

Table Talk

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



VOLUME XIV Number 8

May 11, 1978

OUR LUTHERAN FAMILY *by Jo Serratelli*

This will be my last report to you, as we have reached the count-down stage of the semester. I think you will be interested in the news items that I have found for your attention.

It was reported in The Lutheran Standard (April 13, 1978) that the Lutheran churches in West Germany have announced that they have no objections to the participation of children in Holy Communion. This is the policy that has been adopted by the Synod of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in West Germany, which represents nearly all Lutheran churches in that country.

The joint faculties of Concordia Seminary at St. Louis and Ft. Wayne has announced that seminary graduates of the LC-MS seminary, who disagree with the Synod's stance on the charismatic movement will not be endorsed for ordination. Students who would normally be receiving internship assignments will also be prohibited from taking those assignments, if their theology is of a charismatic nature. The seminary has developed an extensive screening program both for admission and for on-going attendance, in order to weed out charismatics. (Missouri in Perspective, April 24, 1978) In that same issue of Perspective, it was also reported that the Leaders of the American Jewish Committee have taken exception to the manual published by the LCMS as part of their Jewish Evangelism Program launched by LCMS in 1977. One critic of the program, Sheldon Steinhauser, of the Anti-deformation League of B'nai B'rith has stated that the program of singling out Jews for evangelism effort is a "betrayal" of the view which is presented in the Christian's own scripture.

You may have noticed an article in The Lutheran (May 3, 1978) which seems to be very pertinent to the discussion that was held at an open forum on our campus on April 26, 1978. It was sponsored by the Worship Committee and chaired by Dr. Herb Soomer. The Lutheran's article reported on a meeting held in New York in March, which was attended by 29 LCA synods. The conference lasted for three days and the theme was "Equality and Justice for Women and Men". It was the second conference of its kind. Jean Leshar, a communications expert spoke on the power of language in attitude formation, particularly sexist attitudes. She said, "school textbooks, dictionaries, hymns, and theology often reflect sexual stereotypes. Historically the male has been perceived as the normative or standard human being and the female is the non-male, the subnormal sex." She also said that the need to personify God stems from our not being able to imagine that an abstraction could care about us.

At the Worship Committee forum, one of the topics for discussion was sexist language in the liturgy used here at LTSG. At this meeting it was brought to our attention that

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Our Lutheran Family continued

Beth Siefert and Beth Huwiler had spent some time in January, revising liturgy for community use. Apparently the Worship Committee had not made this known to the community. This material is available through the committee or the chaolins. The discussion then led to attitudes toward women seminarians on this campus, in general. One professor, Dr. Law, (pseudo-name) said that he "felt strides had been made here in both non-sexist liturgy and attitudes toward women on campus." He did not see it as a major problem. There were a number of opposing responses from some of the women present at the forum, as well as a response from another professor, Dr. Gospel (pseudo-name), who said that a study done for DPL showed that "Gettysburg had a reputation as being a seminary that accepts women students in order to provide dates for the male students." Dr. Law responded to that comment by saying that the study was outdated. To which Dr. Gospel remarked that it was only a little over two years old, and the situation had not changed.

Natural curiosity led me to look up that study. I found it to be a "Report to the Division for Professional Leadership LCA on Women in the Ordained Ministry" by Marjorie Garhart, copyright 1976. It is a survey of attitudes toward Div. women across seminaries and congregations. This is the section that Dr. Gospel was referring to:

Gettysburg appears to be the only seminary where dating establishes the ground rules for relationships (between men and women students). Men (at LTSG) are very chauvinistic and traditional. There is great uneasiness about single women students living on the same floor with married students. . . (p. 11)

Some of you might be quite enlightened if you were to pick-up this "out-dated study". If we up-dated the study, would it be any different?

A very real example of discrimination directed toward ordained women is that of Pastor Norma Everist (ALC) who was denied permission to officiate at a wedding in the Valparaiso University Chapel this spring. Pastor Everist is a graduate of Valpo. The Dean of the Chapel stated that he was just following the policy of LCMS in not recognizing the ordination of women. But aren't ALC & LCMS in pulpit and altar fellowship? (even though it is in a state of protest)

Well, thus ends my report to you. I truly hope that I have been able to stir some small corner of someone's mind this year. If I may make a very loose exegetical statement on a verse written "somewhere" in that book that some of us carry around, I think it's referred to as the "Good Book". I guess that's to raise sales. Well, anyway, I was going to say, if just one person has been challenged this year by this series, it will have been a labor in which I can rejoice.

