October 30, 2022 A+D
The Feast of the Reformation (Observed)

To the Council of Lutheran Women,

I must apologize that this letter has been delayed in coming to you. My studies at the seminary have proven to be rigorous and time consuming (there is always more to do than hours in a day). Yet, all the while, they remain interesting and rewarding.

This first quarter I have had classes on the early history of the church, mission and evangelism (in their proper confessional context and connection to God's means of grace in Word and Sacraments), Dogmatics, a course on the Gospel of Matthew, Field Education, and both a Greek and Hebrew readings course.

In connection with my Field Education class I have begun serving St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Ohio City, Ohio. For now, I will be mostly observing and occasionally assisting during the services by way of helping with distribution or reading the lectionary readings for the day. Next year I will have the opportunity to help lead parts of the liturgy, preach (after I take Homiletics I in the Spring Quarter), and teach Bible classes as well.

In addition to my studies, I have passed an audition and made it into the Seminary Kantorei Choir, which I am enjoying very much.

I wanted to take the time to write to you in order to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude for the most generous Scholarship money that I was blessed to receive. Not only that, but your thoughts and prayers are also a source of great encouragement on the days when the work and task put before me seems daunting and overwhelming. Despite the challenges, I remain confident that the Lord will continue to equip me for service in His vineyard.

May Almighty God continue to richly bless you in Christ Jesus our Lord!

Soli Deo Gloria,

James Gramzow

James Lauryon