

Table Talk

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



VOL. XXI, NO. 6

APRIL 1986

LHS Symposium: Health Care

What is the relationship between the Church and health care? The Lutheran House of Studies' 1986 Symposium on Politics and Ethics this year will focus on the U.S. health care system, in panel discussions and plenary sessions at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation on Capitol Hill April 9 and 10.

Featured speakers will be Granger E. Westburg, the Hon. Otis Bowen, Nancy M. Gordon, and Bruce C. Uladeck.

Westburg, who will moderate a panel discussion on "Adequate Health Care--Whose Responsibility?" will also address the symposium on the subject of "The Church in the Present Health Care Revolution." He is a pioneer in exploring the relationship of medicine and religion. A Lutheran pastor, he is author of the popular book, *Good Grief*.

Dr. Bowen, former governor of Indiana, is the new U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, and a distinguished Lutheran layman. He will be the speaker at the dinner meeting on Wednesday evening.

Bruce Uladeck, president of the United Hospital Fund of New York, will address a Thursday luncheon meeting on "The Future of Health Insurance: Political and Ethical Considerations."

Nancy M. Gordon, assistant director for human resources and community development in the U.S. Budget Office since 1980, will address the topic: "Current Federal Responsibility and Options for the Future in Health Care."

Opportunity also will be given for discussion groups and a briefing by Kristin Anderson, of LCUSA, as well as visits to congresspersons.

All sessions will be held at the Church of the Reformation, 212 E. Capitol St., except the Thursday luncheon, which will be in the U.S. Capitol building.

The \$10 registration fee is waived for Gettysburg Seminary students, and the Seminary van will be taking participants to Washington both days, at no charge. \$25 scholarships are available for overnight housing Wednesday night. In addition, the faculty has decided that students who attend the symposium will be given excused absences from classes, and that there will be no exams on those days.

For more information, see Dr. Christianson or Ruth Dunlap.

A complete schedule of events for the symposium is printed on page 3 of this issue.

*Editorial . . .***Quest**

SEXISM IN THE PARISH?

CONCERNING GUEST SPEAKERS

We are grateful that finally we will have some guest lecturers on campus, thanks in part to the Lecture Committee, and in part to faculty hosts.

It is ironic, however, that it seems to be a feast-or-famine situation. No prominent lecturers at all last year or this, then two in one month; and that a month when students will be working on papers and preparing for exams.

We understand that budgetary and scheduling difficulties have interfered with committee hopes and plans for guest speakers, and therefore applaud the decision of the SA Core Committee to commit funds now for the next academic year. Perhaps with his lead time they will be able to attract some 'names' to the campus.

Nor should we attend only to big 'names' in theology. Some of the lesser-known speakers we have had were well worth hearing and deserved a better audience.

This student body does not appear to be very attentive hosts when visitors do come to share their expertise with us. We have found the few lectures which have been offered to have been very sparsely attended, which is both insulting to the guests who give us their time, and embarrassing to the committees planning such offerings.

Granted, academic work has a certain priority, but there ought to be the kind of balance in our lives that makes time for broadening our horizons also.

Much has been said and written about sexism on this campus. But what about sexism in the parish, "out there"? What sorts of problems arise, and how does a pastor or a leader approach them?

This will be the subject of a panel discussion scheduled by Quest for Wednesday, April 16, at 7:30 pm in the Refectory. Under the slogan "In Christ There Is Neither Male nor Female: So Let's Get It Together!" Quest has gathered a panel of area pastors to discuss this issue: Rev. Carol Hendrix, pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Fairfield; Rev. Frederick Foltz, co-pastor of St. James Lutheran Church, Gettysburg, and Rev. Carol Murtorff, a former deaconess and newly-ordained pastor who has been called to Lakeside Lutheran Church, Harrisburg.

All members of the community are invited to participate in this discussion of an issue that is important for all church leaders.

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TABLE TALK

Table Talk is published monthly by students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa.

Opinions expressed are those of their authors, and do not represent official policy of the Seminary or of its Student Association.

Deadline for contributions is the 28th of the month preceding publication.

