



# 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

January 2012,

Dear Friends,

*It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.<sup>23</sup> They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.* (Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV)

For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?<sup>25</sup> But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*. (Romans 8:24-25 KJV)

In the midst of the great distress of the exile the prophet cries out to God expressing hope in the midst of his lamentation. Through many persecutions and difficulties the Apostle Paul expresses thoughts of hope; in fact he uses the term thirteen times in Romans alone. In his seminal work regarding the “last things” The Theology of Hope Jürgen Moltmann speaks of hope as central to our current existence giving us the ability to see beyond things as they are so that we grasp what will be. It is for that reason that Paul adds to the Romans passage above the thought that it is the Spirit that prays for us in our infirmity. That even here as frail vessels we would be able to see our salvation and experience it in the present as the “earnest of our inheritance.”

Currently life is difficult for many, a turbulent world and an economy in chaos leads people to despair and despair to acts of desperation. Yet the inconsistencies of life are those that should drive us back to the guiding and protecting hand of God our Father who through the finished work of Jesus our Lord and through His shed blood has purchased a peace for us that passes all human understanding. There our hearts and minds are anchored in hope and despair is driven back into the darkness from which it came.

Many is the time that we at the seminary have wondered how our work could continue to go on operating only by donation. As with many of you who live with daily uncertainty it is then we come to grips with the reality of faith and the simple trust that God will supply for He has promised and He cannot fail. Regardless of circumstance God still reigns and His mercy endures forever. It is as Lamentations says “new every morning.” Every day brings hope and that hope does not disappoint. We hope that the New Year will bring great blessing to each and every one of you and offer this simple benediction for all of us from the Apostle Paul:

Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. (Romans 15:13 KJV)

God's Peace  
Jay Weidner



## Donations received...

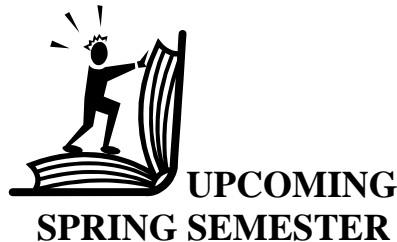
*In memory of Frank & Vernella Gwiazdon*  
from Don & Pam Bielinski

*In memory of Rodney Gwiazdon*  
from Don & Pam Bielinski

*In memory of our Parents*  
from Gordon & Majorie Mattila

*In memory of Jack Tibbs*  
from Joyce Tibbs

*In memory Martha & Ernest Bylkas Sr.*  
from Pastor Chuck & Joy Bylkas



The spring semester begins Monday, January 23, 2012. There is still time to enroll! Below are descriptions of classes offered this coming semester.

**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.

**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.

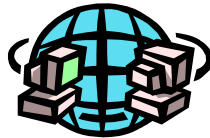
**Gospel of Matthew** – An analysis of the Gospel of Matthew in the light of its similarity to Mark and Luke. Also questions concerning the roots and priority of the Synoptic Gospels.

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

**Working as a Deaconess II** – A second course which explores the use of Deaconess skills involving both congregational and personal care and the employment of such skills in the current church setting.

For the complete class schedule, please refer our website [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org). Go to the *Academic Information* button then click on *Class Schedule*.

## OUR ON-LINE CLASS CAPABILITY



Did you know that the Inter-Lutheran Seminary also offers classes via the Internet? In order to be compatible with our system, you would need to have high-speed Internet service and a webcam. If you are interested in taking classes on-line, please contact the seminary by Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Feel free to call (906) 482-3337 or email: [cilseminary@ilseminary.com](mailto:cilseminary@ilseminary.com).

Due to the current potential limit on the number who will be able to access this service, priority will be given to full-time students on a first come first served basis. We hope you can join us!!

*Thank You*

We have very much appreciated your prayers and support during the past year, and we wish you and yours a very Happy New Year.

With sincere thanks from the staff and students of the  
Inter-Lutheran Seminary.