

News of Nathaniel Brown's Seminary Journey

September 2017



What a crazy month! I have been serving at my field education congregation at Chapel of the Cross in St. Peters, MO, reading the assigned Bible passages and helping in the Adult Bible Study. A couple of weeks ago, I was asked to help with the annual Confirmation Retreat which is held in Camp Wartburg in Illinois. I was asked to lead a Bible Study for the Confirmands. I decided on Romans 8:38-39: "For I am sure that neither death



nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." The reason I picked this passage is because of the amount of hope that are in these verses. Since Christ's love is for all people, literally nothing can

separate us from that love. This point was emphasized when talking about baptism in my Introduction to Pastoral Ministry class. We noted that for most Christians, they cannot remember their baptism, but that should be the one thing that constantly gives us peace and joy. I hadn't thought about baptism that

Prayer List:

- For all people, that they may come to the knowledge of Christ and so be saved.
- For all our leaders, that the rules they enact may lead us to quiet and dignified lives.
- That the Church, may be strengthened.
- For the Seminary students in St. Louis and in Ft. Wayne, that they may be able to serve His people faithfully.
- For healing for the St. Louis Area, as the residents learn to work together in peace and harmony.
- That rain comes for the people fighting fires in Montana and the Pacific Northwest.
- That the people affected by hurricanes have quick and efficient clean up to bring their lives to some sense of normalcy.

If you have prayer requests, or want to talk, please send them to me! My email is brownn@csl.edu, and my address is: 801 Seminary Place St. Louis, MO 63105

way before, because my baptism was done when I was three weeks old, and I haven't thought much about how that changes everything in life! One of my classmates was talking with me afterwards and asked how our works to our neighbor fit in the scheme of righteousness with God. I told him that good works are vital for Christianity, but not because



they earn righteousness with God, but because our neighbor needs these things and we need to love and support our neighbor. I have loved talking with professors and classmates in class and out of class about our lives, and the material on campus. I am doing an institutional module for Field Education, and I am serving at Lutheran Senior Services in Laclede Groves. It is wonderful to meet the residents and talk with them and learn about



how different pastoral ministry is in a parish compared to in an Assisted Living Facility. Being in my institutional module and serving at my Field Education church takes plenty of time, as do my classes of Introduction to Pastoral Ministry, Introduction to Historical Theology, Introduction to Systematic

Theology, and Interpreting and Communicating the Word. I am also working on campus in the Library and in General Labor. These all have been fun and rewarding. An additional part of seminary life is learning about the surrounding community. It has been on the news that protests are going on in the St. Louis area. Many of these protests are peaceful, but a few have turned violent, which has the St. Louis residents worried about another Ferguson. Being on campus has kept me from interacting with the protests directly, but it has sparked conversation with classmates and members at my Field Education church. There are many complex issues that the St. Louis Area is trying to figure out because of these protests. I would ask all of you to pray that peace and order are maintained in the area and that all parties can come together in honest and open dialogue. It is hard talking about tough issues, and there may be many questions you have about this, or of other parts of my Seminary experience, so I would ask that you contact me with those questions, and I will try to answer all of them as soon as I can. My next newsletter should come out sometime near the end of October. God's Blessings to all of you!