Go your many ways in Peace!
Serve the Lord.

Commenting personally, and reflecting the feedback that I have been getting all year on Jo's series of articles, I would say they were challenging, enlightening, and greatly appreciated by all the seminary community.

Thanks, THE EDITOR

SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND ATHLETIC COMMITTEE PICNIC*****FREE

This Friday, May 12th at 5:30 p.m., the Social Committee and the Athletic Committee will have an "Indoor Picnic" for all the students and their families. The Student Association will provide a menu of hot dogs, barbeques (sloppy joes), macaroni salad, chips, and condiments. If the single students bring the beverage (see Mrs. Hess) and the married students bring a dessert to share (see below), the rest of the meal is absolutely free. If the weather is nice bring a blanket, if it is not, meet at the refectory. Hopefully a keg of beer will keep the sun shining!

Suggestions for desserts are: cake, cupcakes, squares, pie, cookies, brownies, peanuts and candy.

Plates, napkins, cups, and utensils will be supplied so all you have to do is come join in this last social event of the year. See you there!

Thom Tomlison
Chairperson, Social Committee

FINAL SOCIAL ACTION REPORT

Looks like the end of the year is finally here and the Social Action Committee will end its activities until next year. We have continued with the amnesty international program right up to May. In March we wrote to encourage the release of two clerics who are being imprisoned in South Africa. In April we wrote to help out a young married couple imprisoned in Paraguay. For the month of May we hope to write to Soviet authorities concerning a young man who will be facing trial for trying to emigrate to Israel. We hope some people will be able to find a little time to write a brief letter in his behalf.

Also, on the evening of April 27th we had the privilege of having Dr. Josephina Magno, from the Hospice movement in Virginia, speak to the seminary community. Dr. Magno spoke of her work with dying patients and how she has seen God at work in her life. After the talk, Dr. Gobbel interviewed Dr. Magno for presentation on the seminary radio program.

This brings us to the end of the year and we would like to thank everyone who helped support the work of the Social Action Committee. Hope you all have a good, C.P.E., internship, start in the ministry, or just a good time this summer.

Joe Tursi
Chairperson, Social Action Committee

PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO SEE CONT.

(5) A trip out Route 134 will take you to New Oxford. Along the way and in New Oxford are many interesting antique shops. The town is a good example of the "southern town", with its large square and beautiful large gracious homes. Just before you get into New Oxford is the New Oxford Inn. By reputation very reasonable and good portions plus healthy drinks.

(6) If you would just like to take a ride around the countryside go out Route 34 towards Biglerville. For someone not from this area the miles of Musselman orchards and several fruit plants is very "Adams County."

Belinda Naschke

OUR LUTHERAN NUCLEAR FAMILY
by Dr. Phelraditch

History teaches us that every new administration brings new ideas, the Herm Steumpfle administration is no different.

Just yesterday, in a surprise announcement to the American Association of Theological Schools, Dr. Steumpfle unveiled what is possibly the single most exciting new idea of his administration to date. "This idea," said one member of the AATS, "could revolutionize theological education in America!"

Committed to the principle that not only faculty but all members of the staff at LTSG should be engaged in scholarly theological research and teaching, President Steumpfle has submitted to the Board of Directors a proposal that all staff members be granted the status of "Adjunct Faculty members" and be required to teach one course every other year combining theological insights and their day-to-day work.

The response from the staff has been overwhelming, already, excited staff members are talking about course (and sabbatical!) proposals. Early indications are that the following courses will be offered as divisional electives, possibly as early as next fall.

Church History: Glenn Hartzell (Bursar)- "The Treasury of Herits Theory of Atonement and the Double-entry Ledger System."

Systematic Theology: Bill Sanders (Grounds)- "Zen and The Art of Lawnmower Maintenance."

