

Table Talk



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

RECEIVED

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EDITORIAL

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ATTENTION !!

AN OPEN LETTER TO FACULTY, STAFF, AND SEMINARIANS REGARDING THE SEMINARIAN AND COMMUNION PRACTICES.

In the Manual of Information, 1967-68, on page 51, the seminary outlines certain principles regarding "The Seminarian and Communion Practices." Unfortunately, norms are set, but reasons for them are not included. To state it simply, I want to know why seminarians cannot celebrate a communion service. If, as the Lutheran Church maintains, the preaching of the word, and the administration of the sacraments are of equal importance to the Christian life, it is unclear why a layman may perform the one function and not the other.

Although my questions arise not from a concern for authority, but rather from a pragmatic concern, the fourteenth article of Faith and Doctrine of the Augsburg Confession sheds light on the topic: "It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments in the church without a regular call." Teaching, preaching, and administration of the sacraments seem here to be given parallel status. Putting aside for the moment what is meant by "regular call" it would appear that if any individual is allowed by the church to perform any one of these functions, he is also eligible to perform the other functions.

The wording in the Manual of Information states that the seminary student has no special status, thereby implying that an ordained pastor does have a special status beyond the layman, and that one function granted to him involves his authority to celebrate holy communion. Is not this separation of preaching the Word and administering the sacraments contrary to our heritage?

In addition, from a practical point of view, it is obvious that one who preach-

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The Holiday Bureau needs volunteers to answer the telephone from December 4 to December 22. The hours are:

Mon.-Fri. 10:00 -11:00 A.M.
4:00 -5:00 P.M.

Saturday 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Anyone can help! The list to sign can be found on the bulletin board. This service has been set up to coordinate families in need with those with something to give for the Christmas holidays.

WOTS will sponsor the Christmas party on December 16.

Each wife was asked to bring three dozen cookies and a gift for an "adopted" child. Please bring a Christmas tree ornament to the November 8th meeting of WOTS, to be held at the Stroup's home. Thank you!

-Judy Persiko

DR. COLEMAN ON CAMPUS

Dr. William D. Coleman, Principal of the Andhra Christian Theological College in India will be visiting our campus this week. In addition to lecturing and participating in discussions in classes he will be available at various times during the week for private conversations with students.

On Thursday evening at the Coffee Shop Forum Dr. Coleman will be leading a discussion on critical issues confronting the modern Church in the mission world. He is eminently qualified to speak in this area not only by virtue of a whole lifetime (he received his early schooling in India) spent in India but, more important, because of his leadership in the work of the Lutheran mission in India. He is a leading church spokesman on the Indian scene and has something to say for our time.

At the Forum meeting there will be

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LITTLE PEOPLE AND VIET NAM

Recently a pastor in a rural parish in the Maryland Synod gave his beginning confirmation class a questionnaire, in order to gather basic information about each student for his records and class plans. One of the questions was: "Give two or three questions about life or the world that puzzle you." Nineteen students were in the class, five did not answer the question, four gave various answers. The other ten students, of the average age of 13, "uncorrupted by college," gave these interesting answers: 1. Why is there a war? 2. Will the killing keep going on in Vietnam? 3. Why are we fighting in Viet Nam? 4. Why is the war in Vietnam going on? 5. Why is the reason the world cannot have peace? 6. Why are we in Viet Nam? 7. Why do we have War? 8. Why must there be so much hate? Why do people have to be so inconsiderate of others? 9. Why are so many innocent people dying in wars? 10. Why do we have war? Why don't people get along all of the time? Turn people like this loose, and, "some day they'll have a war and nobody will come".

-Ted Nelson Tatman

DR. COLEMAN (Cont'd)

responses from professors Hoffman and Folkemer and several members of the student body.

Dr. Coleman will be taking most of his meals at the refectory and looks forward to as many opportunities as possible for speaking informally with students.

