



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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a Minnesota Corporation

September 2013

Dear Friends,

My only brother recently came up from Virginia for a week. It's hard to believe that he's retired, it's hard to believe that he's old enough to be retired, it's hard to believe that I'm old enough for him to be retired. We talked about how things were when we were younger and had some good laughs. On the weekend we had the opportunity to take a ride on an old train that featured a beautifully restored Copper Range Railroad car; number 25, a combination baggage and passenger car originally built in the very early 1900s. The excursion was a treat; it was easy to imagine what it was like to ride in this car up to the Copper Country in Michigan from some other distant destination. In its day it was likely considered fast travel and while not first class, still fairly comfortable. Yet, by today's standards, the ride would have been hot, tedious and miserable. Such is the passage of time. The past is past and not to be reborn.

Long before trains or retirement Moses spoke of time in the 90th Psalm. He didn't see it as nostalgic but arduous. He witnessed the passage of life as swift and fraught with difficulty. When the manufacturer turned out the railcar it produced they thought it was an amazing creation, now it stands a silent witness to an age long past; restored to lost beauty but simply a museum piece. Often people opine about being able to turn the clocks back in time but that is impossible. God made it impossible. We don't go back, we go forward with purpose. Our lives are not lived in the past but in the present with an eye to the future. As our work here at the seminary begins anew this semester it starts precisely that way; anew. It is new and fresh, in an age of computers and online communications that will be considered archaic in an age to come. So our eyes are not fixed on the works of human hands but on our God. James Russell Lowell penned these words regarding the need to abolish slavery; "New occasions teach new duties; time makes ancient good uncouth; they must upward still and onward Who would keep abreast of truth." (Once to Every Man and Nation) Our Lord gives us hope as we face each day in Him that we can trust him to direct our path in the way He would choose. The ways of the past are not necessarily true and if we aren't careful we can be deceived into a mode of thinking that causes us to fall prey to a "Holy Nostalgia" that makes the race that we run harsh, moving on haltingly as with a limp. Only God and His Word remain eternal and unchanged. So Moses the man of God:

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. ¹³ Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants. ¹⁴ O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. ¹⁵ Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil. ¹⁶ Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children. ¹⁷ And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it. (Psalm 90:12-17 KJV)

We are thankful with every new school year to engage in the study of God's Word and thankful for His promise of granting us wisdom through it. Every day He makes it new. Please continue to pray for us and support us as we go down the path He has given us to walk as we do the same for you.

It was wonderful to see my brother and do some reminiscing but better still to think that we will spend eternity together in the Christ in whom we have placed our trust. Eternity.

God's Peace,
Jay Weidner



UPCOMING SEMINARY RALLY & GRADUATION

Keep the date open....the annual Seminary Rally will be on **Sunday, October 13, 2013**, at the Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church in Esko, Minnesota. As a part of the rally, Karen St. Peter will be graduating from our Deaconess Program. Pastors Bruce Bergstedt, Nathan Juntunen and the Esko Congregation are looking forward to hosting the rally again this year!

The purpose of the seminary rally is to help inform you about the ongoing ministry of the seminary, meet the students and encourage your support financially and more importantly in prayer. We hope that you will be able to attend but if not, please remember us in prayer.



Fall Semester Begins

The fall 2013 semester will begin soon and we are pleased to announce that the following full time students will be returning to continue their studies: Josh Bergstedt, Charles Jousma, Nick Kandoll, Brittany Nelson and Ray Stenersen. We have several part time students attending as well and look forward to another year of instruction.

Our third year student, Ryan Kandoll, will be serving his internship with Pastor Orval Wirkkala at Kingston Apostolic Lutheran Church.

The following classes are scheduled for the fall semester which will begin on Wednesday, September 4th. The Monday night class in Hancock will begin on September 9th. The Thursday night class in Negaunee will begin on September 12th. (note this is a date change).

For additional information or if you would like to enroll in a class, please email cilseminary@ilseminary.com or call 906-482-3337.

Daily Classes:

Christian Dogmatics I (3 credits) – Lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines including an in-depth look at the prolegomena for doing any study of systematic theology.

History of Christianity in America (3 credits) – A history of the spread of the church in the United States from its pilgrim beginnings to the present.

Anthropology & Christology (2 credits) – An investigation of what it means to be human, especially in light of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Samuel, Kings & Chronicles (2 credits) – A comparative study of the history of the nation of Israel as recorded in these accounts.

Isaiah (2 credits) – An exegetical study of the book of Isaiah, theories of its development and its impact upon the New Testament.

Gospel of Mark (2 credits) – An in-depth analysis of the most concise Gospel with an emphasis on sound and segmentation.

Romans (2 credits) – Exegesis and interpretation of portions of the epistle emphasizing its doctrinal content and theology.

Ministry to the Aging (1 credit) – A study of the various facets of ministering to senior citizens as vital members of the Body of Christ.

Edifying Church & Family (1 credit) – A course to develop an awareness of the dynamics of Pastoral duties in shepherding the flock, and the care of family with the necessity of maintaining personal, familial and congregational health through the resources that God has provided.

Deaconess History (2 credits) – A study of the role of deaconesses through the history of the Christian Church.

Monday Night Class: (Hancock) Begins Monday, September 9th

Revelation (2 credits) – An exegetical study and interpretation of the book emphasizing its structure and content.

Thursday Night Class: (Negaunee) Begins Thursday, September 12th

Revelation – In the first century church (six-week condensed class).