Interdisciplinary: Mariorie Lyons (Switchboard)- "Prayer as a Form of Direct-Distance-Dialing"

Worship: Jean Hess (Refectory)- "Liturical Eating: Hess und Hesse."

Old Testament: Clarence Benson (Business Manager)- "Prphet Sharing."

The ambitious member of the staff has already begun work on what promises to be an extensive scholarly project. Ms. Ethel V. Shaffer (Catalog Librarian) is calling her work "The Re-versification of the Bible According to the Dewey Decimal System." Ms. Shaffer notes that former LTSG professor and librarian Leon Jordahl applied this system to Don Gregory Dix's The Shape of the Liturgy with startling (!) results. Perhaps Ms. Shaffer could call the end product of her work "The Dewey Dousy."

We laud the bold step into the future of theological education and wish the new adjunct faculty members good luck in their new responsibilities. They'll need it.

ATTENTION RETURNING STUDENTS

Those of you who have moved from anywhere to Gettysburg to become a Seminary Family, know how difficult the transition can be. It is our goal, with the support of the Admissions Office, to ease the transition for every incoming family and we need your help. We would like to set up a sponsorship program so that every incoming family has one family who "adopts" them and helps during their transition. A sponsor is not necessarily responsible for "unloading trucks", but for seeing that if a family has a special need, he/she or someone else can help out. We cannot do this alone We Need Your Help. There are 20 families, so far, who will need sponsors. It's not a hard job, and we are asking for help from those families who will be here in September and might anticipate the new arrivals' problems. If interested call us by phone 334-6692 or leave a note in Bob's box.

Thank you, Bob and Linda McGurn

PLACES TO GO AND THINGS TO SEE

---To Seniors who will have family and guests for graduation.

---To middlers with pastors during their internship workshop.

---To anyone who is here for the summer and is looking for interesting places to go and things to see and is tired of the Gettysburg battlefield....

A trip in any direction from Gettysburg will bring you to interesting sights...

1) Start by going west down Route 30 and turn right at the big sign for Adam's County Winery and you will be in for a real adventure. Owned and operated by an English couple, the winery is a big barn on a backroad in Ortana. This is a very "Adam's County" experience because you have to drive through many apple and peach orchards. Don't let the appearance of the barn deceive you, once inside the tasting-bar area is contemporary and well designed. On the other side of the barn are the kegs of fermenting wine. The owners are very gracious and generously let you sample their wine. They have reds, rosés and whites ranging from sweet to very dry and their grapes come from vineyards in Biglerville. The prices of their wines are somewhat more expensive than the state package store, but necessarily so. The wine is stored correctly and at the proper temperature to insure its fullest bouquet...and don't forget you do sample before you buy. And later when you go to open your purchase, it's not just any bottle of wine, but a whole experience.

Since you have made the trip to the Winery and are already in the Ortana area, there is a very interesting restaurant nearby called Hickory Bridge. It serves lunches and dinners family style. Since July, 1977 it has been owned by the Hammitts, previous owners of the Fairfield Inn. The food is always homemade and excellent. The cost of the evening meal is \$5.00 plus tax. The evening I went we were served fruit juice, three different salads, homemade rolls, turkey and salmon cakes, mashed potatoes with gravy, glazed carrots, baked apples, peas with mushrooms (all you can eat and they do ask you several times if they can get you seconds) and for dessert we had sundaes or apple duplings. Call ahead to see what their hours are (as they are beginning to have more hours) and see what they are serving for that lunch or dinner.

2) Another interesting stop on Route 30 is the Pine Shop in Caladonia. It is in a rustic setting, with the three main stores connected by a duck pond. In the three shops on the left are candles, clothing and the oldest has baskets, candy and hard-to-get kitchen ware. A new store has just opened on the other side of the road but I do not know what its specialty is. The clothing store isn't very interesting, but I have found the candle and basket shops to be reasonable and well designed for browsing.

3) If you are interested in a quick trip go west on Route 116 to Fairfield. First stop at a small store called the Robin's Nest and browse around at their antique and hard to get gift items. It puts out a mail order catalogue nationally and carries most of the items advertised in this store. Then have lunch at the historic Fairfield Inn. Most of us are familiar with the Inn and it does have a great historical interest. Prices have gone up again and I feel that the lunch menu is the better buy.

