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Today in Church History? It was on June 25, 1530 that the "Lutherans" (a moniker they did not want to have) were finally allowed to present their beliefs before the Church and Emperor. It was tense, and it was wonderful. You can read all that they said in The Augsburg Confession. They spoke truth to power.

God's Kingdom of the *Right Hand* is the Church. God's Kingdom of the *Left Hand* is the world, including -- but not limited to -- governments. The Church's main task is to speak the truth and grace of God. We're still doing it today when we worship and when we witness. Sometimes we also need to stand up and winsomely speak the truth to the Kingdom of the Left Hand, especially in matters of morality, liberty, justice, and stewardship. At the end of this green sheet you can read about how we're opening an office in Washington D.C. for the purpose of speaking truth to and with our lawmakers. It's called the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

We will not neglect our chief task: declaring God's grace and truth for the salvation of souls.

As we prepare to celebrate our national day of Independence next week, we will still rejoice that we are completely dependent on the Triune God, the One before Whom all knees will bow, and the One Who redeems sinners. Rejoice in our history and in our future!

Pastor Mike Erdick



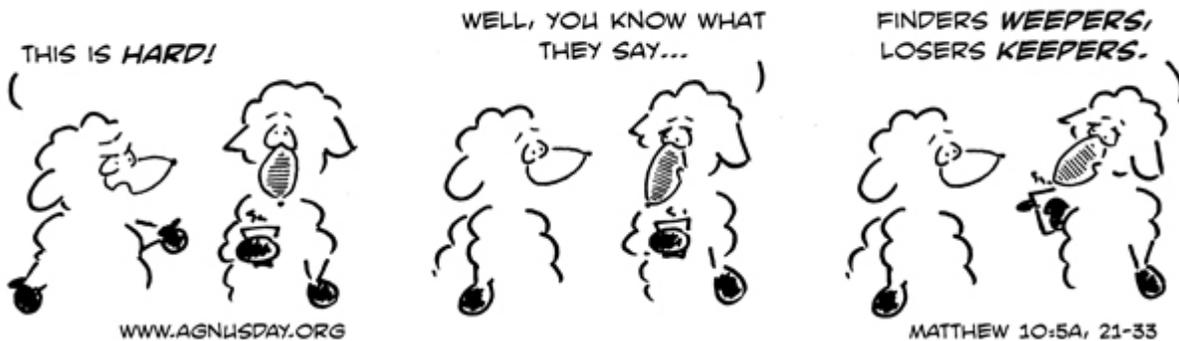
Have you placed a "hope" in our "Hope Chest" at the Student Center or Church? These wooden boxes are ready to receive your cards. Let our congregational leadership know what you ...

hope we continue doing.
hope we will start or restart doing.

It's a great way to share your suggestions with the congregation!

Martin Luther said and wrote a lot of things. As we celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, we're highlighting what he said about one of the Lessons we're hearing each Sunday.

Here he speaks of today's Gospel: Matt. 10:5a, 21-33 **"The truth is being proclaimed and is heard, but we are rebuked for it as liars. And though we defend our position most fitly and make it clearer than the sun, we are nonetheless railed at and reviled. It is inevitable that we take abuse and are viewed with glass eyes. Well, if it cannot be otherwise, then let it remain so. This is unavoidable if people view things through painted glass, and I cannot change it. Christ experienced this too. They called Him a rebel. Yes, they called the Master of the house Beelzebub, therefore they will also call us devils."** LW 23:241



THE LORD WILLING, THIS WEEK THROUGH IMMANUEL ... IN THE NAME OF JESUS

Sunday, June 25, 2017

Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM
 Worship Service (C) 8:30 AM
 Bible Class (C) 9:45 AM
 Pastor at St. Paul, Bowen 10:30 AM

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

Quilter's Guild (C) 9:00 AM

Sunday, July 2, 2017

Lutheran Hour (96.7 FM) 7:30 AM
 Worship Service (SC) 8:30 AM
 Bible Class (SC) 9:45 AM
 SC = Student Center (303 N. Clay) C = Church (906 E. Grant)

7:30am Sundays at 96.7FM. Sponsored by Immanuel!

July 2 "Serving in the Power of the Spirit" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
 Because Christ has paid our debt, we are no longer captive to sin but are free to live for others, in His name. (Romans 7:1-13)

July 9 "Living as Christ's Person in Repentance and Faith" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
 Life out of control? Turn to God in repentance and faith. Let Him act before you do. (Romans 7:14-25)



Remember! Next Sunday, July 2, we switch locations, but not times!
8:30am Services will be at the Student Center, 303 N Clay St, July 2-August 6. Bring a friend! Share the grace.

Homestay families are still needed for the Chinese and Korean students visiting WIU this summer. July 14-16 they will be staying with volunteer households in Macomb. Volunteer! Contact Ruth Kostreva in the WIU Center for International Studies at 309-298-1150.

Our congregation will prayerfully nominate and elect lay leaders for Immanuel's ministry on July 23. Terms of service begin September 1st. Speak with our Nominating Committee (Marc Troxel, Michelle Wenndt, Pastor Burdick) if you're interested in a position of servant-leadership.