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Staff: David Eck
Roger Steiner
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GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER!

TALENT SHOW COMING UP!

APRIL 25!

Aasgaard Lecture on Holy Spirit

On April 24, the Lecture Committee will present Danish theologian Anna Marie Aasgaard in a lecture and panel discussion with faculty members on "Current Perspectives on the Holy Spirit."

Dr. Aasgaard, a participant in the Lutheran-Greek Orthodox dialogues, currently is visiting professor of ecumenics at the Catholic University of America.

At press time, the panel of faculty participants in the panel discussion was not complete. More information will be available later.

This event will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Room 206.

CROP FIGHT WORLD HUNGER

The weekend of April 11-13 will offer everyone a chance to support CROP's fight against world hunger.

A volleyball marathon is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, and a 10-km. walk for Sunday afternoon.

You can participate actively, or sponsor someone else to walk or play volleyball. For more information, see Jay Serafin about volleyball, and John Yost, Joe Hein or Vicky Schaffner about the CROP walk.

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SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE (Continued from page 1)

Wednesday, April 9:

- 11:00 Registration
- 12:00 Luncheon: welcome and introduction
- 2:00 Panel: "Adequate Health Care--Whose Responsibility?"
- 4:00 Coffee break and discussion groups
- 5:00 Social hour
- 6:00 Dinner
- 7:00 The Hon. Otis Bowen
- 8:45 Compline

Thursday, April 10:

- 7:45 Breakfast (Speaker: a Member of Congress)
- 9:00 Morning Prayer
- 9:30 Ms. Gordon
- 11:00 Discussion groups
- 12:30 Luncheon, U.S. Capitol (Speaker: Bruce Uladeck)
- 1:45 Briefing, LCUSA; congressional visits
- 3:45 Plenary and summary
- 4:15 Closing

Gunton to Speak

"HUMANITY OF CHRIST" TOPIC OF LECTURE

Dr. Colin Gunton, professor of Christian doctrine at King's College, London University, will be a distinguished guest lecturer at the Seminary on Monday, April 14, at 8 pm in 206 Valentine.

Dr. Gunton, whose topic here will be "The Humanity of Christ," is in the United States as a participant in the Barth Colloquium at Princeton, where he will lecture on "Karl Barth's Trinitarian Theology and Human Freedom."

He is the author of Becoming and Being: the Doctrine of God in Charles Hartshord and Karl Barth, and Enlightenment and Alienation: an Essay towards Trinitarian Theology, among other publications.

A reception at Singmaster will follow the lecture.

Response: Brief Order Good

by Roger Steiner

This is in response to Todd Murken's article in the March issue concerning the Brief Order of Confession. I cannot say whether the BO is wrong or not, but I would like to put forward some food for thought. I address this response specifically to Todd, but at no point do I wish to be seen as personally attacking him. Taking his "Impeachment" point by point, I will ask questions and cite references.

1. Are we not all individual members in the corporate body of Christ, i.e., the Church? Did not Christ's action on the cross absolve the sins of each individual en masse? Luther did not seem to have problems with public confession of private sin (Large Catechism, sections 8-12, Tappert, Book of Concord, p. 458).

2. See Luther's Works, Vol. 53, "Liturgy and Hymns," pp. 78-80. Granted that this is not a preface to the liturgy as a whole, it seems to me that it is a form of corporate confession and forgiveness prefacing communion. Maybe the BO should be in the context of the Lord's Prayer, as suggested by Luther, or in

3. a later part of the service, as you have suggested.

4. "Dullness" is a matter of opinion. Are we concerned about the BO's dullness, or about its being theologically correct?

5. I agree that better education within the Church is necessary.

6. I agree that it can be a lost opportunity for pastoral care, but I also think that if

something is bothering someone enough, they'll see their pastor. Enumeration of sins can be done during the silence for reflection and self-examination, if the pastor gives enough time for people to look at themselves. For more on enumeration, see Article XI of the Augsburg Confession and its Apology.