4) For a day trip I suggest a drive down to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. It is only one hour and fifteen minutes south on Route 15 and has good picnic facilities once you get there. It is a quaint town that was destroyed by the Civil War. The government has taken over the town and is beginning to restore it. The restoration is not complete but what is done is interesting and there are many small shops along the streets with reasonably priced items. A climb up the hillside to the small Catholic church is worth the effort for an unforgettable view up the river valley. On the way back from Harper's Ferry you will see an exit for Urbana, MD. (about 2 miles off the highway). The name alone should strike up your imagination; however the reason I am directing you to this town is a restaurant called Peter Pan. Although I have never been to it, I have heard it is very reasonable and that they have special, large, exotic house drinks.

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ENTRY NUMBER THREE

It appears that Table Talk has printed entry number two in the contest for Theological Disturbance Award of 1977-78. I wish to inject number three. Perhaps those Guardians of Biblical and Confessional Orthodoxy who are dripping in *Sturm und Drang* over the Lord's Supper issue might also consider another problem of weighty theology. Using the same arguments which have been presented, we seminarians are (in all seriousness) guilty of another, more weighty, "heresy" each time we supply preach. According to our confessional documents (below) and the testimony of scripture; (Matt 10:7, Luke 6: 12-17, 10:16, 24:47-8), we have no business preaching until we are called and ordained.

The issue is at the heart of Lutheran theology. If you check AC 14 and its Apology (14:1-2) you will run into this thorny one: "No one should be allowed to administer the Word and Sacraments unless he is duly called." It was Dr. Krauth, in 1907, in a doctrinal statement* who stated "we teach with the New Testament and with our Confessions, that no one ought to teach publicly in the church or administer the Sacraments unless rightly called with ordinary vocation." Later, he addresses seminarians who perhaps were looking for a loophole.** "Preaching by Theological students, by invitation or by the concurrence of the congregation, is not to be regarded as the ordinary official teaching of the Church, which can be done by those only who are rightly called". The same thrust can be seen in Lutheranism, pp. 117-118.

Neither does the LCA constitution sanction such activity (See By Laws, Section 1:h); though it does allow for a waiver of the principle in a specific instance. (Yet if the Synod President can be allowed this power - for the sake of order - then he can exert the same power here with regard to the sacrament of the Altar). What I am suggesting is before this student body can scold its President for succumbing to pressure and the pocketbook, perhaps we should examine the theological issues of what we are doing for our pocketbooks.

Peter Maschke

* The Doctrine of the Ministry, "outline notes based on Luthardt and Krauth", Frankein Weidner, ed. Fleming H. Revell Co. (New York, NY: 1907) p. 92.

** Ibid. p. 112.

HONOR AMONG THIEVES CON't.

I don't want to over stress my point, but I do think it is time that we stopped tolerating cheating on what seems to be the grounds that this is "only a school". For there is even honor among thieves.

Jo Serratelli

I'VE ASSIMILATED CON'T.

to miss you all. And I want to say a special good-bye to Joe Burgess, who is one of the best theological-fog-dispellers I've met. To all of you who won't be back "on the Hill" next September: Good-bye and Godspeed.

Mark Swanson

DR. PHELRADITCH'S NEXT-TO-THE-LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT

Well, well, well, well, well! Here we are in May, 1978 and we graduate in just a few days. We have accumulated so much stuff over the last four years that we decided to bequeath a bit of it away. You might be tempted to call a lot of it baggage, but we have to keep all our baggage. You see, we're going to need it for all those whistle-stop tours we'll be making as we campaign for the presidency of the LCA. The competition is tough, but we've never lost to Bob Dealey before. So. Anyhow.

We, Dr. Frankenmark Phelraditch, being of sound teeth and relatively clean ears (for 82 years old) do bequeath, demise and otherwise give away:

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: A copy of the record "When Will They Ever Learn" played in 3/5 time (think about it) and a full scholarship to the etiquette school of their choice.

TO THE SEMINARY BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM: In light of the Seminary's propensity to acquire that which it wants rather than that which it really needs, we bequeath three plastic flamingo lawn ornaments for the front of the library and a matched pair of red irradescant sea horse birth baths for the lawn of the president's house. Simply charming.

