

# **The Office of the Keys vis a vis Congregational and Synodical Polity (Governance)**

October 18, 2015



## **II. Authority Within the Christian Congregation**

### **A. The Roll of Creeds and the Confessions**

Although Scriptures are the sole rule and norm of Christian faith and life, the Creeds and Confessions are the true confession of the Scriptures and Christ in the midst of errors.

Mt. 16.13-19

Mt. 28.18f

Romans 16.17-18

Unalterable article of Synod and Congregational Constitutions.

### **B. The dependence of each member on Christ and his Church.**

Mt. 28.18f

John 15.5

Confirmation oaths

### **C. The role of each Spirit filled/gifted member.**

Romans 13

Constitution and by laws; Congregation organization and discipline

Acts 6 – freedom to form offices

Acts 15 – congregational discussion and vote

Mt. 18 – Recognitions of members (active faith) and exclusion (non repentance).