June 2011

Dear Friends,

"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: ¹⁰ Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy."

I Peter 2:9-10

As we come to the close of the Easter season, we not only celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, but our own resurrection as well. The Apostle Peter writes his epistle with a desire to give hope to a people who are enduring trials and tribulations. He encourages the people, and us as well by reminding them and us of the power of the Risen Lord Jesus and what His resurrection means. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." What an uplifting message for those who are suffering! We are born again to a living hope by the Resurrection of Christ! By faith, we possess a divine inheritance that will not be taken away from us! Later, Peter declares "...that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: 20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you..." It is a wonderful reminder that our hope does not rest upon the things that we do, but rather upon the finished work of Christ, that God had ordained from the time of creation. As the Apostle Paul has said, even the sufferings of this life are not worthy to be compared to the glory that awaits His children.

In chapter two, Peter tells us that each one of us has become a "lively stone" that is part of a magnificent spiritual house, of which Christ is the cornerstone. Those who refuse to believe in Christ stumble over Him and fall, but it is not so with us.

*But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. What a marvelous declaration! We are a chosen people, chosen by God Himself. We are a royal priesthood, because we are children of the King of Kings. We are a holy nation, because we are cleansed by the blood of the Lamb and are now dressed in His robe of righteousness. We are a peculiar people. Not peculiar in the sense of being odd or strange, but peculiar in the sense of belonging to God. We are His children! We praise God because He delivered us from darkness into the light. At one time, we were not a people, but now because of the death and Resurrection of Christ, we belong to God. At one time, we had not received mercy, but now because of the Cross, we have received mercy. What a wonderful message for those who are discouraged or overwhelmed by the cares and struggles of this life! May God strengthen us in faith, so that we might lay hold of this great and glorious Gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Chuck Bylkas



THRIVENT MATCHING FUNDS DINNER

On Saturday, May 21, 2011, a fundraising dinner was held at the South Range Apostolic Church in South Range, Michigan. The event was co-sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Thrivent offered to match gifts up to \$2,400 and we are pleased to report that a total of \$8,110.25 was received as a result of this fundraiser. The funds will be used to help purchase books for library and seminary use. Thanks to Thrivent, the South Range Apostolic Lutheran congregation, everyone who volunteered at the event as well as all those who donated their gifts to the seminary. May the Lord richly bless you for your kindness.



Memorial received...

In memory of Theresa Weidner
from Linda Wirkkala

In memory of Theresa Weidner from Greg & Carmelle Helmes

In memory of Clarence Baker from Pastor Chuck & Joy Bylkas

In memory of Clarence Baker from Pastor Chuck & Joy Bylkas

In memory of Glenn E. Tapio from Linda Tapio

In memory of Kenneth & Verna Hendrickson from Harold & Shirley Myrmel

In memory of Jerry DeMotts
from Myra DeMotts

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	Wednesday	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
8:30a.m.	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel	Chapel
9:00 - 9:50a.m.	Lutheran Confessions	Pastoral Counselor	Lutheran Confessions	Pastoral Counselor	Lutheran Confessions
10:00 - 10:50a.m.	History of the Medieval Church	Pastoral Counselor	History of the Medieval Church	Genesis Working as a Deaconess	History of the Medieval Church
11:00 - 11:50a.m.	Evangelism	Genesis Working as a Deaconess	Koine Greek Readings		
12:00 - 12:50p.m.	Evangelism				
2:00 - 3:00p.m.	Hebrew Readings				,
7:00 - 8:40p.m.	Jeremiah & Lamentations (In Hancock)			Jeremiah & Lamentations (In Negaunee)	

TENTATIVE Class Schedule for Fall 2011

If you are interested in taking a class or need additional information, please contact us at phone (906) 482-3337 or email – <u>cilseminary@ilseminary.com</u>.

History of the Laestadian Movement will also be taught in the fall by Pastor Elmer Yliniemi. The class will meet for two weeks (9am-Noon) – dates are yet to be determined.

Negaunee's Thursday night class will begin August 25, 2011.

Hancock's Daily classes begin, Wednesday, August 31, 2011.

Hancock Monday night class will begin September 12, 2011.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Lutheran Confessions (3 credits) – Jay Weidner, instructor

An in-depth look at the three ecumenical creeds and the documents that make up the Book of Concord.

History of the Medieval Church (3 credits) – Jay Weidner, instructor

A historical analysis of the Church of the Middle Ages and the Reformation Era.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS (continued)

Pastoral Counselor (3 credits) - Rod Johnson, instructor

A course about the dynamics of the Pastoral counseling process designed to provide insight into human nature and the close relationship between body, soul and mind in human behavior. Students will learn to apply Biblical teachings to help people resolve problems in their lives.

Genesis (2 credits) - Chuck Bylkas, instructor

A study of the origin, thought and doctrinal content of the book of Genesis.

Working as a Deaconess (2 credits) – Jay Weidner, instructor

A 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.

Koine Greek Readings (1 credit) – Jay Weidner, instructor

A course designed to apply the principles learned in New Testament Greek and facilitate the mastery of the language of the New Testament through reading selected portions of its text.

Hebrew Readings (1 credit) - Jay Weidner, instructor

A course designed to apply the principles learned in Hebrew I & II and facilitate the mastery of the language of the Old Testament through reading selected portions of its text.

Evangelism (2 credits) - Mike Carriere, instructor

A study of the principles and methods for Christian outreach in one's own church and community, including home visitation.

Jeremiah-Lamentations (2 credits) – Jay Weidner, instructor

A study of the prophecy given through the prophet Jeremiah and the laments traditionally accredited to him.