TO MR. SPONER: A gift certificate to the Bookstore where he may select a copy of either Von Rad's or Eichrodt's Old Testament Theology.

TO MESSERS RIDENHOUR, KRODEL, HEIKKENEN, GRITSCH, & HOFFMAN: Less-than-full-bright scholarships to the Berlitz Language Course, "How to Speak English Without An Accent."

TO MR. JENSON: In light of recent changes and developments at the seminary, especially the abolition of the Hermeneutics Course, a framed cross stitch sampler of the Serenity Prayer.

TO THE JUNIOR CLASS: A lifetime supply of clown white makeup and red rubber noses. (You're all so cute!)

TO THE MIDDLE CLASS: In each of your internship congregations, a pneumatic lift has been installed under the pulpit. When you have been preaching for 3 minutes, it will begin to sink. How symbolic.

TO THE INTERNS: A sour grape for each and everyone of you that comes back and says, "My intern congregation wanted to call me as their pastor, but..."

TO THE SENIORS: A genuine, authentic tail feather from the Holy Spirit to remind us that she is working harder than we are.

Well, it's bee real, sports fans, BUT

Now it's time to say good-bye
To dear LTSG.

P-H-E (Even a rotten experience can get worse)

L-R-A (A diploma from this place, 15¢ and your own cup might get you a cup
of coffee if Otto got up in time this morning)

D-I-T-C-H (need we say more?)

A-men.

There is Even Honor Among Thieves

It is that time of year again when the under current of gossip reveals incidents of cheating that have been occurring since the very first test of Fall semester was administered either in class or take-home. And as usual, there is denial by naive students, and some faculty, that such a heinous crime could take place on a seminary campus: a military academy? maybe, or at a medical or law school, but at a seminary" God forbid! (and He probably does). With just a little stretching of the Ten Commandments, several of them could be made quite applicable. For instance: Thou shall not covet they neighbors' test answers, or thou shall not steal information from text books when the instructions given are THIS IS A CLOSED BOOK EXAM. But then, we Lutherans do not live under the law. Instead we bear a far heavier burden: the Gospel.

If this were a medical school, one could speculate that the danger that might result from a student cheating his or her way through school could very well be the loss of a life one day. Or if the cheating were occurring at a law school, graduates of that institution could be responsible for the imprisonment of innocent people, as a result of their lack of competence as lawyers. But this is a Seminary! Therefore, we have the more difficult task of contemplating just what the consequences might be of ordaining a person who has cheated his or her way through seminary. There have always been cliches about cheating. One is: a person who cheats only cheats himself. I'd like to postulate that a seminarian cheats much more than himself. Might not he or she be cheating God? You probably are saying that that sounds awfully strong. In the nearly two years that I have been at LTSG, I have heard far too many "cop-out" statements ranging from "Since we don't live by works, what we preach or how we preach is not important. He don't save people. Christ has saved them." or "I'll leave it to God to teach me to preach, there is nothing that I can learn at seminary." or "I'll leave it to the Holy Spirit, I have the Holy Spirit, I've been born again." or "This isn't where it's at. It is out in the parish that the job has to be done. As long as I just pass, and I don't have to study to do that." Does any of this sound familiar? If not, surely you've heard this one. "Why do I have to waste my time on Greek? I'll never use that in the parish."

What will we need to know when we get into the parish and what is the job "out there" that needs to be done? O.K., we are only human and all pastors, or future pastors are under alot of pressure. Pressure often makes one do strange things. BUT, and there must be a but. Somewhere we must draw a line of integrity. And shouldn't that some where be here?

When I was in collece, we had an unwritten code of honor. Oh, we had an Honor Board also that was similar to ours at LTSG, but no one was reported to it. You might say we took "care" of our own. If some one was cheating during a test given in class, the person or persons who witnessed the incident, would begin to clap or tap his pen against his desk. The rest of the class would immediately join in the clapping. This would continue until the cheater turned in his test and left the class. Peer pressure is a powerful force. There was very little cheating under that pressure. Needless to say, our unwritten code was very close to the West Point "Silence" in severity. We did not have take-home tests. That type of exam is a real problem for the "weak". The reputation of closed book take-home tests seems to be very low at LTSG. If we could have x-ray vision and see into the dorm rooms and apartments of those taking that type of test, and if my college unwritten code were in effect here, I wonder if the sound of the claping might not deafen all of Gettysburg.