-Dr. Folkemer

OPEN LETTER (Cont'd)

es can far more easily cast stumbling blocks in the paths of his listeners than can one who administers the sacraments. Proper preaching of the gospel requires much study and instruction, while proper administration of the sacraments requires little more than that one be able to read well. It certainly is not difficult to read the words printed in the Service Book and Hymnal. How-

(Cont'd next column)

OPEN LETTER (Cont'd)

ever, to proclaim the good news in today's world is far from easy. If anything, therefore, should be reserved for the ordained clergyman, it would seem to me that preaching should.

But perhaps our reasons are far from practical than we imagine. Most Lutheran churches, of course, do not wish to celebrate communion weekly, but they do desire sermons weekly. Consequently, the seminary sends its students out to churches which have no pastors in order that the gospel might be preached. However, if an increasing number of our Lutheran churches desire holy communion more frequently (as will probably be the case) it seems that the seminary or the LCA will have to give this subject more careful consideration, and draft more workable principles. Problems are already beginning to arise in rural churches with no pastors who want to celebrate the Lord's Supper regularly, and in large congregations with one pastor who finds it extremely difficult to spend time on other necessary aspects of his ministry when he must administer unreasonable numbers of private communions. Perhaps we would be able to be the church in the world more effectively if seminarians could administer private communions. Ordained pastors would then be free of unnecessary burdens created by the church's present policy, and thereby be able to perform other needed pastoral duties.

Of course, the seminary probably should not take action on this issue in opposition to the LCA. My question is, however, why do faculty, staff and students support the LCA decision by their silence and unwillingness to be critical in this regard.

Philip E. Howard

FROM THE BALCONY

This week I had an interesting experience. The weather wasn't too bad so I went across the street to the hardware store. Mr. McNail, the owner, eats cheese sandwiches and I get the crumbs when he's not looking.

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FROM THE BALCONY (Cont'd)

While I was there Mr. Twoface, the head usher at the church, came in to buy some things. Every Sunday Mr. Twoface looks sharp in his best suit with a flower in the lapel. He's right there on the spot helping to seat people and saying nice things to the ladies. Everyone likes him and they all think he's such a Fine Christian Man.

Well, as Mr. Twoface got to talking, I thought he was going to start a prayer a couple of times. He and Mr. McNail talked about some of the ladies at the church. It didn't sound like the same things he says about them on Sunday mornings, but maybe I misunderstood them. Anyhow, they talked about God and Jesus Christ some more, and then Mr. Twoface left.

I still can't figure out what God has to do with a dam ___ we don't even have one around here. But Mr. Twoface must know about it since he's such a Fine Christian Man. The more I think about it, the more I realize that the pastor is a lucky man to have such people in his congregation. The church must mean a lot to Mr. Twoface if he even talks about God and Jesus Christ in the hardware store.

That's all for this time. Be good.
Max, O.C.M.

SKIP THIS PARAGRAPH

Didn't you notice the heading on this paragraph? Didn't you see that you were to skip this? Then why do you go on reading? We assure you that you'll get nothing out of this paragraph and that if you haven't stopped yet, you're only wasting your time. If you have any character at all, stop right now! Didn't you understand? Stop! Stop now! We are already halfway through the paragraph and you're still going on. You just can't stop reading the next line -- or can you? You can't! And we're right. What are you getting out of it? Nothing! You just go on and on. And you're wasting your time by reading these last words, aren't you?

A WOMAN'S EYE-VIEW OF SEMINARY LIFE

Besides the questions "Why did you enter the seminary?" and "What are you doing tonight?" the next most popular question asked a female seminarian is "What are your impressions of seminary life?"

