



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

914 Pine Street, PO Box 449, Hancock, MI 49930 • (906) 482-3337 • www.ilseminary.org
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June 2012

Dear Friends,

***“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.
11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.” Psalm 46:10-11***

I cannot help but think of my father when I read this passage in the Psalms. Dad passed away last month due to complications from his surgery for stomach cancer. One of the things that I remember most was how my dad began each day by being still and listening for the voice of his Lord. Dad would awaken around five in the morning, read his daily devotion and meditate on what he had read. I have this vivid picture of him sitting outside on the deck overlooking the lake, drinking his morning coffee and listening to the sounds of God’s creation.

As we approach Father’s Day, I think of how my father encouraged all of his children to read the book of Proverbs each day, approximately one chapter for every day of the month. Tradition has it that Solomon wrote the book of Proverbs as instruction for his children, and these words of wisdom are no less important for us today.

“Hear ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. 2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. 3 For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. 4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. 5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. 6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. 7 Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. 8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. 9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee. 10 Hear, O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. 11 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. 12 When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble. 13 Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.” Proverbs 3:1-13

Solomon encourages us to listen to our earthly fathers, because they bestow wisdom from our Heavenly Father. All that is required of us is to be still and listen. Isaiah says ***“Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.” Isaiah 55:3***

May God grant us grace to give thanks for our earthly fathers, as they testify to our Heavenly Father who gives us forgiveness of sins, life and salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ.

“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: 31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.” I Corinthians 1:30-31

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



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CLASSES OFFERED FALL SEMESTER

Daily classes for the fall 2012 semester will begin September 5th. The “tentative” schedule includes the following classes:

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

History of the Ancient Church (3 credits) – A historical analysis of the major people and events that shaped the Christian Church from the Apostolic Age to 600 AD.

New Testament Greek (6 credits) – A course in the rudiments of the language of the New Testament.

Class descriptions – continued

Old Testament Introduction (3 credits) – An introductory study of the origin, authorship, purpose and reliability of the Old Testament writings with special attention devoted to their literary design and individual and corporate unity.

Old Testament Wisdom Literature (2 credits) – A study of selected portions of the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament, their thought, content and implications for today.

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

Samuel, Kings & Chronicles (2 credits) – A comparative study of the history of the nation of Israel as recorded in these accounts.

The Pastoral Counselor (3 credits) – A course about the dynamics of the Pastoral counseling process designed to provide insight into human nature and the close relationship between body, soul, and mind in human behavior. Students will learn to apply Biblical teachings to help people resolve problems in their lives.

A complete class schedule will be “coming soon” to our website: ilseminary.org or for questions, please email cilseminary@ilseminary.com or call 906-482-3337.

As a reminder, the Thrivent ChoiceSM program is a charitable grant program that allows members to help choose where some of its charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice Dollars.SM Choice Dollars can be directed to Lutheran organizations you prefer nationwide.

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