

September 2018

Dear Friends,

“ I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, ² With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; ³ Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ One Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. ⁷ But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. ⁸ Wherefore he saith, When He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. ⁹ (Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.) ¹¹ And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: ¹³ Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: ¹⁴ That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: ¹⁶ From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”

Ephesians 4:1-16

In earlier days, the season of Pentecost was often referred to as “ordinary time”, because of the absence of major festivals. Ordinary time, however, is an unfortunate misnomer, since there is very little that is “ordinary” about the gracious God that we serve. The calendar text for each Sunday in Pentecost often reflect the nature of the life of the church as the Body of Christ. The Apostle Paul writes to the church in Ephesus, emphasizing the importance of *“walking worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called.”* Paul is giving the Ephesians about how to live, because of who they now are in Christ Jesus.

However, we often “put the cart before the horse” when it comes to our understanding of what it means to follow Jesus. We do not love God in order that we might be loved by Him. We love God, because He has *already* demonstrated His great love for us by sending His Son to the cross. In the first chapter of Ephesians alone, Paul tells us that we are: *“blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavenly places in Christ”* (v.3), *“chosen in Him”* (v.4), *“adopted as His children”* (v.5), *“accepted in the Beloved”* (v.6), *“redeemed by the blood of Christ”* (v.7) and *“sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.”* (v.13)

Now that God has united us together in the Body of His Son, we live for one another, *“forbearing one another in love.”* God blesses us with gifts that we might use them to encourage others in their vocation; in their calling to serve *“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ...”*

It is to this task that the seminary is dedicated. To provide opportunities for study, so that our students may more fully discover who they are in Christ and how they may use their gifts to serve God’s people. Thank you all for partnering with us in this ministry, through you continued prayers, encouragement and gifts. May God continue to richly bless you.

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, ⁵ For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; ⁶ Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ...”

Philippians 1:3-6

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



DONATIONS RECEIVED

In memory of Ruth Sunnarborg
from Arnold Sunnarborg

In memory of Pastor Wayne Juntunen
from Arnold Sunnarborg



FALL SEMESTER BEGINNING SOON

The fall semester for daily classes will begin on Wednesday, September 5, 2018. Below is the list of classes being offered.

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
9:00 - 9:50a.m.		Working as a Deaconess II			
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	Christian Dogmatics I	Working as a Deaconess II	Christian Dogmatics I		Christian Dogmatics I
11:00 - 11:50p.m.	Galatians	Old Testament Introduction	Old Testament Introduction		Old Testament Introduction
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	In Hancock Revelation Begins 9/10/18			In Negaunee Revelation Begins 8/30/18	

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

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Remember....If you are an eligible member 16 and older you can recommend how to distribute Thrivent Financial charitable grant funds thought 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
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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

Several years ago, the Seminary board of directors established the Inter-Lutheran Seminary Endowment Fund. Funds contributed to the endowment are not used for current day to day operations. Only the annual earnings of the endowment will be used for the seminary's needs thereby ensuring the continued existence of this funding source. This is the preferred method used by many non-profit entities, especially ongoing religiously focused organizations such as seminaries.

While this is an excellent strategy, it has proven a challenge for us to actually meet the minimum funding requirements. Until now, the fund has existed but remained unfunded. By the Lord's grace we have been blessed with a large contribution to fund the Inter-Lutheran Seminary Endowment Fund. We would love to build on this generous contribution to grow our endowment into a major source of ongoing seminary support.

Although the seminary still needs the financial ongoing regular contributions of our supporters, please consider the endowment fund for your planned giving needs. The seminary has chosen the InFaith Community Endowment Fund (the renamed Lutheran Brotherhood Foundation) to administer our endowment fund. They will provide experienced legal advice to help guide you with any contribution questions done through estate planning in addition to lump sum contributions, IRAs, property and securities. For more additional information, please contact Kirk Otto, Jr. at (715) 294-4343 or Cheryl Hendrickson at (906) 482-3337.