September 2011

Dear Friends,

A decade removed from one of our most recent national tragedies life still goes on. Over two years removed from a great personal tragedy life still goes on. After every significant happening that impacts the human race, collectively or personally, life still goes on. The human being is not the center of existence rather the focus of existence and all understanding of the same is God. Moses understood this reality as he wrote these words:

<A Prayer of Moses the man of God.> Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. ² Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. ³ Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men. ⁴ For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. ⁵ Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. ⁶ In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. ⁷ For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled. ⁸ Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. ⁹ For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told. ¹⁰ The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. ¹¹ Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath. ¹² So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. (Psalm 90:1-12 KJV)

Yet they are followed by the words of another Psalmist:

He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. ² I will say of the LORD, *He is* my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. ³ Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, *and* from the noisome pestilence. ⁴ He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth *shall be thy* shield and buckler. ⁵ Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day; ⁶ *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday. ⁷ A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee. ⁸ Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. ⁹ Because thou hast made the LORD, *which is* my refuge, *even* the most High, thy habitation; ¹⁰ There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. (Psalm 91:1-10 KJV)

Life indeed goes on but it goes on under the watchful eye of Him who "will neither slumber nor sleep (Psalm 121:4b)."

So we begin a new semester under the loving watch and hand of Him who sustains us in the midst of every circumstance. We pray His blessing upon you and ask for your continued support as the days pass on. Please pray for our students and for us as we so often fondly pray for you.

With God's Amazing Peace, Jay Weidner



In memory of Joseph Krutzíg from Audrey Krutzig

In memory of Walter Hendrickson from Verna A. Hendrickson



UPCOMING SEMINARY RALLY

Keep the date open....the annual Seminary Rally will be on **Sunday**, **October 9**, **2011**, in the Hancock area (location to be determined).

The purpose of the seminary rally is to help inform you about the ongoing ministry of the seminary, meet the students and encourage your support financially and more importantly in prayer. We hope that you will be able to attend but if not, please remember us.

As a reminder, the Thrivent ChoiceSM program is a charitable grant program that allows members to help choose where some of its charitable outreach funds go by directing Choice Dollars.SM Choice Dollars can be directed to Lutheran organizations you prefer nationwide.

To be eligible for Choice Dollars, you must be a benefit member age 16 or older. Individual eligibility is also based on:

- Holding a Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership position or...
- Having \$800 or more in annual premiums of qualifying insurance products or...
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying products.

If you are an eligible member and would like additional information, please contact Thrivent at 1-800-847-4836.

Thank you for considering the Inter-Lutheran Seminary as your charitable organization of choice.