

To the Council of Lutheran Women,

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you. It is hard to believe that half of the first quarter is already over. This past summer afforded a much needed break after the end of the Spring Quarter, but it has been good to get back into the swing of classes. My wife Jill and I are getting excited about going out on vicarage next year, but I'm glad that I still have another year of classes before they send me out. More education is always better than less in my opinion, at least when it comes to preparation for the pastoral office.

This Fall quarter I am taking classes on the Gospel of John, Pastoral Counseling, The Smalcald Articles, the book of Genesis, Field Education II, Religion in Colonial America, and a Greek readings course. I also have the opportunity to continue to sharpen my Hebrew skills on Friday afternoons by going to "Hebrew over Lunch" led by seminary professors. I'm also continuing to sing in the Seminary Kantorei Choir this year with eleven other fellow seminarians.

I am continuing to serve at my Field Work church, St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Ohio City, Ohio. As the second year fieldworker I am reading the lessons and leading parts of the liturgy more regularly, preaching once a month, and teaching adult Bible class. Right now I am taking the congregation through a review of the Small Catechism by looking at Luther's Catechetical hymns.

I wanted to take the time to express my gratitude and thanks for the financial support that you sent. Jill and I are very appreciative and consider it to be such a blessing to be so supported while I'm at the Seminary. God's richest blessings to you in Christ!

Soli Deo Gloria,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Gramzow". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James Gramzow