



# 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*

January 2013

Dear Friends,

At the end of every calendar year there is a feast day that often goes unnoticed. It occurs on December 28<sup>th</sup> in the Western Church and December 29<sup>th</sup> in the Eastern Church and is known as Holy Innocents. The day is set aside as a tribute to people who are counted the first martyrs for the sake of Christ; the infant males of Bethlehem, two years of age and younger, who were slaughtered by King Herod in his wicked attempt to secure his throne by thinking he could kill the newly born true king of Israel Jesus. His attempt of course failed but these innocent little ones lost their lives callously at his whim. (Matthew 2:1-18) The estimate of the number lost varies but often is exaggerated to be in the thousands. Such large numbers seem unlikely given the population at that time and that there is no mention of such a slaughter in the history of Josephus a famous chronicler of that time. Surely if the slaughter were that large Josephus and other histories would have recalled it. Recent studies have yielded a much more appropriate number; statistics show the population of Bethlehem and its environs around the time of Jesus birth was about 1,000 people leading to the probable number of about 20 infant males two years of age or younger. Twenty little innocents slaughtered at the hand of a heartless killer.

You now recognize the reason for engaging in this topic, twenty little innocents, the same number of little ones brutally murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown CT. There were also six adults killed as well and really it's not the number that's so significant, it's the brutal nature of the act that is so stunning. Yet this tragedy serves to show that the capacity of human atrocity still remains today as it did in Palestine at the time of Jesus and all the efforts of human kind cannot change it. For this reason God sent His only begotten Son to be born in a manger, die on a cross and rise from the dead. Only God could and did remedy our fallenness by a single act of immeasurable grace and kindness. God sent Him because He so loved the world that in spite of its horrors He wanted to save it. That is still His desire and the reason why human existence continues as we know it. We are sent to announce the Gospel to people so that they would turn away from wickedness and come to know the fullness of life in the finished work of Jesus. The world will not change on its own, only God can do so and He has chosen to fulfill this one soul at a time, one soul that repents and believes the Gospel escapes the bondage of fallenness and yields to the gentle yoke of the loving Father. For this reason we still have hope and every year in spite of the many abominable things that occur in the previous year we face the new one with confidence in our God and full assurance that in spite of circumstance He is keeping watch over us. We go into the world declaring the message of forgiveness through the blood of Jesus Christ and following in His footsteps we overcome evil with good. The light still shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it. (John 1:5) Happy New Year to you.

God's Peace,  
Jay Weidner



## *Donations Received....*

### *In memory of Kirk Otto Sr.*

from Edwin Jr. & Kathleen Bergstedt  
Neil & Debra Sunnarborg  
Raymond & Marlene Hilman  
Jack & Ruby Munter  
Bob & Norma Nominelli  
John & Jan Pelto  
Ernest Bylkas III & family

### *In memory of Pauline Moilanen*

from Doug & Dolly Moyle

### *In memory of Pearl Kemppa*

from Dave & Gladys Wiitanen

### *In memory of Ernest Bylkas, Jr.*

from Ernest Bylkas III & family

### *In memory of Priscilla Bergstedt*

from Larry & Lila Venjohn  
William & Helen Kinnunen  
Edwin Jr. & Kathleen Bergstedt  
Raymond & Marlene Hilman  
Neil & Debra Sunnarborg  
Mary Maher  
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Joan A. Shannon  
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John & Jan Pelto  
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### *In memory of W. E. Weidner*

from Jeffrey Weidner

### *In memory of Sam Munter*

from Jack & Ruby Munter

### *In memory of Gerald DeMotts*

from Myra DeMotts

### *In memory of Norman Ruohonen*

from Doug & Dolly Moyle

### *In memory of Walter Hendrickson*

from Verna A. Hendrickson

# *Thank You*

We have very much appreciated your prayers and support during the past year, and we wish you and yours a very Happy New Year.

With sincere thanks from the staff and students of the  
Inter-Lutheran Seminary.



## SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS SOON

The spring semester begins on Monday, January 21, 2013.

The spring semester will include Christian Dogmatics II, Churches Sects & Isms, Pastoral Work and Administration, History of the Medieval Church, Principles of Biblical Interpretation, New Testament Greek Readings and the Monday night class will be The General Epistles and Hebrews.

If you are interested in taking a class, please contact the seminary as soon as possible by calling (906) 482-3337 or email – [cilseminary@ilseminary.com](mailto:cilseminary@ilseminary.com)



### Spring 2013 Class Schedule

<b>Class begins Monday, January 21st</b>	<i><u>Monday</u></i>	<i><u>Tuesday</u></i>	<i><u>Wednesday</u></i>	<i><u>Thursday</u></i>	<i><u>Friday</u></i>
8:30a.m.	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	Christian Dogmatics II	Churches, Sects & Isms	Christian Dogmatics II	Churches, Sects & Isms	Christian Dogmatics II
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	History of the Medieval Church	Pastoral Work & Administration	History of the Medieval Church	Churches, Sects & Isms	History of the Medieval Church
11:00 - 11:50a.m.	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	Pastoral Work & Administration	Principles of Biblical Interpretation	Pastoral Work & Administration	Principles of Biblical Interpretation
12:00 - 12:50p.m.	New Testament Greek Readings				
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	General Epistles & Hebrews (In Hancock)				

