

May 2017

Dear Friends,

### The Meaning of the Ascension

The day of The Ascension of Our Lord is on May 25, 2017. Sadly, it is often overlooked and virtually forgotten because it is a midweek celebration. It is a very significant event in the New Testament as recorded in Mark 16:19 and expounded upon in the book of Hebrews.

So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. (Mk. 16:19 KJV)

But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; 12 Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. 13 For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: 14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? 15 And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. 16 For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. 17 For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth. 18 Whereupon neither the first testament was dedicated without blood. 19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, 20 Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. 21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. 23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: 25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; 26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: 28 So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation. (Heb. 9:11-28 KJV)

For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. 15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. 18 Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. 19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. (Heb. 10:14-22 KJV)

A very significant event indeed. May God sanctify it in our hearts and remembrance. A blessed Ascension to you and yours.

God's Peace,  
Jay Weidner



*DONATIONS RECEIVED...*

*In memory of Theresa Weidner*  
From Neil & Deb Sunnarborg

*In memory of Pastor Wayne Juntunen*  
From Neil & Deb Sunnarborg

*In memory of Rev. & Mrs. Andrew Mickelsen*  
From Roy & Janet Pikkarainen

*In memory of Marie Harjala*  
From Evelyn Palosaari  
Donald & Carol Petrelius  
Richard Walrath



**UPCOMING ANNUAL BOARD MEETING**

Attention Board Members – There will be a board meeting on Saturday, May 13 at 9AM at 914 Pine Street, Hancock.



**LOOKING AHEAD...**

**As the Spring semester ends, we begin to plan for future classes offered at the seminary. The Fall semester begins Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> so stay tuned for information on the upcoming classes. You may also visit our website <http://ilseminary.org/classschedule.htm>**



The Thrivent Choice® program offers a way members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach funds. As a benefit member, your ownership of Thrivent Financial products and services help make this support possible.

Remember....If you are an eligible member 16 and older you can recommend how to distribute Thrivent Financial charitable grant funds through Choice Dollars®. Member eligibility and the Choice Dollars designated are based on:

- Holding a Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership position; or
- Having \$750 or more in annual premiums of qualifying insurance products; or
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying products.

For more information about Choice Dollars, visit <http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice> or call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.



## **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!**