

# Table Talk



News and Views of the Student Body of The Lutheran  
Theological Seminary at Gettysburg.

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## KOINONIA

On Friday evening you meet the end of a working week with sighs of "It's Friday night! - No work - no classes tomorrow - tonight we can do what we want!" It's pleasant to feel the pressures of work fall and the feeling of relaxation take over. To have a change of pace and yet to feel that this time should be well spent. You could invite friends over - bridge - the movies - talk - coffee.

The usual go-round with Friday nights, with the end result of just another night passing. It isn't that we aren't friendly, outgoing, fun-loving people; it's just a lot easier if we don't have to worry about things like how the place looks or finding a baby sitter or shopping for snacks. The time we enjoy friends most is when they drop in and take us as we are.

That's a rounabout way to say what comes next but too often we let worldly excuses stand in the way of the spirit of fellowship. It is because a group of your friends thinks it has found a solution to all these excuses that they ask you to join them in body and spirit on a Friday night, after a work week full spent. Every Friday evening we get together at 6 P.M. in the Recreation Room in the "Ad" Building with each person bringing a "carry-in-a-bag" supper along; and we share coffee pots. There's nothing fancy - if you want to share a dessert or a cake you "felt" like baking, that's wonderful. There are always hungry fans of every cook. And we can assure the single fellows that there has been an abundance of food in which they are welcome to share.

What is the purpose of this gathering? Simply to have food and fellowship together. There are no formal programs or meetings; only informal relationships that will enable us to know each other better. Come as you are - dress casually. Bring your children. Men, women, single or married. Faculty, staff, students.

"Pay now, eat later"

## NEW REFECTORY LUNCH PLAN

The Refectory Board has come up with a new Lunch Plan that will be of benefit to married students, faculty and staff alike. Members of the Seminary Community who are not regular Refectory members, but who would like to be able to eat lunch in the Refectory on weekdays are now invited to do so.

You can buy a block of 10 Lunch Tickets for \$6.00 and use these for your lunches in the Refectory. The regular guest price for lunch is 80¢, so there is a savings of \$2.00 in buying the Lunch Tickets. Interested persons are asked to contact Steward Kindsvatter or Refectory President Case for further information on the Lunch Plan.

## THE NEW RENAISSANCE

The coming weeks mark a momentous occasion for us all. There will be a stunning rebirth of the Arts here on the Hill. To wit: an art show, which began last week and continues into this, is the private collection of junior Bob Woodside. In every nook and cranny of the A. R. Wentz Library Galleries are to be found original woodcuts, lithographs, etchings and other works by men such as Roualt and Chagall. By careful buying, Bob has managed to assemble a collection that is worth more than a passing glance. It isn't the Louvre, but then, the portraits of S. S. Schmucker already there aren't exactly Rembrandts either.

The other major event will be a gathering of eagles on Monday night, Oct. 25th, at 8 P.M. in room 206. This first meeting of the Chancel Players will  
(Cont'd. p.2)

(Koinonia, cont'd.)

Come one, come all. This kind of gathering may well be the realization of a sense of "community" on our Seminary Campus.

June Camac

(Renaissance from page 1)

be an opportunity for everyone interested in drama (offstage or on) to get together for a short, but profitable meeting. There will be an impromptu reading of Albee's "The American Dream" by any who wish to participate. Steve Leatherman will spearhead the meeting and talk about plans for possible productions during the year.

If all this doesn't tickle your cultural funny-bone, there's always the color TV down at the Pub.

J. W.

"Faith active in life...."

#### LETTER FROM THE HOSPITAL

During the second quarter of last year, I had a class with Prof. Hale on the Psychology of Religion. In the course of the quarter we delved into the lives of some of the more outstanding Christians, past and present.

