



Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary

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

October 2022

Dear Friends,

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

² Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. ³ Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. ⁴ Behold, I have given him for a witness to the people, a leader and commander to the people. ⁵ Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for he hath glorified thee. ⁶ Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: ⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. ¹⁰ For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: ¹¹ So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”

Isaiah 55:1-11

During the time of the Reformation, Martin Luther sought to correct some of the abuses in the church by bringing it back under the authority of God’s Word. Luther understood that the problems within the church were a result of a departure from the teachings of the Holy Scripture. This is no less true in the church today. As the Body of Christ seeks to minister to the various concerns of a fallen world, our temptation is to listen to reason or emotion, rather than to the voice of God.

In the midst of our turmoil, God continues to cry out: ***“Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live...”*** God’s Word gives life to all who hear in faith. It does so, because all of Scripture points us to the Living Word, Jesus Christ. It is the redemption by His blood that gives life and salvation for sinful mankind.

“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” (v.11) As both a preacher and hearer of Gospel, this second promise gives great comfort to me. It means that God’s Word will bear fruit regardless of the skills or efforts of the preacher or the understanding of the hearer. God has the power to minister to us in this marvelous way through the power of His glorious Word. May God grant us grace to hearken unto the voice of the Good Shepherd, so that we may hear and live.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Chuck Bylkas



DONATIONS RECEIVED...

In honor of Earl B. Kaurala
From Heath & Sherry Anderson

In memory of Lillian Kinnunen
From Yvonne Saari

In memory of Aurora (Grace) Mixon
From Dale & Carolyn Questad

Welcome
STUDENTS

Beginning this Fall, we are pleased to welcome two new full-time students, Caleb Maunu and Michael Mattinen both pursuing a Master of Divinity degree.

Caleb Maunu spent his childhood in Oregon and Washington. He went to high school in Minnesota then to New Hampshire where he met his wife, Sheri, who was working as a schoolteacher. Caleb worked as a Project Manager at Hutter Construction in Rindge, New Hampshire before moving his family to Hancock to attend seminary. Caleb and Sheri have four children; Greta (8), Anders (6), Silas (4) and Freya (1).

Michael Mattinen resides in Cloquet, Minnesota and attends the Esko Apostolic Lutheran Church. His wife, Heidi teaches physical education part-time in Cloquet. Michael and Heidi have four children; Miles (7), Luke (5), Phoebe (2) and Mabel (8 weeks). Michael has been teaching 3rd and 4th grade for the last nine years. He resigned last spring knowing it was time for a change. Seminary had been in the back of his mind for several years, with every year that call seemed to get stronger and stronger. By the Holy Spirit, the right understanding of Scripture, especially the distinction of Law and Gospel, has brought him much peace. The Lord has now given him a desire to share this Word of Life that brings the peace that surpasses all understanding. So, he finally answered the call.

Scott Seppala, our full-time student who started in January 2021, is currently doing an internship at Zion Lutheran Church, Hancock, Michigan. Under Pastor Jesse Aho, Scott is looking forward to gaining knowledge and experience in church ministry. Scott will resume classes in Fall 2023.

Please continue to keep our students in prayer. We appreciate your continued support!!



ATTENTION: BOARD MEMBERS

There will be a Board Meeting on Saturday, October 8, 2022
at 9AM in the seminary's classroom building.



The Board of Directors
of the
Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary
invite you to attend the
Annual Seminary Rally
on
Sunday, October 9, 2022 at 3:30PM
at
Zion Lutheran Church
400 Ingot Street
Hancock, Michigan

Dinner following service.



SAVE THE DATE.... **WINTER NIGHT OF MUSIC**
*at Zion Lutheran Church in Hancock, MI, to benefit the seminary
on Tuesday, December 6 at 7PM. Join us for an evening of
Christmas caroling and special music. Refreshments will be served.*