7. The BO is not a sacrament, as you seem to imply. At best, it is a reminder that we as individuals sin toward God and our neighbors, and that we need forgiveness. I think the BO stands in line with the Large Catechism concerning confession in section 14, p. 458 (Tappert).

8. Your first paragraph in this section is not complete. You yourself must be listed among your examples of people needing forgiveness of sins. And you are within earshot of being forgiven.

But is it the BO that forgives, or Christ's death on the cross? To me, the BO proclaims the act done by Christ, and does not act as a substitute.

Secondly, how does one know when others do not feel "contrition and sorrow, or terror?" Perhaps your definition of the fruits which should follow repentance is different from mine.

In summary, although the BO can be explained better to members of the Church, I do not feel that as printed it violates the Gospel in any way. The education needed is to direct people to view the BO as a meaningful part of their religious life, an important part not to be taken lightly. The hard part is teaching this without making repentance a work.

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Guest reviewer: David Knodel

The job of a music reviewer is usually a relatively easy task. The reviewer can presume that the reader has some previous knowledge of the musicians, musical genre, etc.

Ever since the dawn of rock and roll, the media have had an infatuation with music that has resulted in our being inundated with musical news.

If I were to offer a review of the newest Phil Collins album, I could safely assume that at least some of you have listened to the album. I could also assume that even more of you know who Phil Collins is, and that all of you know what rock music is.

With the music that I wish to present to you here, I can make no such assumptions. There is a completely new musical genre coming on the scene which is virtually ignored by the media. It is called simply "New Age" music. The artists who are pioneering it are not celebrities; there are no "Top Ten" listings, and very few radio stations ever bother to play any of their records.

This music is a synthesis of rock, classical, jazz, and folk. The musicians are all classically trained. They utilize a combination of acoustic and electronic instruments to create a hybrid sound unlike anything before.

A few traditional record companies, such as Geffen and CBS, are releasing these new artists, and there are new record companies, e.g., American Gramophone and Windham Hill, that are exclusively New Age.

Now that I have given you an extremely short (but I think

necessary) preview of what New Age music is, I would like to concentrate on one particular group of artists.

When one thinks of Omaha, Neb., one thinks of the middle of nowhere. Yet out of Omaha has come Mannheim Steamroller. They began in 1975 with their own record company releasing their first album.

Chip Davis composes all of the music and plays percussion, Jackson Berkley handles the keyboards, and Eric Hansen plays bass. On each of their albums they employ a range of other instruments to fill out their sound. These range from French horn, trumpet, cello and violin to the entire London Symphony Orchestra.

Their music is specifically influenced by the Baroque period, and several of their pieces have been dedicated to J.S. Bach. There are no vocals, as they allow the music to speak for itself.

This music is thematic; each album represents and follows one particular subject. Their first five albums make up the "Fresh Aire" series. One through four depict each of the seasons. Fresh Aire V is based on Johannes Kepler's treatise on travel to the moon (written in 1609).

Their sixth album is "Christmas," a collection of carols done in the particular style of the group. The rendition of "Silent Night" is a very compelling piece that captures the aloneness and solitude that Franz Gruber must have felt in 1818.

Their latest release is entitled "Saving the Wildlife." It was written as the soundtrack for a PBS Special, and each piece represents an endangered species.

It is impossible even to begin to convey the mastery and subtlety of composition that Mannheim Steamroller uses in creating their music. Therefore,

(continued next page)

*On the Aisle...*HEWITT DUET AND STUTTERLY
DELIGHTFUL MOSES

Reviewed by Beth DeVan

Bravos! and Ahs! to the Seminary Players for their two very enjoyable one-act play productions on March 13 and 14 in Valentine Hall.

Sacrifice to Virtue, by Warren Kliever, gave us a ringside seat at a private counseling session between college freshman Judith Hunt (Diane Hewitt) and middle-aged Rev. Frederick Merritt (David Hewitt).

Judith has just confessed to the pastor that she lost her virginity to an anonymous student who turns out to be Rev. Merritt's son Bill. Aside from the obvious problems this provokes, we have Rev. Merritt's inflexible work-righteousness attitude toward life being challenged by Miss Hunt's searching, sensitive questions about relationships. Yes, the characters' names beg to be noticed.

