



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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

December 2011

Dear Friends,

“For as a young man marrieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. ⁶ I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the LORD, keep not silence, ⁷ And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. ⁸ The LORD hath sworn by his right hand, and by the arm of his strength, Surely I will no more give thy corn to be meat for thine enemies; and the sons of the stranger shall not drink thy wine, for the which thou hast laboured: ⁹ But they that have gathered it shall eat it, and praise the LORD; and they that have brought it together shall drink it in the courts of my holiness. ¹⁰ Go through, go through the gates; prepare ye the way of the people; cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; lift up a standard for the people. ¹¹ Behold, the LORD hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold, thy salvation cometh; behold, his reward is with him, and his work before him. ¹² And they shall call them, The holy people, The redeemed of the LORD: and thou shalt be called, Sought out, A city not forsaken.”

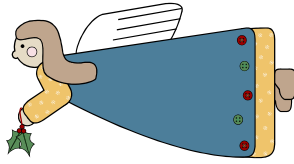
Isaiah 62:5-12

Advent is the season in the church year dedicated to preparing for the return of Christ. The second coming of our Lord is not met with fear, but rather with great anticipation and celebration. Those who fear Christ’s coming, only do so because they do not truly know our Great and Gracious King.

The sense in which we wait for our triumphant Redeemer is that of a bride longing for her bridegroom. We, as the bride of Christ, anxiously await the coming our Bridegroom, because of what He did for us at the Cross. The Apostle Paul uses this imagery of marriage *“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; ²⁶ That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”* Ephesians 5:25-27 Because Christ shed His blood for us at the Cross, God delights in us. As Isaiah tells us *“...as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee.”* As a result, we rejoice in our heavenly Bridegroom, because He rejoices in us. *“We love Him, because He first loved us.”* I John 4:19.

A few years ago, I spoke with a woman shortly after her wedding, and I asked her if she remembered all of the wonderful things that happened that day. In spite of all of the many details and decorations that were meticulously planned for her wedding, this woman said that as she began walking down the aisle, the only thing she saw was her bridegroom. In the same way, may God grant us grace in this Advent season that, by faith, we would only see Jesus, our heavenly Bridegroom. May the Lord also richly bless you all during this Advent and Christmas season.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



Donations received...

In memory of Walter Hendrickson
from Verna A. Hendrickson

In memory of Gerald Demotts
from
Myra Demotts, Susan Repola, Greta Kulm, Nina Ullmann & Fred Demotts

In memory of Raymond E. Peterson
from Mary O. Peterson

In memory of Oscar & Ailie Sunnarborg
from Ron & Lois Johnson

In honor of retired Pastors
from Hazel A. Yliniemi

In honor of Isabel T. Lienau
who celebrates her 100th birthday in January
from Al & Janis Saari



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

December

- 4th – Nick Kandoll @ Seminary
- 11th – Ray Stenersen @ Laurium
- 18th – Charles Jousma @ Alston



"Tentative" Class Schedule
Spring 2012

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:40a.m.	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	History of Post-Reformation Church ----- New Testament Introduction	Pastoral Work & Administration ----- Working as a Deaconess II	History of Post-Reformation Church	Pastoral Work & Administration ----- Working as a Deaconess II	History of Post-Reformation Church ----- New Testament Introduction
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	Christian Ethics	Pastoral Work & Administration	Christian Ethics	Ephesians/Colossians	Christian Ethics
11:00 - 11:50a.m.	Christian Education	Science & Christianity	Galatians	Science & Christianity	Liturgics & Hymnology
12:00 - 12:50p.m.	Christian Education				
2:00 - 3:00p.m.	Hebrew Readings II				
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Gospel of Matthew (In Hancock)				

Daily classes begin Monday, January 23, 2012.

Ministry to Youth (1 credit) – in two parts: Tentatively end of February & Mid April

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

History of the Post-Reformation Church - A historical analysis of the history of the Church from the Reformation in England to present.

Pastoral Work & Administration – A thorough study and discussion of the pastoral theology and its application in the office of the ministry.

New Testament Introduction – An introductory study of the origin, authorship, purpose and reliability of the New Testament writings with special attention devoted to their literary design and individual and corporate unity.

Christian Ethics – A study of the systems of ethical thought and an analysis of how the ethical dilemmas of humankind should be addressed by those who belong to Christ.

Ephesians/Colossians – An exegetical study of the Apostle Paul’s letters to the congregations in Ephesus, Colossae.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

Galatians – An exegetical study of Paul’s epistle to the Galatians and its relevance to the preaching of the Gospel today.

Science & Christianity – Studies on the relationship between modern science and the Christian Faith, including various theories of origins.

Liturgics & Hymnology – A study of the origin and meaning of liturgics, music and hymns in worship services with an emphasis upon Lutheran tradition.

Christian Education – The principles of the theology of Christian Education. Preparation for teaching Sunday School, Confirmation Class, Adult Bible Classes, etc.

Gospel of Matthew – An analysis of the Gospel of Matthew in the light of its similarity to Mark and Luke. Also questions concerning the roots and priority of the Synoptic Gospels.

Hebrew Readings II – A second course designed to apply the principles learned in Biblical Hebrew and facilitate the mastery of the language of the Old Testament through reading selected portions of its text.

Ministry to the Youth – A study of philosophies and methodologies involved in working with youth.

If you are interested in taking a class or need additional information, please contact the seminary at (906) 482-3337 or email – cilseminary@ilseminary.com.