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I'VE ASSIMILATED

Tonight, as I listen to the rain outside my window and realize that it isn't going to be a Gene-Kelly-singing-in-the-rain sort of night, but rather a grit-the-teeth-and-do-the-Hebrew sort of night. I am struck by the lack of simple, concrete applications of so many of the things we learn at the seminary. Consider, for example, Tillich's "eternal now." Wouldn't it be marvellous if there were some way of pouring just enough eternity into the now to give one enough time to get one's work done? Or, as I look at another "compensatively lengthened" Hebrew vowel, I wonder if there isn't some way in which the semester could undergo compensative lengthening. But the rain keeps falling, my clocks continue to move forward, and the Hebrew still stares up at me. The end comes, inexorably.

As we approach the end of the academic year, one thing I find myself wondering (rather, one thing that synod questionnaires have forced me to find myself wondering) is just how I've changed over the course of the year. Most of what I perceive is good; certainly the year has brought many new things into my life: new friends, a new library (the theology books have finally displaced all the science books on my shelves); a considerable amount of new knowledge and skills and ways of thinking and approaching problems.

I've also learned the art of creating theological fog. It's really quite easy, as all that's necessary is a basic theological vocabulary (the more "-ological" words and the more Latin and German phrases, the better), an easily acquired knack for stringing these vocabulary items together, and a convinced tone of voice. Using such techniques, "Be nice" can be turned into "incarnational theology", and "Do what you like" can be turned into "justification by grace." Heat, huh? And these techniques are certainly sufficiently simple that we could teach them to our lay people. Perhaps as an educational device, the LCA could go into the breakfast cereal business, and make "Charismos", with a theological lecture on the back of each box.

Something that keeps happening in Hebrew (my Hebrew text is still staring up at me) is that the letter nun "assimilates" to the next letter and drops out, leaving behind it a little dot called a daresh forte to let the world know that it has assimilated. (Don't you all want to take Hebrew next year?) To some extent this year, I've developed a daresh forte in the soul. I began the year ready to take on the world. I end it wondering if I hadn't better read the Augsburg Confession before going to see my synod.

This isn't completely bad. After all, institutions are a necessary part of life, and there even seem to be some nice guys on my synod endorsement committee. But I knew something was wrong one evening when, reading projections of clergy surpluses, I found myself worrying. It was as if I had lost confidence that the will of God transcends LCA statements and DPL projections, decisions of synod committees and even seminary programs and policies. It was as if the institutions were becoming God, and rocking the institutional boats was brazen revolt against the will of God.

This year "on the Hill" afforded a couple of examples. A couple of very funny things happened this year. But despite rumors of boardroom fights, despite strong feelings, despite a few statements that just didn't quite jive, the smiles stayed fixed, and manners conformed to a nice theological image. I was smiling too. I've assimilated.

I don't really mean to sound prophetic. The signs of the end are apparent, and there are other things to think about. One is the prospect of soon being separated from a lot of friends. I've made several friends among the middlers and seniors -- I'm going

SEMINARY SPOUSES

by Cathy Digges

Recently, a meeting was held to organize and plan activities for seminary spouses for next year. Before elaborating on what the activities will be, I'd like to stress what they won't be. They won't be exclusive or "wives only"; they won't be radically feminist; they won't be a form-without-content social club.

Now for what they will be. . . They will be open to all members of the community who feel a need for what is being offered. They will be working in many different directions throughout the year, in a co-ordinated attempt to meet many of the expressed needs of the women who "married into" seminary life. (I restricted that to women simply because there has as yet been no input by any men married to students. If any man in that position is interested in participating, he would be most welcome.)

The decisions made at the recent meeting can be presented best by breaking them down into several distinct categories.

