June 2010

Dear Friends,

"If ye love me, keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; <sup>17</sup> Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ve know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. 19 Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. <sup>20</sup> At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. 22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. 24 He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me. 25 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. 27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

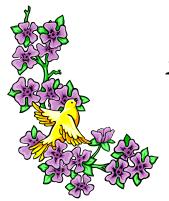
John 14:15-27

In this Gospel text, Jesus prepares the disciples for His departure. Jesus consoles them with the promise that He will send the Holy Spirit to dwell with them and *be in them*. Even though the disciples will be saddened by their Master's departure, Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit will bring them comfort by teaching them "all things", and bringing "all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

This is no less true today. Even though we face many uncertainties in this life, the Holy Spirit continues to lead and guide us by pointing us to Christ. And while God uses human vessels to preach and teach His Word, it is the Holy Spirit that brings us to repentance and kindles faith in our hearts. In the midst of our joys and our sorrows, the Comforter reminds us of the words and work of Jesus Christ. When we face temptation, the Spirit points us to the One who "was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15 When we are convicted of sin, the Spirit directs us to the One "In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins..." Ephesians 1:7 When we are faced with great difficulties in life, the Comforter reminds us of the One who says "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

May God grant us grace to hearken unto the voice of the Holy Spirit, as He teaches us about the Risen and Victorious Prince of Life.

Yours in Christ. Pastor Chuck Bylkas



## Donation received... In memory of Theresa Weidner from Doug & Connie Lampinen



We are in the process of finalizing the class schedule for the fall semester. Ezekiel will be taught on Thursday night at 7PM in Negaunee beginning August 26 and on Monday night at 7PM in Hancock beginning September 13. Other daily classes offered are Evangelism, Hebrew, Homiletics, New Testament Greek, New Testament Greek Readings, and Old Testament Introduction. In addition, a new curriculum is being developed for a Deaconess Program that is designed for ministry to women in the church for which a Deaconess Orientation class will also be offered. In the near future a complete class schedule will be published and posted on our website <a href="https://www.ilseminary.org">www.ilseminary.org</a>. Go to the *Academic Information* button then click on *Class Schedule*. Classes are offered either in the classroom, on-line or by DVD. If you are interested or need additional information, please contact the seminary at 906-482-3337 or email – cilseminary@charterinternet.com.

## THRIVENT FINANCIAL INTRODUCES THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM

Thrivent Financial will be conducting an informational meeting regarding the new *THRIVENT CHOICE* program on Monday, June 14 at 6PM at Zion Lutheran Church, 400 Ingot Street in Hancock. A light supper will be served. All are welcome.