



# Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

914 Pine Street, PO Box 449, Hancock, MI 49930 • (906) 482-3337 • [www.ilseminary.org](http://www.ilseminary.org)  
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January 2024

Dear Friends,

And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen. (Rom. 16:20 KJV)

So we begin another year, about 1,965 years or so removed from the time St. Paul first sent his epistle to the church at Rome, still waiting. Satan seems to be very active, so what exactly does “shortly” mean? Where is the promise of His coming even as St. Peter says the scoffers will say?

Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. (2 Pet. 3:3-4 KJV)

The scoffers judge by appearance and think everything is going on without change, God doesn't seem to be doing anything as far as they're concerned. St. Peter states that it is their ignorance of God and not God Himself that is the problem. He says that God has already acted to resolve the problem.

For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. (2 Pet. 3:5-7 KJV)

God once judged the earth and it perished, the reconstituted earth is only temporary, to be destroyed instantaneously when the wickedness of Satan and corrupted humanity reaches its fulness. However, God is not a destroyer but a savior, which the world doesn't understand but Peter does.

But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. (2 Pet. 3:8-9 KJV)

God is patient because He is kind and gracious, willing to wait for the completed gathering of all His children. We are not so patient, we just want an end to our difficulty, often not even considering what that might mean for many people on this temporal planet. The “shortly” above is God's shortly not ours and it may mean thousands more years or tomorrow to Him who is unbound by time. Peter writes that God's patience means salvation and says that Paul has written many such things that can be hard to understand that foolish people twist to their own destruction (maybe including Romans 16:20?). (2Peter 3:15-16) So he concludes with a warning and exhortation.

Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen. (2 Pet. 3:17-18 KJV)

Growing in grace with you and waiting patiently in another New Year all in God's Peace,  
Jay Weidner



## DONATIONS RECEIVED



***In memory of Betty Ruohonen***  
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***In memory of Al Matson***  
Pastor Ernest Bylkas, Joy & family



We are very happy to announce that the matching fund program was a HUGE success! We have matched the \$25,000 that our donor pledged and would like to extend our sincere thanks for your continued support. May God Bless your generosity.

# Happy New Year!

**The students and staff of the Inter-Lutheran Seminary very much appreciated your prayers and support in 2023, and we wish you and yours a very Happy New Year!**



## SPRING SEMESTER BEGINS SOON

The spring semester begins on Monday, January 22, 2024. The daily classes will be History of Christianity in America, History of American Lutheranism, Christian Dogmatics II, Ministry to the Aging, Liturgics & Hymnology, Old Testament Wisdom Literature, Pastoral Epistles, and Patristic Greek Readings. Revelation is the class for Monday night at 7PM.

If you are interested in taking a class, please contact the seminary as soon as possible by calling (906) 482-3337 or email – [cilseminary@ilseminary.com](mailto:cilseminary@ilseminary.com).



## Spring 2024 Class Schedule

<b>Class begins Monday, January 22nd</b>	<i><u>Monday</u></i>	<i><u>Tuesday</u></i>	<i><u>Wednesday</u></i>	<i><u>Thursday</u></i>	<i><u>Friday</u></i>
8:30a.m.	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	Christian Ethics	History of American Lutheranism	Christian Ethics	History of American Lutheranism	Christian Ethics
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	Christian Dogmatics II	History of American Lutheranism	Christian Dogmatics II	Ministry to the Aging	Christian Dogmatics II
11:00 - 11:50a.m.	Liturgics & Hymnology	Old Testament Wisdom Literature	Pastoral Epistles	Old Testament Wisdom Literature	Patristic Greek Readings
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Revelation				

**Christian Ethics (3 credits)** - A study of the systems of ethical thought and an analysis of how the ethical dilemmas of humankind should be addressed by those who confess Christ.

**History of American Lutheranism (3 credits)** – A study of Lutheranism in American from the colonial period to the present.

**Christian Dogmatics II (3 credits)** – A continuation of Christian Dogmatics I focusing on lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines.

**Ministry to the Aging (1 credit)** – A study of the various facets of ministering to senior citizens as vital members of the Body of Christ.

**Old Testament Wisdom Literature (2 credits)** – A study of selected portions of the Wisdom Books of the Old Testament, their thought, content and implications for today.

**Liturgics and Hymnology (1 credit)** – A study of the origin and meaning of orders of worship and the parts of the Christian worship service with an emphasis upon current application.

**Pastoral Epistles (1 credit)** – An investigation of the thought and doctrinal content of these epistles and a comparison with undisputed Pauline literature to answer questions concerning their Pauline authorship with an exegetical study of the books.

**Patristic Greek Readings (1 credit)** – The reading and translation of selected passages from the Greek Church Fathers.

**Revelation (2 credits)** – An exegetical study and interpretation of the book emphasizing its structure and content.

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



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Eligibility is determined monthly and reevaluated on an annual basis.

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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!