I recently re-discovered two letters which were written by a clergyman in 1960. I wrote to a Lutheran Pastor who had known this man and asked if he could provide some background material on him. In part, the answer read as follows:

"Hal (Leiper) was a Presbyterian minister who served as associate director of the University Christian Association on the Penn State campus. He had a marvelous Christian spirit. He was the advisor to Koinonia, an experiment in Christian living together in a house here in town (State College, Pa.). He was interested in the relationship between faith and health. He developed cancer in his leg after an operation he knew he could not live long. In his hospital in Phillipsburg, he once shared a celebration of the Sacrament in a meaningful way with a few other pastors. He wrote those letters to a few of us just before he died. ...he died on a Saturday and I read one of them during our church service the next morning. He planned his own funeral service which he entitled 'A Service of Praise and Thanksgiving.' It was a most triumphant service."

Forming page 3 of this paper are excerpts from two letters Pastor Leiper wrote in February, 1960. He died on March 3, 1960.

R. C.

TABLE TALK.....published almost weekly by the Student Body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa. Your contributions to the cause are welcome.

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The contents may be reprinted at will, if you dare.

#### MISCELLANY

The Seminary Community in Philadelphia as well as Gettysburg was saddened by the sudden death of Dr. John Doberstein, Professor of Practical Theology at Mt. Airy. The funeral was last Saturday.

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From the Dean's office come these reminders ---

Middlers must declare their major during this quarter. Forms and other information are available in the Dean's office.

All students are reminded about turning in the report of employment forms to the Dean's office.

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The Very Rev. George F. MacLeod, D.D., leader of the Iona Community, will be the guest speaker at an Ecumenical Youth Rally to be held at 7 PM on Sun., November 14. The place is the Towson Presbyterian Church, in Towson, Md., a northern suburb of Baltimore.

Items on the agenda of the rally include Dr. MacLeod's address, the showing of a film depicting the life of the Iona Community, and a brief concert of modern church music.

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We are given to understand that the Junior Class has persuaded the Administration to award, for the first time in Seminary history, a FOOTBALL LETTER for the outstanding player of 1965.

"This is a kind of epistle. Since I have things to share with you - forgive the seeming courage or affrontery of such a title. You'll understand, I'm sure. And my greetings come as prompted by the Holy Spirit. Maybe from my perspective you'll gain something of value...

"First, I am facing death, as are we all, only mine seems more immediate. Of course, God may yet miraculously postpone the day - for which I pray, knowing the goodness of His will, the needs of my children for a daddy, and the opportunities of work. However, I'm surely not indispensable - and the blocks to healing in this age of unbelief are formidable. Remember Jesus back in Galilee? There's a sweetness, a joy in facing death. I'll be more directly with Him whom I love and serve, unencumbered by this body of flesh. What a privilege! And I'll be with Jane and the kids even tho' unseen, just as my mother has been with me since I was 14. I'll be with the work too!

"Second, I've discovered for a fact what I knew and trusted in theory - God's strength is in our weakness and pain. How tremendous to be carried as on eagles wings to heights of joy and thanksgiving when the going is roughest of all. This is no mere theory, but a fact of experience in faith - when preparing for the surgeon's knife, when racked with pain prior to a relief shot of morphine, when confined to bed and back. Prayers, hymns, memorized scriptures of praise flow freely.

"Without the slightest doubt our family has been increasingly blessed by the presence and power of God through His Spirit. My own joyful awareness of his tremendous resources in the love of Christ, through the living Word, through the gathered community of dedicated Christians, and through the grace of faith has been growing in overwhelming proportions - and none of this by my own efforts. How great is our God!

"We continue to look for His healing of body, mind and spirit, even as we are grateful for the healing He is always sending in the preservation of our lives. We know that the blocks in my case are great, for the cancer slowly grows. In spite of the blessings of this suffering, we do not credit God with the sending of such trouble, although we praise Him for His transforming power and will which can make all situations, including the works of the devil and the wrath of men, to praise Him. And, as we seek to make ourselves available by faith and prayer to His will of healing all disease including mine, we are joyfully sustained in the larger confidence that real living in Him knows no bounds of space and time. Without this assurance of eternal life and the coming of that completion of His plan in the fulfilled Kingdom, we would find it hard to live courageously in a world of so much despair.

"My condition, then, is one of hope and joy - for I am in His hands, as are we all.

"May your life...be rich in the richness of God, affluent in the Spirit and comfortable in the comfort which our Lord knew on the Cross and in His Resurrection."

Pax and power to you,

HAL (Leiper)