October 2010,

Dear Friends,

"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine, ⁴ Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do. 5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned: 6 From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling; ⁷ Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm. ... 12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry; ¹³ Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. 14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. 15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting. 17 Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory forever and ever. Amen."

I Timothy 1:3-7, 12-17

The Apostle begins this epistle by charging Timothy to remain committed to the teaching of "no other doctrine" than that of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul tells Timothy that he is to give no "heed to fables and endless genealogies," which only cause questions and uncertainty, instead of edifying the body of Christ.

The Gospel is not about what we do for God, but what God has done for us in Christ. At the heart of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the message of grace. Paul clearly spells this out in sharing the example of his own life. Paul was "a blasphemer, and a persecutor and injurious", seeking to destroy the church. But God was merciful to Paul. He says "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. ¹⁶ Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting." In other words, Paul says that God was merciful to Him, so that we might know that God grants mercy to everyone. It is this message of grace that changed the life of Paul and that the world needs to hear. May God grant us grace to heed "no other doctrine" than that of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Yours in Christ. Pastor Chuck Bylkas



There will be a Board Meeting on Saturday, October 9th at 9 a.m. in the Seminary classroom. (Lunch will be provided.)



The Board of Directors of the

Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

invite you to attend the ANNUAL SEMINARY RALLY & GRADUATION

of

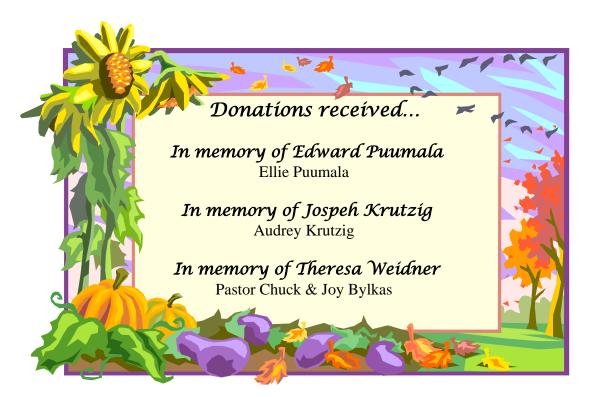
Dennis Hannu & Marc Tumberg

Sunday, October 10, 2010 at 3:30 p.m.

at

Zion Lutheran Church 400 Ingot Street Michigan, Michigan 49930

Dinner following.





Seminary Service Schedule 7 p.m.

October

17th - Ray Stenersen@ Seminary 24th - Charles Jousma @ Laurium 31st - Nick Kandoll @ Painesdale

November

7th - Ray Stenersen @ Seminary 14th - Charles Jousma @ S. Range 21st - Nick Kandoll @ Zion 28th - No Service-Thanksgiving

December

5th - Ray Stenersen @ S. Range 12th - Charles Jousma @ Laurium 19th - Nick Kandoll @ Zion The Thrivent ChoiceSM program is a new 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.

To be eligible for Choice Dollars, you must be a benefit member age 16 or older. Individual eligibility is also based on:

- Holding a Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership position or...
- Having \$800 or more in annual premiums of qualifying insurance products or...
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying products.

If you are an eligible member and have not received enrollment information, please contact Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

Thank you for considering the Inter-Lutheran Seminary as your charitable organization of choice.