

August 2018

Dear Friends,

Years ago I learned that my paternal grandfather and maternal grandfather didn't get along very well. My father told me that my mother and he had a way that they could get together outside of school. They would go to a place that no one could object to, the little Methodist church in their hometown and there they spent time together in the meetings and services. That experience had a profound effect on my father and he made it clear to me once, "Jay, I want to be a Lutheran but I want to sing like a Methodist." The words of those hymns touched my father very deeply and at his request I sang one for his funeral.

After years of hearing many of these wonderful compositions I understand why my father was so enchanted with them. The lyrics are incredible and often show a depth unrivaled by other hymn writers. One of my favorites is Charles Wesley whose work that we call O for a Thousand Tongues in its original form was an 18 verse hymn Glory to God, and Praise and Love. This hymn was shortened using only some of the verses and given the title O for a Thousand Tongues from the opening line of the 7th verse. Wesley wrote it on the first anniversary of his awakening, the time when he had fully understood that Jesus had provided the full atonement for all Wesley's sin through His sacrificial blood. So he penned;

He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free; His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

He made it clear sin no longer has any power to bring accusation and guilt to those who abide in Christ. Our past iniquity is no longer remembered by God. (Jeremiah 31:34) In his original Wesley went on to write;

Look unto him, ye nations; own Your God, ye fallen race; Look, and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.

See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain; His soul was once an offering made For every soul of man

All that's left to say is "Amen." Thanks be to God!

God's Peace,
Jay Weidner



DONATIONS RECEIVED

In memory of Dr. Albert Saari
from Ellie Puumala

In memory of Edward Puumala
from Ellie Puumala

In memory of James J. Johnson
Kenneth Heikka

LOOKING ahead to the Fall Semester



Have you considered taking a class at the seminary but live out of the area. Our on-line capability through YouTube makes it possible. For more information or if you are interested in taking a class, contact the office at 906-482-3337 or email: cilseminary@ilseminary.com.

Following is a description of the classes being offered this fall.

Christian Dogmatics I (3 credits) – Lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines including an in-dept look at the prolegomena for doing any study of systematic theology.

Galatians (1 credit) – An interpretation of the epistle according to the Greek text along with an analysis of its structure and doctrinal content.

New Testament Introduction (2 credits) – An introductory study of the origin, authorship, purpose and reliability of the New Testament writings with special attention devoted to their literary design and individual and corporate unity.

Principles of Biblical Interpretation (3 credits) - A history and study of the hermeneutical techniques and their application to the scriptures, including the methods of Textual Analysis.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ to John (2 credits) – An exegetical study and interpretation of the book emphasizing its structure and content.

Working as a Deaconess II (2 credits) – A second course which explores the use of Deaconess skills involving both congregational and personal care and the employment of such skills in the current church setting.

**ATTENTION SUPPORTERS:
There are several ways to support the Seminary.**



Have you ever have used Amazon.com to do your shopping? Now AmazonSmile offers the same products, same prices and same service and will also donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

Simply log use in by using this link....

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0918317>

which will bring you directly to smile.amazon.com in support of our organization.



The Thrivent Choice® program offers a way members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach funds. As a benefit member, your ownership of Thrivent Financial products and services help make this support possible.

Remember....If you are an eligible member 16 and older you can recommend how to distribute Thrivent Financial charitable grant funds thought Choice Dollars®. Member eligibility and the Choice Dollars designated are based on:

- Holding a Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership position; or
- Having \$750 or more in annual premiums of qualifying insurance products; or
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying products.

For more information about Choice Dollars, visit <http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice> or call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.



HERE'S ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN HELP THE SEMINARY

Several years ago, the Seminary board of directors established the Inter-Lutheran Seminary Endowment Fund. Funds contributed to the endowment are not used for current day to day operations. Only the annual earnings of the endowment will be used for the seminary's needs thereby ensuring the continued existence of this funding source. This is the preferred method used by many non-profit entities, especially ongoing religiously focused organizations such as seminaries.

While this is an excellent strategy, it has proven a challenge for us to actually meet the minimum funding requirements. Until now, the fund has existed but remained unfunded. By the Lord's grace we have been blessed with a large contribution to fund the Inter-Lutheran Seminary Endowment Fund. We would love to build on this generous contribution to grow our endowment into a major source of ongoing seminary support.

Although the seminary still needs the financial ongoing regular contributions of our supporters, please consider the endowment fund for your planned giving needs. The seminary has chosen the InFaith Community Endowment Fund (the renamed Lutheran Brotherhood Foundation) to administer our endowment fund. They will provide experienced legal advice to help guide you with any contribution questions done through estate planning in addition to lump sum contributions, IRAs, property and securities. For more additional information, please contact Kirk Otto, Jr. at (715) 294-4343 or Cheryl Hendrickson at (906) 482-3337.