

Table Talk

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



Volume XI September 27, 1974 Issue #1

LITURGY OF THE MIND: "GETTING IT ALL TOGETHER"

(A multi-part editorial on the various aspects of religious education at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg).

by Bob Dealey

Part I: The Curriculum

During the Opening Service of the 1974 Academic year, Dr. Heiges addressed the gathering on the topic "Liturgy of the Mind." The main thrust of his sermon was a renewed emphasis on academics. I would like to relate Dr. Heiges' emphasis to the various aspects of religious education at Gettysburg.

(1) The primary purpose of a minister is to be a proclaimer of the Gospel, in both word and deed. (The preceding is a presupposition on my part). In order to be a proclaimer of the Gospel, two things are necessary:

(a) A person must know and understand the content of the Gospel; and

(b) A person must know how to communicate the Gospel effectively.

(2) The present Seminary curriculum very neatly breaks these two necessary requirements into three fields of study: Division I, Division II, and Division III.

(a) Division I: Biblical Studies is the field of study concerned with the discovery and analysis of the content of the Bible. It is also the field which is concerned with the development of certain skills in order to implement further "content" study of the Bible. By way of Biblical Studies, we get down to the "nitty-gritty" of the content of the Gospel, i.e. we learn what "Gospel" is.

(b) Division II: Historical-Theological Studies is the field of study concerned with the understanding of how the Gospel was proclaimed in the past, and how it can be proclaimed now. The "action-reflection" model is in effect here, as we begin to understand the process of improving the proclamation of the Gospel through the reflection of past methods of proclamation.

(c) Division III: Studies in Ministry is the field concerned with the transformation of the proclamation of the Gospel from word into deed. We apply the proclamation to the ministering to others.

(3) The purpose of these three divisions is to prepare the student to become a minister, so that he or she might become an effective proclaimer of the Gospel. A reduction in the sampling from any of these divisions would be a reduction in the effectiveness of future proclamation. All areas are vital.

(Next issue, Part II: The Student)

Notes on C.P.E.

The purpose of C.P.E. is both analytical and educative. The analytical purpose of C.P.E. is to help a student understand who he is and what he is about. This is done by a variety of methods, but principally by group encounter. Group encounter is a session where a group member is analyzed on the basis of what he says and does, or does not say and do, as the case may be.

The educative purpose of C.P.E. not only helps a student understand himself, but also the student becomes familiarized in various situations in which ministry is conducted. The clinical aspect of C.P.E. allows the student to help people understand how they feel, and possibly to help the person explore why they feel that way.

"How was C.P.E.?"

by Eric Roberts

That is a question which is asked of most second year students upon their return to campus. It is a question to which I have not found a good answer. The easy answer is "Just fine," but everyone knows that is superficial and not gut-level, and probably not true. "Alright" probably connotes the proper amount of ambivalence, but does not give enough data for the other person to know where you are coming from. In fact, I would guess that if other people's C.P.E. experiences were like mine, an answer of 25 words or less just won't do to describe the summer in any sort of meaningful way.

When you talk about C.P.E., you are talking about change; hopefully, when you talk about change, you are talking about growth: growth in personality, growth in role definition, growth in awareness. It is because C.P.E. is so involved in the growth process that there is such ambivalence connected with it. Growth does not occur apart from pain. For me to say that I had a good C.P.E. is to say that I was involved in an intense and painful process of

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growth which proved to be very rewarding and continues to be of benefit in my relationships with people. It is a painful experience to discover that I am not all that I could be, but it is only at that moment that I am willing to risk change, and having risked to know the joy which comes with being what I was not before I risked.

The last thought I have is one about Grace. It is grace which tells me that I am acceptable as I am, yet allows me to risk. It is grace which tells me that pain is part of the abundant life, that it is thru pain that I receive joy, that in losing my life I will find it. I do not find C.P.E. to be some Pelagian/Platonic/Rogerian quest for self-knowledge and self-actualization. I find it an experience of grace which exposes the truth by which I am set free.

TABLE TALK STAFF

Bob Dealey, Managing Editor
 Bob Mitchell
 Steve Patrick
 Terry Robichaud
 Glenn Schoenberger

Next issue: Oct. 11th

Council of Pastoral Care: An Announcement by Dr. D. Heiges

It has been observed innumerable times that everyone complains about the weather but no one does anything about it. Likewise, on our campus last year there was a great deal of talk among students about the need for pastoral care but no one did much about it--at least in a structural way.

We are reminded, for example, that since this is a Christian community it ought to be a caring community. The fact is that many, many students, faculty, and staff members do care. The trouble has been that what is everyone's business frequently becomes no one's business, when concrete needs develop in the student body, such as deaths in the family, serious illnesses, accidents, academic difficulties, vocational uncertainty, depression, and just plain loneliness.

So, after considerable consultation with faculty members and student leaders, I have appointed, and will serve as chairman of, a Council of Pastoral Care. This Council is composed of students from the three resident classes who are distributed among the various housing areas. The present members of the Council are as follows: Jerry Cobb, Roy Christell, Bill Cox, Jim Drury, Bill Halsey, Scott Ickert, Terry Robichaud, Dave Root, Dave Roper, Ray Scheck, and Greg Pile. Additional students may be named. Mr. Stroup and Ms. Wood will serve as consultants to the Council.

The major responsibility of Council members is to serve as enablers of mutual pastoral care. The Council will meet regularly for the purpose of helping members carry out this responsibility.

Help the Needy/Walk for CROP
by Bob Ward

CROP is a cup of cool water in a drought-parched land. CROP is a schoolboy's smile as he eats his only nourishing meal of the day. CROP is a tired, hungry, but happy, seminarian who has just walked ten miles.

