

ANNOUNCEMENTS – JUNE 28, 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Monday: 8:30AM Youth Event – Lutheran Youth Day at Valley Fair
8:30PM Adult Softball vs. St. Paul's, Field 1
Thursday: 9:00AM LWML Meeting at Peace, Faribault
Friday: 10:30AM KWNG Recording Session
5:00PM Meyer/Heisterberg Rehearsal
Saturday: Happy Independence Day!
2:00PM Meyer/Heisterberg Wedding
Next Sunday: Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30AM Worship with Holy Communion

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday - Erika Beach, Mark Diercks
Wednesday - Brad Rortvedt
Thursday - Bud Rehder
Friday - Dean Budensiek

IN OUR PRAYERS

Willard Holst, Jeanette Falkner, Bill Langhans, Hermann von Knobelsdorff, Leonard Dicke, Kari Janssen, Melissa Barbey, DaWayne Wichern (lung cancer), Jomar Dicke (lung cancer), Neil Stemmann (recovering from surgery) and Christians suffering persecution and death in the Middle East, Africa, and around the world.

REVIEW: THE DOCTRINAL POSITION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD Of Conversion (From "The Brief Statement")

On the basis of these clear statements of the Holy Scriptures (Col. 2:12; Jn. 1:12-13; 1 Pet. 1:23-25) we reject every kind of synergism, that is, the doctrine that conversion is wrought not by the grace and power of God alone, but in part also by the co-operation of man himself, by man's right conduct, his right attitude, his right self-determination, his lesser guilt or less evil conduct as compared with others, his refraining from willful resistance, or anything else whereby man's conversion and salvation is taken out of the gracious hands of God and made to depend on what man does or leaves undone. For this refraining from willful resistance or from any kind of resistance is also solely a work of grace, which "changes unwilling into willing men," Ezek. 36:26; Phil. 2:13. We reject also the doctrine that man is able to decide for conversion through "powers imparted by grace," since this doctrine presupposes that before conversion man still possesses spiritual powers by which he can make the right use of such "powers imparted by grace."

On the other hand, we reject also the Calvinistic perversion of the doctrine of conversion, that is, the doctrine that God does not desire to convert and save all hearers of the Word, but only a portion of them. Many hearers of the Word indeed remain unconverted and are not saved, not because God does not earnestly desire their conversion and salvation, but solely because they stubbornly resist the gracious operation of the Holy Ghost, as Scripture teaches, Acts 7:51; Matt. 23:37; Acts 13:46.

As to the question why not all men are converted and saved, seeing that God's grace is universal and all men are equally and utterly corrupt, we confess that we cannot answer it. From Scripture we know only this: A man owes his conversion and salvation, not to any lesser guilt or better conduct on his part, but solely to the grace of God. But any man's non-conversion is due to himself alone; it is the result of his obstinate resistance against the converting operation of the Holy Ghost. Hos. 13:9.