

Table Talk

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

Vol. IV No. 4

NOV 15 1967
November 13, 1967

AN OPEN INVITATION

Mr. & Mrs. Benson have indicated that they would like to open their home to the Seminary community for an end-of-the-quarter get together. The date is Friday, November 17th, from 7:30 until.

Everyone, including wives where applicable, is invited to share in ping-pong, pool, record listening, bull sessioning and light refreshments.

Mark the date on your calendars now, and we'll look forward to seeing you at the post-exams relaxation clinic at the Benson's. Reminders will be in your mailboxes exam week.

The Social Committee

EDITORIAL

Realizing that I shall probably be branded as a reactionary or at least a conservative, I immediately wish to challenge that opinion. But what I would like to challenge is chapel.

On the basis of some comments by professors and students I wish to ask the question of whether the attempt to be relevant is being relevant or actually being irrelevant. In other words, do the chapel services actually become relevant simply because they employ devices as modern language and new forms. Modern language and new forms are not the point of my criticism. I as much as any body am in favor of these. In fact, archaic forms have long been an obstruction to worship. But the center of my criticism is "what is the purpose of such experimentation with new forms?" After attending several chapel services in which Matins have been modified or deserted entirely, one might question whether all had been done in the name of Relevancy or in the name of the
(Cont'd Page 2)

A. R. WENTZ

GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Since there are still many people on campus who do not know what an M.A.R. is, I've taken it upon myself to be the messenger of enlightenment.

According to BECKHARDT'S SEMINARIAL DICTIONARY, an M.A.R. is: "a strange blend of seminarian that comes in two varieties - HE & SHE. When de-coded, M.A.R. means Master of Arts in Religion. This indicates that unlike the B.D., the M.A.R. after two blissfully short years receives a Master's Degree rather than another Bachelor's Degree. The purpose of this course of study is to prepare for a career of service in the field of Parish Education, Campus Ministry, or the Social Ministry."

The members of this minority group here at Gettysburg are Joanne Hunsinger, Lois Anderson, Sharon Beckhardt, Allan Kirschman, and Darrell Layman, all first year students, and Evelyn Aurand, a second year student.

Every Sunday the M.A.R.'S do field work in selected churches in Pennsylvania. They remain at their churches all day serving in some capacities, such as, teaching Sunday School, teaching Catechism, working with junior church and Luther League, and observing others.

Joanne Hunsinger will be involved in a different phase of the program. Interested in Campus Ministry, Joanne will be participating in several college conferences and finally working at a university one day a week.

Any M.A.R. student who would like to report on his or her experience is encouraged to do so. Submit your story to a member of the Table Talk staff.

Sharon Beckhardt

EDITORIAL Cont'dFROM THE BALCONY

Leader. I sometimes have the feeling that each Chapel service must somehow outdo the one before it; or, perhaps, the service must be something that will be different.

No one, I think, would question the idea that there are more than one form of service that can be used in worship. Nor would many disagree that experimentation in liturgy is essential for the life of the church. But is being different for the sake of being different and new, or is giving an outstanding performance the proof that the service was relevant?

Perhaps it is only a naive expectation, but should not one hope that experimentation and change be made without any attempt of ostentatiousness or surprise?

Jerry Weeks

We've weathered our first holiday season here at the Seminary. The celebration combined the festivals of the "Reformation", "The Annual Coming of the Great Pumpkin", and "All Saints Day."

The opening ceremony was performed by Phil Howard, who invited all the Middlers over to his PUMPKIN PATCH for a Halloween visitation. They were all surprised to find that the "Great Pumpkin" had already been there, and had left a Trick or Treat bag for each Middler.

Meanwhile back at the seminary on that same Monday night the Juniors engaged in the traditional custom of decorating the statue of Martin Luther. Tuesday, Reformation morn, hailed Hippie Marty Luther as "King of Flower Power". A banner to testify to this proclamation was hung from the steeple of the chapel.

To Commemorate the 450th year of the Reformation and its theme "LIFE & NEW LIFE", all classes were cancelled on Tuesday. Two special lectures were given in the Chapel by Professor Ernest G. Schwabert. A Festival of Music combining the talents of our choir and Professor Robert Clippinger also marked the occasion.

Tuesday night, though cold outside, hearts were warm inside the Administration
Cont'd Next Col.)

Dear Friends,

Things have been slow around here for the past two weeks, especially in Sunday School. The Mens' Bible Class is really having a problem. The property committee decided it was time to paint the room where the class always meets, and put in new wall paneling too. So the room is all messed up and the Class has to meet in another room until the job is done.

You ought to see what the class looks like on Sundays now. There's hardly anyone there. I heard a couple of the men saying that they might as well not come to Sunday School as long as their regular room was torn up and they'd have to meet somewhere else. I guess they miss their familiar surroundings and usual seats.

They have a real tradition in that Class. Almost everyone has a regular seat, and some have had the same seat for years. One Sunday, a visitor sat in Mr. Bugle's seat. When Mr. Bugle came in, he had to ask the visitor to move. I guess the visitor didn't realize the importance of not messing up the traditional ways of doing things.

Looks like it will be a couple more weeks yet until the remodeling is finished and the Class can get back into its room. Until then there won't be many there and Sunday School will be kinda dull for me.

Gotta go now. The sexton just finished his lunch and I'm going to polish off the crumbs. Be good.

Max, O.C.M.

Cont'd

Building which was the scene of the traditional Reformation Moonlight Seminary Rally. All the traditional things were done. By the end of the evening when the supply of "MILK & COOKIES" had been exhausted and all the traditions had been observed, everyone was full of spirits and zeal. The Reformation was officially over!

Wednesday, November 1. All Saints Day was celebrated with a very unique
(Cont'd Page 3)

Cont'd

evening service. The Invocation and the Collect were given outside the Chapel. After the procession inside the worship service began with Professor Stuemphle officiating and Rev. John Vannorsdall delivering the sermon. These factors, plus the dynamic liturgy, accompanied by organ and brass, and the celebration of the Eucharist made this a most joyous occasion.

Sharon Beckhardt

THE TIME FOR WEEPING, WAILING, AND GNASHING OF TEETH HAS ARRIVED. At this time each quarter the management at Wolf's mourns a population decrease, while the seminary library celebrates a sudden miraculous population explosion. Chapel services are overcrowded. Professors become BOSOM BUDDIES AND LIFE LONG PALS. The "smart guy" everyone hated all quarter becomes MR. POPULARITY. Ping-pong and football takes a back seat to scholarship. Those dust catchers called text books come out of hiding. You start regretting you didn't write your notes in English, if you take any to begin with. Everyone wonders if Professor _____ was bluffing when he said the final counted 3/4 of the grade. The "23rd Lament" looms to #1 on the hit parade. SINCERITY becomes your middle name.

A still, somber HUSH falls over the campus.

FINAL EXAM WEEK IS AT HAND!

Sharon Beckhardt