To answer this question, let me invite you into my incoherent little mind....
one warped surf board, Kornonia, 2 dirty signs, one zapped football player, casualness personified, brotherly love, a sly blonde FOX, super senses of humor, extreme curiosity concerning the many interesting details of Luther's life, 2 MG's - one IN and one OUT of commission, Southern charm, a rusty over-sized wrench, oodles and oodles of reading, leisurely meals, Harvey Cox, a yellow jeep with a big personality, commendable enthusiasm for GREEK, a football team that better work on their OFFENSE if they hope to beat Mt. Airy, empty bottles and cans, variety and change, PLAYBOY, PING PONG, PING PONG, PING PONG, MONEY, MONEY, MONEY, EOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS, Milk and cookies, RIGHT!, Road-Runner-BEEP, BEEP, peanut-butter and jelly on rye, coffee and 5¢ doughnuts, 7:45 classes - Boo!, winged-angels, verbal-sparing Seminars, Philadelphia Dreaming, a one-armed bartender, salty tea, singing waiters, outdoor bath tubs, the "MAIN TUBE", all-night diners, noisy radiators, over-crowded VESPERs (Would you believe...), 10 minute sermons, LINDA ... BANG!, Sundays in York, "WOMAN IN THE HALL!", Bupp's Beer and Coon Valley Cheese, 87 wonderful guys.

As intruders on "sacred male territory", we single girls expected to find hostility and prejudice. It was somforting to find that you fellows harbored no such feelings. How can I tell, you aks: Well, I'm constantly reminded by such friendly displays of affection as: having my tea over-flowed, salted, and garnished with a soggy, dirty napkin, my fingers buttered, my theology branded as mysticism, my peanut-butter and jelly sandwiches insulted,
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WOMAN'S EYE VIEW (CONT'D)SPORTS

my watering can deemed unnecessary, my method of note-taking ridiculed, and my extreme zeal and enthusiasm at a football game mocked, just to mention a few.

GEE FELLOWS, THANKS FOR MAKING ME FEEL SO WELCOME!

Oh, by the way, I've noticed the lack of discussion over major controversial issues around the seminary.

To "get the ball rolling", I will suggest one, Should I or should I not let myself go and buy a cranberry purse to match my pair of cranberry stacked heel shoes?? I'll be waiting eagerly for your replies.

Sharon Beckhardt

WOTS NEW?

Kathy Bricker, Anne Showalter, and Anne Siler, all returned senior wives, formed a panel to discuss their internship experiences for our October 4 meeting. Kathy and Jim Bricker lived in Cashtown, while Jim interned in Chambersburg. Anne and Paul Showalter served in Middletown, Pa. Anne and Russ Siler lived in Oxon Hill, Maryland while Russ interned.

Several general statements were made. The congregations were eager to accept the interns and their wives, and hoped the wives would attend as many church events as possible. We were warned not to expect to see much of our husbands or to have much help with chores (if we'd been so fortunate before intern year). The Cardinal rule: BE FLEXIBLE about last-minute changes in plans or routine! Rule number two: live in the community where you intern.

The wives spoke of doing many things separately. The church comes first! Kathy Bricker felt that having two cars was necessary in her case (Jim went to Chambersburg and she went to Gettysburg to teach). Anne Siler spoke of having to wait several hours some days to be picked up after school because of Russ' schedule. Sundays are visiting days in
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As the Seminary Football League swings into its final week of action, the Middlers have all but clinched the 1967 championship. Prior to last Friday's meeting with the Juniors, the second-year men were still undefeated with a 3-0-3 record. The Juniors had moved into second place as a result of their victory over the Seniors, 12-6, last Tuesday.

In the past two weeks of action the Middler squad captured two wins over the Seniors, but had to settle for a scoreless tie for the second time this year with the Juniors. In three meetings prior to last Friday the Middlers and Juniors had managed only one touchdown a piece against each other in their first meeting.

In the statistics department, Rod Shearer continues to set the pace in scoring with four TD's and 24 points. All of the Middlers' left end's scores have come on aerials from quarterback Jack Ferra. At right end, the league-leaders have the number two scorer Dick Little who has snared three TD passes for 18 markers. Jim Bricker of the Seniors is the only other individual with more than one touchdown. Bricker has caught two touchdown passes for 12 points.

Ferra has thrown seven scoring bombs while Rich Barley of the Juniors is a distant second with two touchdown tosses. Barley's aerials both came in last week's 12-6 Junior victory over the Seniors. A record of interceptions was set in that game as both teams waylaid a total of ten passes. The Juniors sparked on pass defense with seven interceptions (Roger Barnes had an individual high game total of four). Barnes and Kenny Schott scored on Barley's aerial while Jim Bricker tossed to Gary Brown for the Senior's score. Bricker is tied with Barley with two touchdown passes.

