



October 2013

Dear Friends,

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

² Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

³ 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. ⁴ Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. ⁵ Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. ⁶ Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: ⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: ¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

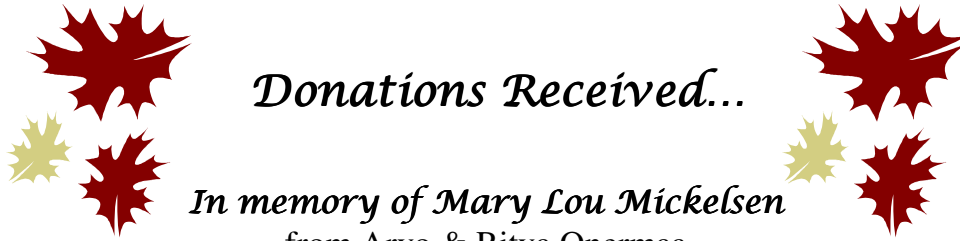
Isaiah 55:1-11

During the time of the Reformation, Martin Luther sought to correct some of the abuses in the church by bringing it back under the authority of God’s Word. Luther understood that the problems within the church were a result of a departure from the teachings of the Holy Scripture. This is no less true in the church today. As the Body of Christ seeks to minister to the various concerns of a fallen world, our temptation is to listen to reason or emotion, rather than to the voice of God.

In the midst of the turmoil, God continues to cry out: ***“Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live...”*** God’s Word gives life to all who hear in faith. It does so, because all of Scripture points us to the Living Word, Jesus Christ. It is the redemption by His blood that gives life and salvation for sinful mankind.

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” (v.11) As both a preacher and hearer of Gospel, this second promise gives great comfort to me. It means that God’s Word will bear fruit regardless of the skills or efforts of the preacher or the understanding of the hearer. God has the power to minister to us in this marvelous way through the power of His glorious Word. May God grant us grace to hearken unto the voice of the Good Shepherd, so that we may hear and live.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



Donations Received...

In memory of Mary Lou Mickelsen
from Arvo & Ritva Onermaa

In memory of Elsie Wirkkala
from Dale & Carolyn Questad

In memory of Phyllis Barney
from Dale & Carolyn Questad

In memory of Wm. J. Henry & Tyre Holman
from Lee & Judy Haltunen



Seminary Service Schedule **7 p.m.**

October

20th – Josh Bergstedt @ Seminary
27th – Charles Jousma @ Alston

November

3rd – Nick Kandoll @ S. Range
10th – Josh Bergstedt @ Laurium
17th – Charles Jousma @ Seminary
24th – Nick Kandoll @ Zion

December

1st – No service (Thanksgiving)
8th – Charles Jousma @ Laurium
15th – Josh Bergstedt @ S. Range



ATTENTION: BOARD MEMBERS

There will be a Board Meeting on Saturday, October 12th at 9 a.m.
at the Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church.



The Board of Directors
of the
Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary
invite you to attend the
**Annual Seminary Rally &
Graduation of Karen St. Peter from the Deaconess Program**
on
Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.
at
Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church
25 Church Rd.
Esko, Minnesota

Dinner following.

(Meet the students and learn more about the ministry of the seminary.)