing).

**June 26** "Whenever Satan whispers into the ear of an expectant mother, 'It's your body, your fetus, your choice,' that's when we will share the Lord's Word which says: 'You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body' (1 Corinthians 6:19b-20). To those who are afraid of an unknown future, we will share God's promise: 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine' (Isaiah 43: 1b-3a)." *Ken R. Klaus, former speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life – [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

**"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, July 3**  
**8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)**  
**"Living in the Freedom of Faith"**

**Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz**

Those who trust in Jesus have the one thing everyone wants: real freedom! It is a freedom born of God's love in action, through Christ's life, death, and resurrection for us. (Galatians 5:1, 25)

**The Brief Statement of the Doctrinal Position of the Missouri Synod (1932)**  
**"Of the Election of Grace" (Continued)**

Christians can and should be assured of their eternal election. This is evident from the fact that Scripture addresses them as the chosen ones and comforts them with their election, Eph. 1:4; 2 Thess. 2:13. This assurance of one's personal election, however, springs only from faith in the Gospel, from the assurance that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; on the contrary, through the life, suffering, and

death of His Son He fully reconciled the whole world of sinners unto Himself. Faith in this truth leaves no room for the fear that God might still harbor thoughts of wrath and damnation concerning us. Scripture inculcates that in Rom. 8:32, 33: "He that spared not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth." Luther's pastoral advice is therefore in accord with Scripture: "Gaze upon the wounds of Christ and the blood shed for you; there predestination will shine forth." (St. Louis ed., II, 181; on Gen. 26:9) That the Christian obtains the personal assurance of his eternal election in this way is taught also by our Lutheran Confessions (Formula of Concord, Triglot, p. 1071, Paragraph 26, M. 709): "Of this we should not judge according to our reason nor according to the Law or from any external appearance. Neither should we attempt to investigate the secret, concealed abyss of divine predestination, but should give heed to the revealed will of God. For He has made known unto us the mystery of His will and made it manifest through Christ that it might be preached, Eph. 1:9ff.; 2 Tim. 1:9f." -- In order to insure the proper method of viewing eternal election and the Christian's assurance of it, the Lutheran Confessions set forth at length the principle that election is not to be considered "in a bare manner (nude), as though God only held a muster, thus: 'This one shall be saved, that one shall be damned'" (Formula of Concord, Triglot, p. 1065, Paragraph 9; M., p. 706); but "the Scriptures teach this doctrine in no other way than to direct us thereby to the Word, Eph. 1:13; 1 Cor. 1:7; exhort to repentance, 2 Tim. 3:16; urge to godliness, Eph. 1:14; John 15:3; strengthen faith and assure us of our salvation, Eph. 1:13; John 10:27f.; 2 Thess. 2:13f." (Formula of Concord, Triglot, p. 1067, Paragraph 12; M., p. 707). -- To sum up, just as God in time draws the Christian unto Himself through the Gospel, so He has already in His eternal election endowed them with "sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth," 2 Thess. 2:13. Therefore: If, by the grace of God, you believe in the Gospel of the forgiveness of your sins for Christ's sake, you are to be certain that you also belong to the number of God's elect, even as Scripture, 2 Thess. 2:13, addresses the believing Thessalonians as the chosen of God and gives thanks to God for their election.

