

November 2011,

Dear Friends,

We know that thanksgiving is an every day event for the followers of Christ. God has given us so much through the finished work of His Son that we can't even begin to count our blessings. Still it is a marvelous privilege to have a day set aside once a year to celebrate God's goodness toward us.

There are three things in particular that we want to offer thanks for:

1) Our students. We always enjoy our students and the class we have this year is no exception. Their willingness to do their work and share their thoughts has led to many hours of stimulating classroom discussion and no small learning experience.

2) Our supporters. People always marvel at how our seminary continues to remain functional given that we operate strictly by donation. The simple truth is that you who bless us with your gifts are truly generous and by the grace of God continue to steadfastly provide all of our needs. We are humbled by your faithfulness and can only express our gratitude to you and thank God for His provision.

3) Our seminary rally. This year we once again held a successful seminary rally. It was very uplifting to recount the sacrifices that many people have made through the years in the work of this ministry. The opportunity to fellowship with many of you was wonderful and it was a joy to introduce our students and staff to you or reacquaint you with them. There is such a strong bond in that fellowship and it sustains us in the sometimes long periods between face-to-face encounters. Yet we realize that there are many of you who cannot attend the rally and perhaps never have. There are even some who have never even the seminary buildings. With this in mind we decided to include a brochure in this mailing showing some photographs of the seminary buildings and our outreach. We hope that this will give you a little more insight into where we are and what we do as well as make you feel a part of the rally even if you couldn't attend.

There is so much to be thankful for but limited space to recount all of it in a newsletter. Thank you for reading this and may God continue to bless you as you bless us. You are such a blessing to us. Please continue to remember us. A very Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to you and yours!

God's Peace, Jay Weidner

MEET OUR FULL-TIME STUDENTS

SECOND YEAR STUDENTS:

Charles Jousma – Charles grew up in Bruce Crossing, Michigan with his father, mother, and three brothers. He started attending the seminary when he received God's call to be a Pastor. Charles and his wife Karina currently live in Centennial Heights (Calumet), Michigan.

Nick Kandoll – Nick was raised in Kelso, Washington. His parents are Philip Kandoll and Corrie Patterson and he has four brothers, Brandon, Jacob, Garrett and Evan. Nick has also felt a strong call to be instructed in the Word of God and to minister to people within the church.

Ray Stenersen – Ray's hometown is Hockinson, Washington. He and his wife Rachel have been married for 20 years and have six children ranging between the ages of 8 and 19 (Jamon, Jaelene, Kashae, Janessa, Raymond, & Maecie). Ray loves the people in the Apostolic Lutheran Church. He has seen many of the hurts and struggles of people in the church and desires training in the Word of God to help minister to them.

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS:

Josh Bergstedt – Josh is from Esko, Minnesota. His parents are Pastor Bruce and Wendy Bergstedt and he has two brothers (Ben & Erik) and two sisters (Amy & Molly). Josh has responded to God's call to attend seminary so that he might further his knowledge of the Gospel; salvation through the finished work of Jesus Christ.

Ryan Kandoll – Ryan is from Vancouver, Washington and most recently lived in Battle Ground, Washington where he attended the Hockinson congregation. His parents are Mike Kandoll and Lorrie Patterson. His passion is to preach the gospel and to encourage Christians in their daily walk.

DEACONESS PROGRAM:

Brittany Nelson – Brittany is from Laurium, Michigan. She has been attending seminary for the past few years and has a strong call to serve the Lord in the church.

Karen St. Peter – Karen's hometown is Quinnesec, Michigan. She has been attending seminary part time since 2006 and full time for the past two years. She is attending the seminary in order to receive deaconess training so that she might serve the Lord in women's ministry. Karen and her husband, Scott, live in Hubbell, Michigan and have three sons, Casey, Cyle & Chris (and daughter in-law, Jessica).

Our other part time students include Pastor Joel Baker, Jean Heider, Tina Kanniainen, Mike Karinen, Barbara Manninen, Lois Matson, Bishop Louis Mphahlele (South Africa), Dean Niskanen, LaVonne Olson, Bruce Sarkela, Mark Sippola, and Pastor Orval Wirkkala. On Monday and Thursday evening, many others participate in the study of Jeremiah and Lamentations taught by Jay Weidner.

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In memory of Edwin Puumala Luella Puumala

In memory of Clífford Palosaarí Evelyn Palossari

> *In memory of Loís Seaton* Pastor Chuck & Joy Bylkas

In memory of Charles A. Jousma Pastor Chuck & Joy Bylkas



Seminary Service Schedule

ed to ministry although I am not sure whether that will be pastoral ministry or not. Many people are having struggles as I have had for many years. **7**

p.m.

<u>November</u> 6th – Nick Kandoll @ S. Range 13th – Ray Stenersen @ Painesdale 20th – Charles Jousma @ Zion 27th – No service (Thanksgiving)

December

- 4th Nick Kandoll @ Seminary
- 11th Ray Stenersen @ Laurium
- 18th Charles Jousma @ Alston