



# Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

914 Pine Street, PO Box 449, Hancock, MI 49930 • (906) 482-3337 • [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org)  
a Minnesota Corporation

December 2010

Dear Friends,

*“And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup> Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”*

## Luke 2:10-14

There are two important thoughts in the first verse alone. First, the angel commands that the shepherds have no fear, in spite of this heavenly visitation. The message that the angel brings is joyful rather than a fearful one. The Apostle John tells us in his epistle *“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. <sup>19</sup> We love him, because he first loved us.”*

**I John 4:18-19** All fear will be dispelled, because God’s gift of perfect love is coming to mankind.

Secondly, the angel brings “good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” God has good news to share with mankind, and the message is a simple one: a Saviour is born. It is not a message of law, but of grace and truth. *“For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.”* **John 1:17** The message is not about what we must do for God, but what He intends to do for us. God is not angry with His people, He loves them with an everlasting love. God has not come to punish His people, but to deliver them from the forces of darkness.

What was first heard by the shepherds as a promise is our present reality. The Saviour has come, and has redeemed us from sin with His precious blood. Christ has given us life and salvation through His death and resurrection. As Charles Wesley the songwriter puts it in one of his Christmas hymns:

“Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no More may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth”

May the good tidings of the angel fill your hearts with joy during the coming Christmas season and always. Rejoice, your Saviour has come!

Yours in Christ.  
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



## *Memorials received...*

*In memory of Darlene Heikka*  
From Kenneth Heikka

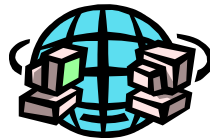


## **Seminary Service Schedule** **7 p.m.**

### **December**

5<sup>th</sup> - Ray Stenersen @ Alston  
12<sup>th</sup> - Charles Jousma @ Laurium  
19<sup>th</sup> - Nick Kandoll @ Zion

## **UPCOMING SPRING SEMESTER**



## **ON-LINE CLASS CAPABILITY**

The spring semester begins Monday, January 17, 2011. There is still time to enroll! For the complete class schedule, please refer our website [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org). Go to the *Academic Information* button then click on *Class Schedule*.

The Inter-Lutheran Seminary also offers classes via the Internet. In order to be compatible with our system, you would need to have high-speed Internet service and a webcam. If you are interested in taking classes on-line classes, please contact the seminary to inquire, at (906) 482-3337 or email: [cilseminary@ilseminary.com](mailto:cilseminary@ilseminary.com) as soon as possible.

Due to the current potential limit on the number who will be able to access this service, priority will be given to full-time students on a first come first served basis.

We hope you can join us!!