The Middler defense in six games had allowed only six points while the offense also leads the league in scoring with 60 tallies.

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SEMINARIANS BRAVE FRIDAY 13th JINX TO STAGE HAPPENING!

Lst Friday a small but lively group gathered for the main social event of the autumn season. The event, A DANCE IN, was the results of the long range conniving and planning of Senior Fred Krautwurst and Middler Harold Fox, better known as "The Saint".

The scene of the happening was the Coffee Shop, which was decorated in Early Chaos. Officiating as D.J. was that wonder of the discotetheque world Freddie the K. To increase the ratio of the sexes and creat fairer odds, girls from Gettysburg College were bused in.

Once the general maneuvering and matching up process was completed, the merriment began. Junior, Ken Johnson, "boy wonder of perpetual motion," shifted into high gear and was off for the rest of the evening. The Seniors were not to be outdone though, which proves there is still a spark of life left in the "OLD MEN!" Chucklin' Chucky Kindsvatter and Lightening Lenny Larsen put down anything that moved on that dance floor. Representing their class were the married Middlers. Don Derby's broken arm might affect his football playing and bar tending, but it snre didnt't "cramp his style" on the dance floor.

The usual between record socializing occured; the group was divided into three camps. One group sat at a table swapping musical trivia and drinking punch which much to their chagrin wasn't spiked. Another camp, the "Young Marrieds" sat chatting about whatever it is young marrieds chat about. The third camp of couples stood on the right, intently discussing "shuffleboard".

The dance was so successful that it was crashed by a swinging Alb frocked MONK, who bore a remarkable resemblance to Ted Tatman.

Let's hope that we will not have to wait for another Friday 13th before we can recreate a similar HAPPENING.

Sharon Beckhardt

WOTS (Cont'd)

most parishes, not days for catching up on work. The wives spoke of being invited out for Sunday dinner and the afternoon very frequently.

The Christmas and Easter seasons were extremely busy for everyone. An abundance of good spirit flowed among all the people. Kathy Bricker mentioned that she found the past year's religious holidays particularly meaningful because of all the engrossing activity of the church.

Two wives enjoyed special attention, but for different reasons. Anne Showalter was married just before Russ' internship started, so their congregation was especially eager to meet her. Delores Garrett speaks of their congregation's generosity to their new baby girl, Liese. She and Ron have had to buy Liese very little clothing since her birth.

All the wives spoke of being adequately paid. Payment of interns amounts to housing, car and food allowances, plus a monthly stipend. All felt that internship was a fine experience.

Members of the congregations welcome you, so let yourselves open to their friendship. Do not listen to criticism of the pastors or of previous interns. This leads only to hard feelings. A positive attitude and a friendly spirit go a long way to making internship a success.

Judy Persiko

SPORTS (Cont'd)

The All-Star team will be chosen by the team captains and the athletic director this week. The Mt. Airy game is on November 10 in the afternoon.

Charlie Stetler

LIBRARY DISPLAY

The A.R. Wentz library is currently displaying the first section of;

ORIGINAL LEAVES FROM FAMOUS BIBLES

NINE CENTURIES

1121 - 1935 A.D.

"Leaves from famous Bibles and Testaments dating from the twelfth to the twentieth century have been selected to illustrate important changes in content and format during this period. Bibles in manuscript, on paper and vellum; incunabula editions of Germany and Italy; noted version of the Reformation in England and on the Continent; polyglot texts; epoch-making Bibles, as the issue of the first printed Greek Bible and the 1611 King James Bible;

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the Eliot Indian Bible; and examples of fine printing, including the work of the Aldine Press, Estienne, Plantin, Elzevir, Haskerville, Doves Press, and Bruce Rogers are represented in this collection."

The collection was assembled by Otto F. Ege, Cleveland School of Art, Lecturer on the history of the book, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

These leaves are on loan for display from the private library of Mr. George Olinger. The first section will remain on exhibition through October 29, 1967.