

In the name of the father, and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit.



# TABLE TALK

Special Pre-session Issue; September, 1991

TABLE TALK is published monthly by students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the editorial staff, the student association, or the seminary.

TABLE TALK, 61 NW Confederate Avenue, Gettysburg, PA 17325

# SEPTEMBER, 1991

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  XV - after Pentecost	2 <i>Grundtvig</i> -1872 Labor Day	3 Pre-Session Begins	4 <i>Schweitzer</i> -1965  7:00p. - Student Association Party (QUAD)	5	6 Pre-Session Ends  5:30 p. - Community Picnic	7
8  XVI - after Pentecost	9 Semester Begins	10	11	12	13 <i>Chrysostom-</i> 407	14 <i>Holy</i> <i>Cross Day</i>

August 30th, 1991

## Welcome (Back) to the Hill

Having spent my summer in Gettysburg, I am pleased to note that there are fewer tourist's vehicles clogging the battlefield roads from Mummasburg Road to Chambersburg Road. I can now get to campus in less than ten minutes. That must mean that it is time to go back to school. Since the public school children returned on Wednesday of this week, now it's our turn!

This is a special Pre-Session edition of Table Talk. Although much of this edition deals with information about the Student Association and association committees, there is also a write-up on the food pantry, as well as a guide to area restaurants. Hopefully you will find this useful and interesting reading.

Included in this issue of Table Talk is a letter written to Chicago by Pacific Lutheran Seminary. This letter concerns alternatives to the third year internship. In the first regular edition of Table Talk you will see Chicago's response. You may also be looking for the first of a series of Presidential Addresses by former presidents of this seminary. In the September issue will be the first installment of an address by Dr. Helges.

Enjoy!

In putting together the literary committee for the 1991-1992 academic year, we are looking for writers, as well as graphic arts, to create an attractive, thoughtful publication. If you have these gifts, please be willing to share them by volunteering to spend time working on Table Talk.

There is also the possibility that we may separate Table Talk into two different publications. It might be useful to have a monthly newsletter and a quarterly literary journal. If you have any thoughts about this, please choose to be a part of the literary committee.

Once again I'd like to say welcome back. On behalf of the interim chair of the literary committee, Wendi Gordon, I am Susan Folks.

## SA PRESIDENTIAL EPISTLE

Grace and Peace to all new students, returning students, and families! I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to the 1991-92 academic year here at the Lutheran Theological Seminary/Gettysburg. In many ways, we have ahead of us a critical year in the life of this community, but, in truth, every year here is a critical year. The very shape of our life together is powerfully influenced by an academic program which takes students away from this campus in the third year and returns them in their fourth to entirely new set of faces. The junior and middler classes form friendships across class boundaries only to have them disrupted as each middler class leaves for internship. At the very best, it seems that only the most transient of family environments might be hoped for. Consequently, each year we must ask again--what is the nature of our community?

Last year, two open forums heard the same questions of community life being raised. I, myself, have raised those questions. Trained as an historian, my inclination is to look at the past of the community and attempt to determine what we were intended to be. So much has changed, however, since the days of Samuel Simon Schmucker that only the barest outlines seem to apply. Acknowledging this chasm in *Sitz im Leben*, it seems best to me that we turn to the most fundamental qualities of Christian life in community.

As Jesus Christ, the central revelation of God's will for us, called disciples unto him, he formed a community. Christ has called each of us, and in an attempt to understand and fulfill that calling we have come to this place and time. Although most of us are tempted to talk about our calling to be pastors, musicians, teachers, and the like, I believe it is necessary to focus upon the fundamental and first calling of Christ--our baptism. We are first--and in a sense only--baptized children of God. We are united with Jesus Christ and with each other through our baptism, and we continue to celebrate, demonstrate, and edify our unity through the sacrament of the altar. Reflecting upon these things, it seems appropriate to me that we not refer to ourselves as a community of church professionals--but simply as the body of Christ.

If we are to be the body of Christ, we must act like the body of Christ. Theology does not precede ritual. It would be useless for any person to theologize for hours about community, if the rituals never begin. For this body to be healthy, we must share in the edifying rituals which make this life possible. Chapel, in particular, must become a central event in the life of this community. To attend Eucharist on Wednesdays and neglect the assembly of faith when it prays corporately or hears the proclamation of the Word is to deny the full nature of the body. As a body, we not only eat, we speak and listen as part of our communication with God and each other. Beyond worship, we gather regularly for classes, athletic and musical events, community meals, and also those times when the community gathers to reflect upon its world.

