

President's Piece for Peace

Rev. Dr. Brian S. Saunders
District President

FEBRUARY

Recently I was asked by Lutherans For Life to attend a meeting with the Iowa senators and congressmen who are members of Missouri Synod congregations. I and President Steve Turner from Iowa District West were able to spend the better part of a day with these men and women who serve in public office.

The topics of discussion were life issues, both at the beginning and end of life. A very interesting presentation was made by a Doctor of OB/GYN on the union of seed and egg. I learned a great deal from her and soaked in more than I was able to contribute.

The LCMS public servants then asked a barrage of questions wanting to know biblical answers and narratives to the situations they encounter in their elected vocations. The majority of the time this was going on there was a loud raucous of voices echoing through the halls of the capital. I finally asked what that was and I was told that they were the voices of opposition to a speech that was made in chambers.

We broke for lunch and I had a chance to speak candidly with our hosts and I asked them if this kind of opposition was normal. They said that their forums, communications, and interactions are meeting with more and more opposition on matters of biblical importance. I also met other public servants who are not members of the LCMS but are very supportive of our biblical view on life. They too indicated the difficulty of standing for the issues that Jesus and the Apostles (their words) have communicated in His eternal Word.

After our meeting ended, for those who remained, I offered up prayer and devotions for them. They deeply appreciated the encouragement, study of the Word and prayer on their behalf. The point of this article is to remind you to lift the public servants of local and national government to the Throne of Grace in prayer. Pray for all the members who serve the public domain. Their work is God given and can be very difficult.

You and I are blessed to live in the kingdoms of the right and of the left which means we do have an opportunity to participate in both. As God's Holy Word and blessed Sacraments come to you in Divine Service you participate in the gift of life and salvation. As you exercise the right of prayer, especially for our public servants, you participate in the kingdom of the left governance. I might particularly point out the need to pray for your brothers and sisters who not only serve in the public realm but also worship and make witness of the Word through the Lutheran Confessions. They work hard and sometimes without thanks.

You can get the names of our LCMS public servants from LFS. I encourage you to do so and lift them to the Lord for His strength and faithfulness to His Word. They make many decisions, not all of them appreciated, some of them opposed. Pray that they may be led by God's grace and directed by His will.