

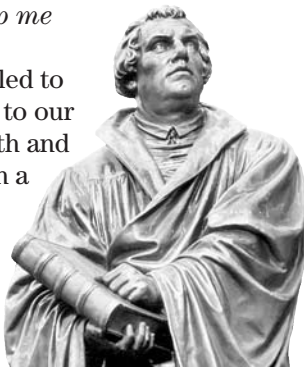
Counselor's corner

"Therefore, it is our intent to give witness before God and all Christendom ... that the explanation here set forth ... is our teaching, faith, and confession. In it we shall appear before the judgment throne of Jesus Christ, by God's grace, with fearless hearts and thus give account of our faith..." ("The Solid Declaration of the Formula of Concord," XII, 40).



As Dr. Luther nailed his 95 Thesis to the church door in Wittenberg, he probably wasn't thinking of the furor that would result. The uproar came later as those who had badly maligned Scripture came into the light of the Truth. We celebrate the Reformation as that day when Luther stepped into the public square to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. But we must not forget that Luther also stood before the King and Pope, ordered to deny what he had written and said — or face death. With unchecked courage he spoke, *"I cannot and will not recant anything, for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand, I can do no other; so help me God."*

We are called to give witness to our teaching, faith and confession in a world in which controversy about the Word of



God is prevalent. To Peter's confession of faith, Jesus said *"... I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matt. 16:18). We stand on the rock-like confession of Christ as the Son of God and we, with the Reformers, "can do no other, so help [us] God" (Martin Luther speech, April 18, 1521, at the Diet of Worms, Germany).

*Rev. Don Stauty
Arrowhead Region Counselor*



22nd Annual Quilt Auction Lutheran Island Camp

The quilting group from Zion, Little Falls, Minn., sent 20 quilts to the Lutheran Island Camp quilt auction, held Aug. 3, 2013 (quilts pictured above).

Quilts for the auction were sewn with love by many LCMS quilting groups, LWML societies and individuals. The Lutheran Island Camp staff are appreciative of the support, "We give thanks to God for a glorious day. The weather was perfect, the LIC staff worked very hard, our volunteers were magnificent, the quilts were extraordinary and the bidders were generous. It is great to be a part of the Lutheran Island Camp family! Thank you for making your Lutheran Island Camp an even better place for children and families. We raised in excess of \$27,000 this year, which exceeded previous amounts by about \$3,000. Praise God!"



Blanket of many colors

On the charter bus trip to the 2013 LWML Convention in Pittsburgh, many women were busy knitting or crocheting 8-inch squares. These squares were then sewn together to make a cozy blanket to be given to someone in need. Linda Jeske of rural Browerville and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Staples, spearheaded the project. Marilyn Hiltel, Sauk Rapids, Minn., and Jeske brought yarn and knitting needles along on the bus trip and the convention bus riders did the rest.

If you are a knitter, you are familiar with the many partial or full skeins of yarn that accumulate over time — leftovers of past projects. For most of us, it is hard to throw them out because we someday might find a use for them. This is the perfect project for you or your society. The blocks are quick to work up and an excellent way to try out new stitches, teach someone how to knit or make the blanket a group project.

If you or your society are interested in doing this in your local area, Jeske will be glad to share her information with you. You can contact her at lkjeske@twecwb.com.