

July 2017

Dear Friends,

So it now goes everywhere. Now that the end of the world is approaching the people rage and rave most horribly against God, and blaspheme and damn God's Word, though they well know that it is God's Word and the truth. Besides, so many fearful signs and wonders are appearing, in the heavens and among all creatures, which threaten them terribly, and it is a wicked, miserable time, even worse than that of Jeremiah. (Martin Luther, Preface to the Prophet Jeremiah)

During most of Martin Luther's life he believed the end of the world was imminent, in 1526 he thought it impossible that he could finish translating the Old Testament before Christ would return. Fortunately, Luther not only finished the Old Testament, he completed the whole Bible in 1534 which became the model for successive translations into vernacular languages in many places. Much beyond his expectations we have been blessed with another 500 years to enjoy the Word he so loved and we commemorate the beginning of his labor those 500 years ago in October.

So it is in times of foment and chaos, many people begin to believe that the days are growing short and certainly can get no worse. Often we hear the same musings in our own era. Thus we must take pause and remember that our times are in God's hand. Only the Lord knows the end so we are simply to be about our Father's business. We cannot be so consumed with signs of the times that we lose sight of the sign of the time, Jesus Christ and the proclamation of the Word to the world. Around us is so much chaos and uncertainty that it's often difficult to keep from being distracted by events, controversies and other happenings that sweep us up and cause us to begin to speak in the language of condemnation and darkness instead of that of life and light. On this 241st birthday of the United States of America it is good to be reminded that we are not only citizens of this wonderful country but also of the heavenly kingdom, children of the Almighty together with all His offspring throughout the world. We must be a consistent example that testifies of the faith that we hold so dear, undiminished in our commitment because times are difficult.

There is so much hate being evidenced in our world and nation in shootings, acts of terror and incredible vitriol directed for political ends. It is almost as if we've lost our human mind and become mindlessly brutish. We, however, as the scripture tells us have the mind of Christ, let us employ that mind in the imitation of Him who so loved the world that He gave His only Son for it. Let us speak the language of life and light to a troubled world that will bring a new time of renewal to God's cherished human race. During this month we will often hear the words; "God bless America." Let us indeed bless our nation and world with God's light and love in the beauty of the Gospel. Let us consistently represent Jesus Christ in the world that in us and through us people may see our Lord and so be moved to civility and peace. Let us so bless America.

My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. (1 Jn. 3:18 KJV)

God's Peace,  
Jay Weidner



*DONATIONS RECEIVED*

*In memory of Gerald DeMotts*

From Myra DeMotts

*In memory of Daniel Bender*

From Neal & Cheryl Hendrickson and family

*In memory of Walter Hendrickson*

From Neal & Cheryl Hendrickson and family



*Just a reminder...*

**1967 - 2017**



**SAVE THE DATE...OCTOBER 8, 2017**

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-LUTHERAN SEMINARY**

The seminary announces plans for a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration which will take place at the Plymouth Apostolic Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 3:00PM with dinner to follow. Plymouth, Minnesota is where the seminary was founded and we would like to celebrate the anniversary as part of our annual Seminary Rally. Please **SAVE THE DATE** and join us for this special occasion.



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## **HERE'S ANOTHER WAY YOU CAN HELP THE SEMINARY**

The Inter-Lutheran Seminary has created an endowment fund so that our supporters may make gifts that will provide ongoing support. Our Endowment Fund is designed to preserve the principal and a portion of the earnings, and use the remainder of the earnings to fulfill our mission. Because only a portion of the annual earnings on our Fund is used each year, the Fund continues to grow, buffering the Fund against inflation and providing a permanent source of support to our mission.

The Fund is located at the **InFaith Community Foundation**, based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Foundation is dedicated to supporting the charitable, religious and educational purposes of Lutheran congregations, institutions and communities, and benefiting society in general.

We invite you to participate in supporting the endowment. You may make gifts during life or at death. If you would like to learn more about the purpose of the endowment and ways you may give, please visit <http://www.infaithfound.org/ilseminary>.

**The students and staff at the Inter-Lutheran Seminary appreciate your continued support!**