



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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Dear Friends,

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, ²Who *is* this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? ³Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. ⁴Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? ⁶Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; ⁷When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸Or *who* shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, *as if* it had issued out of the womb? ⁹When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it, ¹⁰And brake up for it my decreed *place*, and set bars and doors, ¹¹And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? ¹²Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; *and* caused the dayspring to know his place; ¹³That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? ¹⁴It is turned as clay *to* the seal; and they stand as a garment. ¹⁵And from the wicked their light is withholden, and the high arm shall be broken. ¹⁶Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth? ¹⁷Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? ¹⁸Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all. ¹⁹Where *is* the way *where* light dwelleth? and *as for* darkness, where *is* the place thereof, ²⁰That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths *to* the house thereof? (Job 38:1-20 KJV)

Sadly, it can be tedious to read the book of Job but the reward at the end is well worth the effort. From Chapter 38 on, God mercifully, but directly, corrects Job for speaking about things he has no real knowledge of. God tells Job that he can't think the thoughts of God nor understand His ways. It is better for Job that God be God and Job be Job so that God takes care of all things and Job is the recipient of the blessings of God. This is the only way that things can actually work to the good, otherwise, when directed by human beings the events of life tumble into chaos and meaninglessness so that humans are left to try to make sense of what they can't possibly make sense of. All too often this is what we hear around us from various media sources, including well meaning Christian ones. No one seems to want to be the last to share bad news and point out what might possibly happen if we allow our imaginations to run wild and create strange situations drawn with apocalyptic hues. The result is an ungodly fear that works insecurity and distrust, the exact opposite of faith. The world is in a state of chaos, it was created from such and will be until its end. Our God is Lord of all and reigns even over the chaos. The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all iniquity and, by faith, we know that our Father, our God, knows exactly what He's doing. So, we have peace in a troubled world, we have God's peace, that same assurance God gave to Job long ago. Thank you for your continued support of God's work in the world. We are so blessed to be able to play a part in that work.

God's Peace,
Jay Weidner



DONATIONS RECEIVED

In memory of Emil & Taimi Lahti

From Margaret Laurin

In memory of Ernest Bylkas Jr.

From Pastor Ernest Bylkas III, Joy & family

In memory of Kathleen Forsman

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In memory of Frank Liupakka

From James & Kristin Erickson
Pastor Ernest Bylkas III, Joy & family



THRIVENT MEMBERS

Throughout the year we receive donations on behalf of Thrivent from members who direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars to the seminary (see last page for details). These donations do not go unnoticed and we are very grateful! Thank you for supporting the seminary.



LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FALL MONDAY NIGHT CLASS

The **Gospel of Matthew** will be offered this Fall for the Monday night class. It is 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.

The class will begin on September 9, 2024, at 7PM and will be offered in the sanctuary at 916 Pine Street, Hancock, as well as online on Zoom. Keep posted for more details.

**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.

Eligibility requirements: To be eligible to direct Choice Dollars as part of Thrivent Choice®, you must be a client with benefit membership. 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.
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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 <http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice> or call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.

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.

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!