

January 2019

Dear Friends,

“Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. Thus saith God the Lord, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein: I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house. I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another, neither my praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them. Sing unto the Lord a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea, and all that is therein; the isles, and the inhabitants thereof.”
Isaiah 42:1-10

In the beginning of a new year, our thoughts often turn to making resolutions that that may improve our lives. The new year affords us a second chance to break old habits that are bad for us and develop new habits for our well-being. While these efforts can occasionally be somewhat fruitful, many of us become discouraged when we cannot live up to those new resolutions. We set goals that are unreasonable or we make promises that we cannot keep. Oftentimes, we fail because we rely upon our own wisdom or strength to overcome our weaknesses. It is our fallen, sinful nature that deceives us into thinking that it is both possible and beneficial to take control of our own lives.

In the Holy Scriptures, God challenges us to look at life differently. This is what repentance is truly about. God changing our minds to see things from His perspective, not ours. God reveals Himself to us in such a way so that we might see that He alone is best equipped to determine what is best for us. Through the prophet Isaiah, God tells His people that He is declaring new things to His people. God will do so by sending His servant and Son, Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. No longer will we have to live in fear, because Christ has come to conquer sin, death and the devil by way of the cross. Through His shed blood, Christ has granted us the forgiveness of sins, new life and salvation. God did not merely send His Son to give us a second chance, but to give us new life. ***“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation...”***

In 2019, may God grant us grace to trust in the One who has resolved to love us with an everlasting love. May God grant us faith to believe in the promises that cannot fail, and in Jesus Christ, who has made all things new. Have a blessed new year!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



DONATIONS RECEIVED...

In memory of Gerald L. DeMotts
From Myra DeMotts

In memory of Tom Mickelsen
from Gene & Arlene Silkowski

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. W.E. Weidner
from Jeff & Rudy Weidner

In memory of Theresa Weidner
from Jeff & Ruby Weidner

In memory of Judith Weidner Volkmar
from Jeff & Ruby Weidner

In memory of Adam Ostapenko
from Joan & Nicholas Ostapenko

In memory of Joyce Magner
from Joan & Nicholas Ostapenko

In memory of Ross, Kent & Kris Wolfe
from Fayth Wolfe

In memory of Joe & David Krutzig
from Audrey Krutzig

In memory of Arlene Michaelson
from Richard Michaelson

*In memory of William Bergstedt Sr. &
William Bergstedt Jr.*
from the Caviness Family

In memory of Ernest Bylkas Jr.
from Dale & Joanne Mattinen





Spring 2019 Class Schedule

2019 SPRING SEMESTER (Begins Jan 21)	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	New Testament Greek Readings				
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	Christian Dogmatics II		Christian Dogmatics II		Christian Dogmatics II
11:00 - 11:50a.m.	Daniel		New Testament Introduction		New Testament Introduction
3:30-6:10p.m.		Orientation to Deaconess Studies			
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Genesis				

Christian Dogmatics II (3 credits) – A continuation of Christian Dogmatics I focusing on lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines.

Daniel (1 credit) – An introduction to the genre of apocalyptic literature including the various interpretations of the book today.

Genesis (2 credits) – A study of the origin, thought and doctrinal content of the book of Genesis.

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.

New Testament Greek Readings (1 credit) – A course designed to apply the principles learned in New Testament Greek and facilitate the mastery of the language of the New Testament through reading selected portions of its text.

Orientation to Deaconess Studies (3 credits) – An overview of the issues of women’s ministry in the contemporary church.

Classes begin Monday, January 21, 2019. If you are interested in enrolling in any of the daily classes listed below, please contact the seminary at 906-482-3337 or email cilseminary@ilseminary.com