Here's the composition of our Church Council.

- President
- Vice-President
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- Financial Secretary
- Council of Elders
- Board of Education
- Board of Outreach & Fellowship
- Board of Trustees
- Preschool
- Council Member at Large

"Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the Church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes."

While Pastor Burdick is away from Macomb on vacation this summer (including for a few days this week as they visit Nate, Alyssa, and Henry in Minnesota), our elders stand ready to receive your needs for pastoral care in case of emergency. They will, in turn, contact Pastor Kirk Cunningham of Clayton. You could also contact Pastor Burdick on his mobile number (309-255-5580), and he would help make arrangements. Thank you. Immanuel Elders: Doug Erickson, Curt Strode, Terry Standard

The first executive director has been named for the Synod's first office in Washington, D.C., in 17 years.

The board of directors of the new Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL) has received a letter from the Rev. Dr. Gregory P. "Greg" Seltz — speaker for "The Lutheran Hour" since 2011 — informing the board that he officially accepts its call to fill the LCRL executive-director post.

The LCRL provides input, education, advice and resources in the areas of marriage, life issues and religious liberty and seeks to actively engage in discussions and establish partnerships, as appropriate, with individuals and groups in Washington, D.C.

"What a joy to have served our Church being the Lutheran Hour speaker, sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the radio each week," Seltz said. "But, what a privilege now to accept the call to lead the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, to serve all of our churches, schools and universities by ensuring that their voices continue to be heard, serving the cause of religious liberty for all of our people so that God's Word will indeed not be bound, but go forth and bear much fruit."

After a transition period at Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM — sponsor of "The Lutheran Hour") and orientation for his new position with the Synod, Seltz will relocate from St. Louis to head the LCRL office in Washington. It has been 17 years since the Synod last had an office and staff in the nation's capital.

"Greg Seltz is an extraordinary, very gifted individual," said Synod President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, who is president of the four-member LCRL board. In his June 6 message to the church body announcing the call to Seltz, Harrison noted that the board "sought an individual with theological depth, a spirit of entrepreneurialism, strong communication and relationship skills, and the ability to carefully navigate the political environment in our nation's capital. ... We believe that Dr. Seltz can fulfill this role with the integrity, professionalism and commitment required to make the LCRL a permanent voice for confessional Lutheranism in Washington, D.C."

Harrison later told Reporter that Seltz "understands the great gift of the Lutheran Two-Kingdoms doctrine — the teachings of the secular and spiritual realms — how they interact, how they're a blessing to each other and how they ought to be carefully distinguished." He noted that this doctrine is the subject of Seltz's current doctoral studies at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

He also spoke of Seltz as "a great communicator. The future of the LCRL is very bright as we take our place on Capitol Hill to advocate for religious freedom." Harrison noted that the Synod's interests "on [Capitol] Hill" continue to be advocated by others such as the Becket Fund, Alliance Defending Freedom, The Heritage Foundation and LCMS congressional representatives," and that "we look forward to networking with many more who share our concerns."

He added that although erosion of religious liberty has lessened somewhat with the Republican administration in Washington, "issues further threatening those freedoms continue apace. ... It simply is not right for us not to have direct representation there."

"Now, with the naming of Greg Seltz as the [LCRL] executive director, we believe that we have great impetus to move forward," Harrison said. "People are very excited about the LCRL and want to help out."

Two other members of the LCRL board — Timothy Goeglein, vice-president for External Relations at Focus on the Family in Washington, D.C., and Concordia University System President Rev. Dr. Dean O. Wenthe — also commented on Seltz accepting the call.

"The LCRL board and many in the LCMS have worked for many years to come to this important and pivotal moment," said Goeglein. "We are excited to work with Greg and have every confidence in his ability to speak boldly into this cultural moment in the public arena of our beloved country. Marriage, human life, and religious liberty and conscience comprise a dynamic, central, and fundamental core of issues that are hotly contested. We shall welcome his clarity, courage, and clear-eyed nurture and defense of all we believe as Christians in 21st century America. We know the grace, mercy and goodness of Jesus Christ will lead Greg as he navigates the shoals of our culture and our era."

"It is a delight to learn that the Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz has accepted the leadership role in Synod's Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty," Wenthe said. "Dr. Seltz brings a remarkable skill set to this calling at a time when the Church's role in the public square is increasingly challenged. His experience as a pastor, ... a professor ... and as Lutheran Hour speaker has given him extensive exposure to the cultural and social realities that shape American culture. As a superlative communicator and one well-versed in the Two-Kingdom perspective of confessional Lutheranism, his voice will prove to be both informed and nuanced to reach the multiple audiences and constituencies of Washington, D.C. May the Lord bless his labors so that the Church's confession and practice might be spoken with such charity and clarity that many will be influenced to act on behalf of religious liberty." - www.lcms.org

RETURN BABY BOTTLES FOR BIRTHRIGHT THANK YOU!

Congratulations to Sam and Donna Marlow on the birth of another granddaughter -- Emerson Raye Marlow was born Thursday to Gatlin and Alison Marlow. Mom and baby are doing well. Praise the Lord!