David Hewitt made a noble attempt to convince us that he was a middle-aged, aloof prude. It took an overdose of makeup to replace David's youthful blush with Merritt's grey pallor. Much easier was the task of highlighting Diane Hewitt's youthful blush to become that of Judith Hunt. She and David achieved very effective timing in most of their exchanges.

The Hewitt duet took on the difficult job of interpreting serious drama bordering on melodrama in front of an audience which really wanted a good laugh. Sometimes we laughed a little too quickly at serious lines, but then we haven't had much practice in etiquette for spectators at a counseling session! Diane and David were convincing enough that

I wished we could have seen round two, between Bill and his father.

Moses! Moses!, by Norman J. Fedder, gave us a ringside seat at a 3-ring circus. The colorful, bawdy comedy satisfied the audience's need for rolling in the aisles. Briefly commenting on the cast of thousands:

Paul Milholland as Balaam, the master of ceremonies. He had the perfect voice, body language, and timing for a hawker at a carnival. Set the fast pace and kept it going!

Jean Grube, as Miriam, did a nicely exaggerated "school marm" imitation in her exchange with the little Moses.

Terry Arble as the little Moses we've always wondered about, in that formative time between the bullrushes and the burning bush. Terry's boyish, pouty faces, quick changes of expression, and tight little shorts and T-shirt were just perfect. In his second life, as Aaron, Terry switched to the mild-mannered, well-intentioned spokesperson for Moses, and continued to make us laugh.

Linda Hostetter as Israel: Wow! She was terrific as the

(continued next page)

MUSIC LINE

(Continued from page 6)

this review is more biographical than evaluative. Some may find it boring and incomprehensible.

Yet, it is my goal that some who read it may have their curiosities piqued and wish to give New Age music a chance. I will readily lend, play, or record any of the previously mentioned works so that anyone interested may experience this treasure.

In a world where sales demographics and target audience dictate musical composition, the care and freedom of crafting New Age music comes as a welcome relief.

ON THE AISLE
(Continued from page 7)

gum-chewing, purse-brandishing, painted woman-Israel. Was that acting, or was that the real Linda? She threw her whole self into the part and milked the golden calf for all it was worth.

Gary Bachman as an Egyptian and as Pharaoh: good character acting. As Pharaoh he had a majestic walk and haughty face; as the Egyptian he threw a great tantrum when Moses took his whip away.

Arlyn Eisenbrandt as Moses: wwwwhat cccccan I sssssay? Stutterly delightful! How he kept up that speech im- imp- imp problem, I'll never know. He obviously enjoyed every minute of the play, and so did the audience. Good makeup, and the plague scene was fantastic!

Elizabeth Stines as God: very sure of herself, which is what we

want from God. Good presence on stage--something else we like in God. The burning bush scene was excellent, as was her rapport with "Mo" when she took hold of his chin.

Muriel Heichler as Tsipporah, Moses' wife: charming. She had the difficult task of playing straight woman to Mo, waiting for laughter to die down after his lines so she could say hers. Her purple silky baggy pants were perfect, and also her delivery of "On your way out, take out the garbage!"

Nola Graves, in her brief but good appearance as a cocktail waitress, proved again that there are no small parts. She played it with flair.

Lois Anderson is to be commended for her excellent work on costumes, scenery, and makeup. Special bravo to Mark Anderson, the director, who obviously inspires great things and hard work.

APRIL CALENDAR

April 6	3:30	Gettysburg Bicentennial Concert, Junior High School
April 9-10		LHS Symposium: Politics and Ethics (see article on page 1)
April 11-12		CROP volleyball marathon
April 12-13		Seminary Week-end
April 13		CROP walk
April 14	8 pm	Lecture: Colin Gunton, "The Humanity of Christ." Room 206
April 16	7:30	Quest Panel: Sexism in the Parish. Refectory
April 24	7:30	Lecture: Anna Marie Aasgaard, "Current Perspectives on the Holy Spirit," with faculty panel discussion. Room 206
April 25	8 pm	Talent Show, Refectory