August 2021

"Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, <sup>2</sup> Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. 6 Wherein ve greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ve are in heaviness through manifold temptations: <sup>7</sup> That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: 8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: <sup>9</sup>Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls. <sup>10</sup> Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." I Peter 1:1-12

What an astonishing statement! The Gospel is so wonderful that even the angels of heaven desire to see it! The Apostle Peter speaks these words to a people who are in great need of encouragement. Peter says that their faith in the Lord Jesus is not in vain and that God will see them through this season of heaviness. Even though trials and temptations afflict the people, Peter comforts them with the news that they have a living hope, by the Resurrection of Jesus Christ according to the abundant mercy of God. By faith, they now have an inheritance in heaven that cannot be corrupted or defiled and will not fade away.

We are recipients of this promise as well. Though we too journey through this fallen world with its seasons of heaviness, God is always with us, and we stand on His promises that never fail. Forgiveness of sins, Life and salvation are ours through faith in the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is the message that the patriarchs and prophets hoped for and that the angels of God longed to see. This is the amazing love that God has now revealed in His Son Jesus. As the hymn write Charles Wesley says "Let angel minds inquire no more."

'Tis myst'ry all: th' Immortal dies: Who can explore His strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries To sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, Let angel minds inquire no more.

May God be praised for the living hope we have in Jesus Christ that never fades away. Thank you for your continuing support of the seminary through your prayers, gifts and words of encouragement. Please pray for us as we prepare for the fall semester beginning in September, and by all means consider taking a class, either in person or remotely by live video. God bless you all!

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; <sup>19</sup> But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: <sup>20</sup> Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you..." I Peter 1:18-20

Yours in Christ, Pastor Chuck Bylkas



In memory of Don Bielinski From Joyce Tibbs & Stewart Lee Kirk Jr. & Carol Otto

In memory Orval Wirkkala From Joyce Tibbs & Stewart Lee Miriam Yliniemi

**In memory of Elmer Ylinemi** From Joel & Lois Hendrickson

In memory of Dale Maikkula From Kirk Jr. & Carol Otto

In memory of Aila Foltz
From Reuben & Anita Aho
Arvo & Ritva Onermaa
Kirk Jr. & Carol Otto
Miriam Yliniemi

In memory of Shirley Kytta From Larry & Mae Johnson

## In honor of Norma Nominelli's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday From Pastor Ernest Bylkas III, Joy & family

## 2021 FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULE

2021 FALL SEVIESTER SCITEDULE					
	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
8:40a.m.	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	New Testament Greek	New Testament Introduction	New Testament Greek	New Testament Introduction	New Testament Greek
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	New Testament Greek	Ministry to the World	New Testament Greek	Ministry to the World	New Testament Greek
11:00 - 11:50p.m.	Homiletics		Homiletics		Ephesians/ Colossians
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Acts of the Apostles				

Daily classes offered this fall will begin on Wednesday, September 1 and the Monday night class will begin on Monday, September 13 at 7PM. If you are interested in taking a class, please email the seminary at cilseminary@ilseminary.com or call 906-482-3337.

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

Have you ever have used Amazon.com to do your shopping? Now AmazonSmile offers the same products, same prices and same service and will also donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. Simply log use in by using this link....

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**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.

**Eligibility requirements:** To be eligible to direct Choice Dollars as part of Thrivent Choice<sup>®</sup>, you must be a client with benefit membership.1 Individual eligibility is also based on at least one of the following:

- 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.

**Minimum and maximum Choice Dollars designations:** Eligible clients will be designated a minimum of 25 Choice Dollars and a maximum of 5,000 Choice Dollars per eligibility period (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31).

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

For more information about Choice Dollars, visit <a href="http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice">http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice</a> or call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.

## THRIVENT CHARITABLE IMPACT & INVESTING™

formerly InFaith Community Foundation

InFaith Community Foundation and Thrivent have an expanded partnership, which will include a shared brand and client experience. This will allow InFaith to continue to provide all the same offering and services. They will be operating under a new name, Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing, which highlights the close relationship they have had with Thrivent since their inception. The Inter-Lutheran Seminary has an Endowment Fund through this organization. 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.

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) 294-4343 or Cheryl Hendrickson at (906) 482-3337.