I. STRUCTURE

The newly adopted Student Association constitution calls for the formation of a Core Committee. This will be the governing body of the SA, and will consist of 9 voting students, 4 students with voice but no vote, and 3 spouses with voice but no vote. The spouse representatives (one from each class) will be elected in the fall. These representatives will provide an important link for the spouses to the SA and to campus activities. The general consensus at the recent meeting was that concerned spouses should work on their interests through existing channels wherever possible. This would include input into all the various SA committees (athletics, lecture, publications, and community meals, to name a few.)

Co-coordinators were chosen to begin organizing activities for the fall. They are Sue Diehm, Suzi Solon and Linda McGurn. If you are planning to be here over the summer and/or next fall, and want to get involved, contact one of these three.

II. ORIENTATION/INTEGRATION

There are plans for more extensive orientation services for incoming families. In addition to a meeting with spouses during the orientation sessions, a "buddy system" has been developed. Each incoming family has been assigned a contact family who is currently a part of the seminary community. The on-campus family will be writing a letter, inviting any questions from the new family when they arrive, welcome them to seminary, and even help them move in. Many families have expressed a need for this type of service. Linda McGurn and Mr. Gobel have worked hard to meet this need.

Preliminary work is also being done in establishing accurate, thorough, and up-to-date information on apartments off-campus. Contact Joan Millse if you would like to help in this task. [A similar jobs-available-list is being compiled in the same manner. - editor]

III. SUSENANCE

A lecture/discussion is now being planned for the fall. A need was expressed for a lecture on depression (what it is and how to fight it), as well as a series on Lutheranism. Faculty members will be contacted and invited to lead these sessions. If you have any suggestions for interesting topics, contact Edwina Otto or Rosy Park.

There is also interest in an informal craft group where people could get together and work on projects. Sue Diehm will organize this activity.

Since a common problem for seminary wives is never hearing about community events until after they happen, Linda McGurn will be co-ordinating the effort to get more events of special interest to spouses included in the weekly calendar.

IV. PERPETUATION

The recent meeting for seminary spouses was a result of Suzi Solon's involvement with the Task Force for Worship, Nurture and Mission. Needs have been expressed, ideas formulated, and many individuals have accepted the responsibility of putting thoughts into action. While every effort will be made on the part of concerned spouses to perpetuate these support systems, everyone at the recent meeting expressed the hope that the Seminary will do more along these lines in the future.

A. P.S. from Mark Swanson

Table Talk shall indeed exist next year, or it shall if the people necessary to bring it into existence appear. Can you type? write? edit? Would you like to be an editor or columnist or Executive Director of the Sitting Committee on Table TALK and Related Concerns? Consider it.

A. P.S. from the editor

GOOD LUCK!

MINUTES

Student-Faculty Relations Committee
April 17, 1978

Elections were held for Supply-Preaching Coordinator. Mike Easton was elected for the summer months, Mike Evans for the academic year.

Rockel gave the report for the Evaluation Committee. (See attached sheet for proposal) Courses to be evaluated during the first week of May.. Rockel to develop guidelines for class evaluation committees.

Homer gave report on Intern Workshop subcommittee. Moved and passed that this committee shall 1) enter into dialog with Dr. Sandstedt 2) submit revised report to Field Education Committee 3) direct the Core-Committee chairperson of SGA to follow up on this report next year.

Ranney moved the SFRC recommend to APC that, in light of Synodical relation, students under the present grading system not be given the option of choosing to be given letter grades ABCDF.

It was noted that this would free students from synodical pressure and that provisions already exist for written evaluations. It was also recommended that students be able to read evaluations before they're sent on to synod.

NOTION PASSED

Dougherty presented comprehensive student housing proposal. #3 under Single Students amended to read "prior residency" not "squatters rights." Proposal accepted. Discussion then turned to the workings of the Community Affairs Committee, mandatory on-campus residency for single students and the possibility of a waiting period before grades and descriptive evaluations are included on transcripts. Meeting 4/20 at 4:00 to discuss student agenda for Board Meeting. Next regular meeting May 15, 1978.

