



# Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

914 Pine Street, PO Box 449, Hancock, MI 49930 • (906) 482-3337 • [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org)  
a Minnesota Corporation

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Dear Friends,

***“Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by Him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: 23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: 24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it.” Acts 2:22-24***

As we move from the Lenten season into Holy Week and the season of Easter, we reflect on how God has done so many wonderful things for His people. During His earthly ministry, Jesus performs many miracles that defy explanation. Even the suffering and death of Jesus Christ is hard for us to grasp. How is it that an infinite God can experience death? Why would He offer His Beloved Son as a sacrifice for the sins of Adam’s rebellious descendants? And perhaps most importantly, how can a man rise from the dead?

The difficulty in grappling with these questions is one of perspective. Our fallen reason prevents us from seeing or even desiring to see the plan of salvation from God’s perspective. Our sinful minds tell us that miracles are impossible, evil just might overcome good and perhaps death does have the final word. God tells us the exact opposite. Miracles are simple for the God who created the universe by speaking it into existence. Good will not merely defeat evil. The victory we have in Christ will be an absolute triumph. Resurrection from the dead is not a possibility; it is a certainty. Death will not win, because it cannot win. The grave cannot contain Jesus Christ, ***“Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that He should be holden of it.” Acts 2:24***

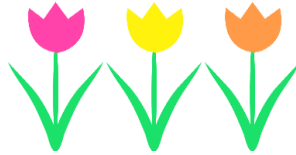
Over and over again, the Holy Scriptures remind us not of the possibility of hope, but rather of the certainty of hope. God always keeps His promises. Love never fails. Our sins are forgiven. We are God’s new creation. We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. The devil is defeated. Death is swallowed up in victory. Because Christ was raised from the dead, we too shall rise from the dead. God be praised!

Thank you once again for the many ways you support the ministry of the seminary. God bless you with a joyous Holy Week and Easter season.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! Alleluia!

***“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? 56 The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” I Corinthians 15:55-57***

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



## DONATIONS RECEIVED...

### ***In memory of Beverly Aho***

*From Joyce Tibbs  
Fayth Wolfe*

### ***In memory of Dr. Al Saari***

*From Roy Saari*

### ***In memory of Barbara Gross***

*From Karl & Juliann Somero*



## DEACONESS STUDIES OFFERED AT THE SEMINARY

The Deaconess program at the Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary provides sound biblical educational opportunities for women. A deaconess is a woman who is a church-worker and is trained and dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Christ through acts of mercy and spiritual care. The role of a deaconess is to serve other women by engaging women in diverse settings and specialization, whether in a congregation, in an institution or on the mission field. The Deaconess serves congregations using her gift to bless and serve other women. Currently, we have two women taking this program.

***Titus 2:3-5 "The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."***

Upon fulfillment of the program requirements which include the classes shown below, students receive a Deaconess Certificate endorsed by the faculty. Along with the Deaconess Certificate a student may also receive an additional degree outside the Seminary such as Nursing, Teaching, Counseling, etc. in order to focus on a specific calling. You may also take the deaconess courses without acquiring a Deaconess Certificate. The Deaconess courses of study include:

### **Orientation to Deaconess Studies. 3 credits**

An overview of the issues of women's ministry in the contemporary church.

### **Deaconess History. 2 credits**

A study of the role of deaconesses through the history of the Christian Church.

### **Working as a Deaconess I. 2 credits**

A course which explores the use of Deaconess skills involving both congregational and personal care as well as the employment of such skills in the current church setting.

### **Working as a Deaconess II. 2 credits**

A second course which explores the use of Deaconess skills involving community outreach and involvement with the employment of such skills in the current church setting.

***Philippians 1:6 "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."***

If you are interested in learning about the Deaconess program, please contact the Seminary at (906) 482-3337 or email [cilseminary@ilseminary.com](mailto:cilseminary@ilseminary.com). Also, additional information is available in our on-line catalogue at <http://www.ilseminary.org/catalog.pdf>

**ATTENTION SUPPORTERS:  
There are several ways to support the Seminary.**



**CHOICE DOLLARS DETAILS:** Eligible clients with membership can recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds. These recommendations are shared by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches.

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- Having \$750 or more in annual billed premiums of qualifying life and health insurance products.
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying life insurance and annuity products.

Eligibility is determined monthly and reevaluated on an annual basis.

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**Choice Dollars expiration date:** Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year.

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## **THRIVENT CHARITABLE IMPACT & INVESTING™**

The Inter-Lutheran Seminary has established an Endowment Fund through Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing.™ All 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. To learn more about this organization, go to [www.thriventcharitable.com](http://www.thriventcharitable.com).

We would love 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. For more additional information, please contact Kirk Otto, Jr. at (715) 821-8574 or Cheryl Hendrickson at (906) 482-3337.

## **ANOTHER OPTION FOR GIVING – PayPal**

Online giving is as easy as clicking the DONATE button on our website: <https://ilseminary.org>. Simply go to the *How to Contribute* tab and tap the yellow DONATE button to begin. There are options for credit and debit card donations and even the option to help the seminary cover the PayPal processing fee. (Note we are charged 1.99% + \$.49/transaction fee). As always, we are thankful for your continued support!