Since each time we gather, whether formally or informally, we gather in the sight of God. It seems good to remember some Mishnaic wisdom:

R. Hananiah B. Teradion said: [When] two sit together and there are no words of Torah [spoken] between them, lo, this [constitutes] a session of scorners; But [when] two sit together and there are words of Torah [spoken] between them, the Shechinah abides among them.

Pax  
Matthew Regel

The Student Association provides several ways for students to actively participate in the shaping of the seminary community. Within the Association there are six standing committees: Athletic, Lecture, Publications, Social, Social Action, and Family Life. These committees have moneys allocated to them during the budgeting process of the Association and use those moneys for various projects within their area of interest. Each class elects one representative to each committee, but committee membership is not limited to the three elected members. Any student is welcome to participate within any given student committee. The committees tend to function the best when several students lend their insights and support to committee operations. Below is the explanation of each committee's duties as described in the Student Association By-Laws.

### ARTICLE III

#### Duties of Standing Committees

Section 1. The Athletic Committee shall be responsible for conducting an intramural athletic program relevant to the needs of the Seminary community.

Section 2. The Lecture Committee shall be responsible for furthering student education through the sponsoring of forums, group discussions, lectures, and other means. The Lecture Committee shall also publicize lectures and other events of interest taking place in the immediate Gettysburg and Washington areas.

Section 3. The Publications Committee shall be responsible for coordinating and publishing (1) the student journal, (2) the student newsletter, (3) a summary of the minutes from Student Association, Core Committee, and Student-Faculty Relations Committee meetings as made available by their respective secretaries.

Section 4. The Social Committee shall be responsible for promoting a spirit of community among students, faculty, staff, and their families by conducting a varied social program throughout the academic year. The Social Committee shall allocate a portion of its budget to the Chancel Players when approved by the latter organization.

Section 5. The Social Action Committee shall be responsible for discovering, becoming acquainted with, and seeking ways for relating the Seminary community to organizations and programs in the Gettysburg and Washington communities involved in community and social concerns. The Social Action Committee shall also be responsible for initiating and implementing social action in programs outside of the immediate Seminary community, and coordinating programs with student groups from other seminaries.

Section 6. Family Life Committee. The Family Life Committee serves to provide an arena for discussion about family adjustment to life at the Seminary and other concerns of student families. The Committee will also pursue solutions to problems of the families.

One specific duty of the Family Life Committee is to function as administrator of the Sponsorship Program to welcome new students by providing information about Gettysburg community services, off-campus housing and other resources, some of immense value for student families. Other specific duties are to compile a "Resource People" list to be distributed to the whole Seminary community in the fall of the year, and to conduct a written survey about housing, jobs, and spouses. Detailed information about these duties is contained in the Family Life Committee folder. The President of the Committee is responsible for keeping the folder up-to-date, writing an end of the year report, and seeing that the Committee the next year receives this information.

## JOINT COMMITTEES

The Student Association gives voice to student concerns through various joint committees with faculty, staff, and administrators. The student positions on these committees have helped shape everything from curriculum to financial aid. Representation varies from committee to committee. Potentially critical issues are discussed in these committees, necessitating competent student voices in these positions. Below is an explanation of Joint Committees found in the Student Association By-Laws.

### ARTICLE IV

#### Joint Committees

Section 1. In addition to faculty members appointed by the President of the Seminary, the Student-Faculty Relations Committee shall be comprised of the class officers and the president of the Student Association, all of whom shall be voting members of the Committee. The chairperson of the Committee shall be a senior. The responsibilities shall be governed by the document "The Function and Purpose of Student-Faculty Relations Committee."

Section 2. The Worship Committee shall consist of three members of the faculty appointed by the President of the Seminary and six students, to be selected according to the procedures outlined in Article II, Section 5, Bylaws. The Sacristans shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. The responsibilities of the Committee shall be governed by the document "Worship in the Seminary." One student representative of the Worship Committee will monthly provide a verbal report to the Core Committee. This report will be confined to non-confidential material concerning the meetings of the Worship Committee.

Section 3. One student representative from each of the Faculty Standing Committees will monthly provide a verbal report to the Core Committee. This report will be confined to non-confidential material concerning the meetings of the respective Faculty Standing Committees.