SPECIAL SESSION, April 13, 1978 - Student-Faculty Relations Committee

It was noted that Mike Easton would not be in residence in Gettysburg during the summer months. A new election for supply-preaching coordinator was held. J. Schwartz was elected.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Homer

REPORT OF THE EVALUATION COMMITTEE

- (b) A subcommittee of the Student-Faculty Relations Committee shall be formed consisting of one representative from each class and the Dean of the Seminary or his/her representative.
- (1) This subcommittee shall be responsible for compiling a course evaluation form designed to meet the needs of the Seminary's ongoing evaluation of courses and instructors and of the student body's distinctive concerns.
 - (2) This evaluation form shall be distributed towards the end of each semester. These forms shall be tabulated, their results reviewed, and a summation of these results presented to the SFRC for review and revision. The final report shall be submitted to the President of the Seminary, the Dean of the Seminary, and the Chairperson of the SFRC for inclusion in the Committee's records.
 - (3) The results of the evaluation of each course shall be made available to the President and the Dean for review. One copy of the results shall be given to the professor involved. Another copy shall be filed in the office of the Dean.
 - (4) An evaluation of trends and concerns relative to the curriculum of the seminary shall be made based on the evaluation of individual courses. This report shall be submitted to the SFRC for approval and presented to the Academic Policies Committee.
 - (5) Appropriate measures to accomplish the above procedure for the spring semester shall be established at the last regular meeting of the SFRC during the academic year.

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE ON WORSHIP, NURTURE, MISSION.
Gerald Christianson, Chairperson

1. SMALL GROUPS: A luncheon meeting tackled the problem of encouraging and facilitating small groups on campus. It was agreed that a statement on seminary policy was not our task: rather how we can assist groups to begin and grow.
In stating the need for a clearinghouse for small group activity, we faced the problem of continuity. In response to this need, Ed Sheehan and Ned Lindstrom volunteered to carry the task into next year, and Charlie Marshall into 1979-80.
We hope also to include a segment on small group activity in the orientation program for new students next fall.
2. PRAYER AND SOCIAL ACTION: Judy Simonson and Jackie McClakin led us in reflection on vocation as a point of contact between prayer and action. We were asked to describe our vocation as we were aware of it, to share this with others in a small group, and then compose a prayer asking that we be empowered for this vocation.
3. DEVOTIONAL LITERATURE: Mike Brown of the Bookstore and Mr. Matthews of the Library met with us to consider two areas--selection and distribution-promotion of literature for spiritual growth. It was agreed that we need a process of selection in order to narrow the list of possible books down to manageable size.
Judy Simonson volunteered to develop this area. Faculty and students will be asked, "What books have you found helpful for you personally in spiritual growth?" Mike and Mr. Matthews indicated that they welcome all suggestions for books which members of the community have found worthwhile.

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TASK FORCE REPORT CONT.

4. SPOUSES: Sue Solon indicated that there is a widespread sense of need, but also a sense of cynicism about the possibility of lasting change. This latter problem is related to the lack of continuity in leadership. Good programs have started in the past only to disappear when the "doers" leave campus. The spouses also indicated a diversity of needs.

The discussion centered on a steering committee to serve as a focal point between needs and programs, and to lend stability and continuity. Sue and her group are planning to meet with spouses before the next session of the Task Force.

5. COURSES: Ned Lindstrom and Ed. Sheehan presented a concrete list of courses collated from a number suggestions. We hope that one course can be offered again next January, and perhaps another during Spring Semester.

Courses in retreats and in the area usually called "spiritual directions" will probably need leadership from outside the community. Meanwhile, we hope that some major concerns in the area of "contemporary Christian lifestyles" can be incorporated in already existing courses. Allen Ford and Mark Chapman will meet with the Dean before reporting to the Task Force.

NEXT MEETING: MAY 15, 5:00 to 8:30 p.m., Faculty Lounge. A light supper will be served.

Again, we welcome your participation, your suggestions to any of the leadership indicated above, your concerns, and your prayers.

Since this will be our last report until next fall, my personal thanks to the members of the Task Force, and to all of you who have indicated continuing support.

May 9, 1978

Staff

Beth Humler, chairperson of publications
Belanda Maschke, editor

Joann Serratelli, Lutheran Column

Roger Digges

Cathy Digges

Peter Maschke

Mark Swanson, regular column

DR. PHELRADITCH

And all those who submitted committee reports.

A special thanks to the printing office (Bob and Tammy) for your co-operation during year.