CROP is a program that has been created by churches of this nation to raise funds to provide food, tools, seed, and other aid to under-developed nations on six continents. CROP aid is distributed through Church World Service by local church agencies, wherever there is extreme need.

The CROP walk in Gettysburg is scheduled for Saturday, October 19th. It is a ten mile hike from the Pennsylvania Monument to the North Carolina Monument and back again; five miles each way. Walkers are needed who will procure sponsors, who pledge a certain amount of money per mile, to be walked by the walker. Last year, the seminary had a large turn-out of both walkers and sponsors in this Gettysburg community effort. If you don't want to walk, help out by sponsoring a walker.

Help the needy of the world. For more information, and to sign up to walk, see either Glenn Schoenberger or Paul Schoffstall.

"The world is a beautiful place to be born into
if you don't mind some people dying all the time
or maybe only starving some of the time
which isn't half so bad if it isn't you." L. Ferlinghetti

WORSHIP

We need your help this year for our seminary worship. We are in need of lectors, crucifers, banner bearers, deacons, and particularly bread bakers and wine suppliers for our weekly Eucharists. Try your hand at being a baker. Give us a hand by presenting the wine. Sign up on the poster across from the student mailboxes in Valentine Hall. If you have questions, please see one of the Sacristans--John Ackley, 101 Heiges Hall; or John Pearson, 001 Heiges Hall, 334-6065. Thank you!

J.G.P.

On Monday evening, Sept. 30th, 1974, Evening Prayers will be held in the Seminary Chapel, at 5:00 p.m. Hopefully, this will become a daily part of our worship life. As of now, plans call for the services to be held on Monday through Thursday at 5 p.m., and at 4:45 p.m. on Fridays. Sign-up sheets have been placed on campus, and students and faculty members are urged to participate either as a leader of the service or by attending to worship our God.

Bob Mitchell

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STUDENT ASSOCIATION NOTES

Student Association Committee appointments made:

- Athletic Committee: Denny Moore(M), Ted Hummel(J)
- Lecture Committee: Bill Halsey
- Publication: Bob Dealey(M)
- Social Committee: Ken Phelps(J), Fred Niederhiser(M)

Committee positions elected:

- Social Action Comm.: Bob Adams(J), Paul Schoffstall(M)
- Consortium Relations: Lee Penvose(J), Rod Burr(M)

Names to be submitted to Dr. Heiges for approval on Faculty Committees:

- Academic Policies: Fran Biondo(M), Ralph Smith(M)
- Admissions & Scholarships: Torben Aarsand(J)
- Continuing Education: Curt Heydt(M)
- Field Education: Jim Jewart(M), Greg Pile(S)
- House of Studies: Al Rider(M-in D.C.), Jon Erickson(J)
- Lay Program: John Siegmund(S)
- Library: Marty Sheaffer(J)

Marty Sheaffer was also elected to be the Secretary of Student Assoc.

BIBLI-TRIV: an exercise in Bible trivia. This week: GENESIS.

- (1) In what land did Cain dwell after his expulsion from the Garden of Eden? Answer: Gen. 4:16.
- (2) How long did Methuselah live? Ans. Gen. 5:27.
- (3) Who were Noah's three sons? Ans. Gen. 6:10.
- (4) What are the oaks of Mamre? Ans. Gen. 18:1.
- (5) Name six of Jacob's sons. Gen. 35:23-26.

Meditation- by Robert Morrison
(Reprinted from "Pa'thlete").

O God, as I stand here tonight with this group gathered to honor two men who have taught others to grab men from behind and throw them to the ground, instead of turning the other cheek; two men who have taught others to seize an arm or leg and take advantage of a man they hardly know, instead of offering a helping hand; two men who have urged men to plot and scheme so that they might have the highest place, instead of seeking the lowest place; two men who have encouraged men to make success and pride the goals of their activity, instead of

being meek and humble. In these circumstances, I ask you to bless this group and these men in particular, so that as they plan to retire from their pursuits of the past, they may again see the wisdom of your way of gentleness, humility, and kindness.

Give us the strength to help our enemies, rather than cast them down. Make us, like the good Samaritan, ready to help the injured man, instead of planning to take advantage of his weakness. Welcome these men back to your path of meekness and kindness, and bless this food which we are about to partake. Amen.

BOOK REVIEW
by Steve Patrick

The Future of the Great Planet Earth, Robert Hanson, Augsburg Press, 1972.

As the name implies, this book was written as a response to Hal Lindsey's dubiously popular Late, Great Planet Earth. Hanson's book does not, however, offer point by point criticism of Lindsey. It does provide a very positive explanation of the nature and authority of Scripture, with an emphasis on what our response should be to prophetic writings. Be sure to read Lindsey's book first, and then pick up what a trained biblical theologian (not to mention a Lutheran) has to say concerning predictions of Jesus' Second Coming.

ADIAPHORA

Mon., Sept. 30th: Evening prayers begins. All students and faculty are invited to participate daily, 5:00 p.m., except Friday, 4:45 p.m. in the Chapel.
Tues., Oct. 1st: Returning Interns and spouses meet at 7:30 p.m. Room 206 Valentine Hall.
Fri., Oct. 4th: Almy display in the coffee shop, all day.
Sat., Oct. 19th: CROP Walk of Adams County, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS:

Books for sale! Biblical scholars and theologians. Contact: Bob Dealey, C-10 Baughman, Ext. 39.

Needed: contributions for the next issue of "Table Talk." The deadline for submissions is noon, Wednesday, Oct. 9th. Thank you!