### ARTICLE V

#### Procedure for the Election of Student Members to Faculty Committees

Section 1. Student membership on Faculty Standing Committees shall be as follows:

Academic Policies:	two
Admissions and Scholarships:	two
Field Education:	two, one first-year and one fourth-year
House of Studies:	two, one from Washington and one from Gettysburg
Library:	one
Seminary Extension program:	two

Section 2. Election of student members shall be held in accordance with Article II, Section 5, Bylaws. If more than one member is to be elected, election shall be by plurality. If one member is to be elected, election shall be by majority.

Section 3. Core Committee members are not eligible for election to membership on faculty committees. In no case shall a student be elected to more than one faculty committee.

Section 4. In the event that a student vacates a position on a faculty committee, the Core Committee shall accomplish the election of a replacement member according to Article V, Section 1, Bylaws.

## Do you want a lecture series this year?

### Or What?

Lecture Committee would like your ideas and suggestions for lecture topics and/or speakers for the 1991/92 year. Please check those topics that interest you, and provide suggestions for other topics or specific speakers. We want a lecture series that includes topics of interest to all of our community!

Possible topics (check as many as you want to):

- Lutheran-Episcopal Dialogue
- Islam in the U.S. and the World
- Lutheranism in Eastern Europe/Soviet Union
- Habitat for Humanity
- Lutheran World Relief/Crisis Response
- Opportunities for International Ministry
- Current Issues in Jewish-Christian Relations
- Cross-Cultural Ministry/Worship Resources for Cross-Cultural Ministry
- The Lutheran Monastic Movement
- The Christian Tradition and Modern Medicine
- Lutherans and Political Advocacy
- The Lutheran Church and Reunited Germany

Other suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you:  Student (Year.\_\_\_\_)  Faculty  Staff  Other.\_\_\_\_\_

If you are a student, and are interested in serving on Lecture Committee, please provide your name and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks for your support!

Please return your completed survey to Katherine Douglass' mailbox by September 30.

## COMMUNICATIONS

This carbon was received during the summer. Next issue...Chicago's response.



### *The Student Association*

#### PACIFIC LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

2770 Marin Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94708-1597 (415) 524 5264

July 1, 1991

Dear Rev. Anderson:

We, the Student Association of Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, pursuant to a discussion and resolution adopted on February 13, 1991, are writing to voice our opposition to the current ELCA policy regarding internship.

As it stands now, students are required to do internship their third year. Those finding third year internships a hardship must petition their candidacy committees in order to obtain a fourth year internship. This year candidacy committees turned down half of those who petitioned for fourth year internship. The rationale behind a committee's rejection of student's petition for a fourth year internship is frequently unclear to the student.

Relocation is stressful and costly. Many of us have financial responsibilities which make it inadvisable for us to voluntarily take on relocation costs two years in a row. The more indebtedness we incur in seminary the more difficult it is for us to respond to the church's call to go where we are needed. After seminary, many of us cannot afford to take calls with limited financial remuneration.

As a recent article by Paul Wilkes in the December 1990 Atlantic Monthly points out "seminarians today are older than their counterparts of twenty years ago, and many of them are married, divorced, or separated....A large number of them have had significant experience in the world...." We add that a large number of us have significant financial and familial responsibilities uncommon to seminarians of twenty years ago. This makes third year internships particularly difficult for many of us.

Third year internships are particularly difficult for seminary spouses who pursue careers of their own. Often our spouses have left behind established careers, relocating so that we might attend seminary. To ask spouses to move for third year internships, to relocate back again for fourth year, and then to move yet again for call one year later is to ask additional sacrifices of those who support us most.

Seminarians with children, especially school age children, find third year internships difficult because the frequent moves disrupt the children's adjustment and education. One must keep in mind that when seminarians heed the church's call to go where the church needs them, their children often attend as many as four different schools in six years: the school they attend prior to their parents' entry into seminary, the school they attend while their parents are in seminary, the school they attend during internship year, and finally the school they move to when their parents take their first call.

Although PLTS has done a tremendous job developing Bay Area sites, enabling many of us to meet the needs of spouse and family while doing a third year internship, we advocate greater flexibility with respect to the internship year. Each student's family and financial situation is different. The option of fourth year internships would allow students, who know best the particular needs and stressors of their situations, greater latitude in planning their professional training. In the long run, increased flexibility with respect to the internship year decreases the stress felt by those for whom third year internships present a problem. Ultimately, this will result in a greater readiness to meet the needs of the church.

