November 2022

Dear Friends,

<sup>35</sup> Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. <sup>36</sup> And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. <sup>37</sup> And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. <sup>38</sup> I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours. <sup>39</sup> And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. <sup>40</sup> So when the Samaritans were come unto him, they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days. <sup>41</sup> And many more believed because of his own word; <sup>42</sup> And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Sayiour of the world.<sup>1</sup>

November is always the month when we give thanks for the harvest. Rightly so, for we know that it is our Lord who gives us the bounty and the increase of our daily sustenance. We celebrate thanksgiving in honor of God who freely with Christ gives us all things and to Whom the only proper and available response is thanks.

Yet, there is another harvest of equal or, perhaps, even of greater significance, the harvest of humanity. Jesus called His disciples telling them that He would make them fishers of people. He would provide the catch ultimately through His suffering, death, and resurrection. He procured and drew to Himself all of humankind through His lifting up on the cross and the atoning power of His shed blood. The disciples needed only to cast the net and the Lord would fill it. So, it was as He traveled through Samaria, He showed them the power of His work by pointing out the harvest to them, that it was now ready to be gathered. This harvest was not a gathering of one group of people but of people everywhere, even people that were despised like the Samaritans. The Samaritans heard the testimony of the woman at the well (John 4:5-30) and came to Him. He drew them in with His Word and they received faith to believe that He was the Messiah, the Savior of the world.

This harvest is still going on in our world and we are called to be His laborers in this work. We have been given the Gospel to declare to all the people that God receives sinners, cleanses them, and makes them new in the blood of His Son. Even as Jesus says (Matthew 9:38), we are praying for workers in that harvest. We give thanks for all of you who so generously support us in this work. May God bless us with the spirit of thanksgiving for both harvests.

God's Peace,	
Jay Weidner	

<u>The Holy Bible: King James Version</u>, Electronic Edition of the 1900 Authorized Version. (Bellingham, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 2009), Jn 4:35–42.



#### DONATIONS RECEIVED...

#### In memory of Pastor Rodger & Aila Foltz From Kirk Jr. & Carol Otto

In memory of Ernest Bylkas Jr.

From Ernest Bylkas III, Joy and family

**In memory of Kathleen Forsman** From Ernest Bylkas III, Joy and family



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.



## **DEUTERONOMY** to be offered Spring, 2023

Tentatively, Jay will be teaching Deuteronomy for the Monday night class. This would be the first time this class is being offered so be sure to mark your calendar. The Monday night class will begin on January 16 at 7PM in person at 916 Pine Street, Hancock or available on Zoom. A \$50 donation would be appreciated if possible. Stay tuned for a complete class schedule coming soon.

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

Have you ever have used Amazon.com to do your shopping? Now AmazonSmile offers the same products, same prices and same service and will also donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Inter-Lutheran Theological Seminary whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.

Simply log use in by using this link....

amazon

http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0918317

which will bring you directly to smile.amazon.com in support of our organization.



**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.1 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.
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying life insurance and annuity products. 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 <a href="http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice">http://www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice</a> 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<sup>TM</sup> (formerly InFaith Community Foundation). 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.