Sincerely,

The PACIFIC LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
STUDENT ASSOCIATION



## Fair Guide to Gettysburg Fare

Gettysburg, while seeming to be a small town, has a fine variety of eateries ranging from the greasy spoon to formal dining. Mindful of the fact that seminarians have a limited financial resources, the following guide is designed to provide enough information for you to chose wisely where your meger monitary resources will be expended. The resturants will be rated on the following qualities:

- Expense
- Value
- Asthetic quality
- Menu
- Service

### Fine Dining

#### **Dobbin House \*\*\*\* (4 Star)**

Expense: Entre' is \$15-\$30+

Value : The quality of the fare is worth the price

A.Q. : Historic colonial home well restored and suited for formal dining. From utensils to the printing of the menu the colonial theme is prevelant.

Menu : Limited menu of traditional colonial dishes.

Service: Friendly and slow paced. No rushing here.

For "atmosphere" you cannot beat the Dobbin house, though this will cost you! Take that special friend here for that speacial occasion.

#### **Herr Tavern \*\*\*\***

Expense: \$8-\$15+

Value : Worth it

A.Q. : Historic building that is of 1815 vintage that is not acurately restored, but pleasent none the less.

Menu : Good variety that is not found at the Dobbin House

Service: Very Friendly and appropriately paced

While the Herr Tavern does not have the same ambiance that the Dobbin House does the prices are cheaper and the variety is better without sacrificing culenary quality. Take that special friend whose a little finiky out here for that special occasion.

#### **Fairfield Inn \*\***

Expense: \$5-\$12+

Value : Good food at a reasonable price

A.Q. : Another Historic colnial home resored, but not nearly to the quality of the Dobbin House. If you aren't a historical purist then it will be a comfortable space.

Menu : Limited choices focusing on traditional PA fare.

Service: Friendly and efficient

This is a good place to go with your Granparents or that special someone who you aren't trying to impress.

### **Farnsworth House \*\***

See the Fairfield Inn rating. The only unique quality of this resturant is the outdoor courtyard dining.

### **The Plaza (no stars)**

Avoid it at all costs.

### **Casual Dining**

#### **Springhouse Tavern \*\*\*\*\*!!**

Located in the basement of the Dobbin House this is far and above the rest the best place in town.

Expense: \$4-\$10

Value : Maybe just a tad over priced

A.Q. : Historic colnial bar setting executed with the same thoroughness as the upstairs dining area. Wonderfully unique!

Menu : Extremely diverse. From cold fruit/veg plates to BBQ Ribs. All well prepared and well served.

Service: Fine

Take everyone here!! Again!

#### **JD's Pub \*\*\***

Expense: \$4-\$12

Value : Good value

A.Q. : Going for the 1900's look and not making it, but not ugly. A comfortable informal setting.

Menu : Very diverse

Service: Ok

Nothing special, but a good place to eat with freinds. Good specials in the bar during the week.

#### **Gingerbread Man**

Expense: \$4-\$12

Value : OK

A.Q. : Very nice casual setting

Menu : Wide variety

Service: Slow

A very casual "yuppie", lemon-in-the-water, place. Nothing to write home about.

## WHERE TO WORSHIP

If you are looking for a place to worship, Gettysburg offers several options. Here is a list of five Lutheran institutions within the immediate area.

The **Lutheran Theological Seminary** offers daily worship services. Noon worship runs Monday through Friday and alternates between preaching services, matins, and eucharist. Every night of the week, there is compline in the meditation chapel. Once a month, eucharist is moved to an evening time slot, permitting spouses, commuters, and off-campus students greater participation. Additional worship experiences are announced in the Nota Bene, the Chapel newsletter. Student involvement is the standard for Seminary worship. Compline, for instance, was rescheduled from two nights a week to seven because of student demand. In the past, students have also maintained Bible studies and prayer groups. Student interest will help determine where Seminary worship goes--daily offices, litanies, campfires? If you have ideas, talk to the Chaplain or your classes Worship Committee representatives.

**Gettysburg College** offers Sunday morning services at 10:45 am while classes are in session. Eucharist during Sunday morning services are irregular, averaging once every five weeks. Wednesday evening Eucharists are at 10:00 pm and offer an intimate candlelight setting. Compline at the College has been traditionally at 11:00 pm. The College is a very open community which has welcomed Seminarians in the past. Steve Herr (2nd year) is the Assistant to the Chaplain at the College and can answer any questions you might have.

**Christ Lutheran** has a long history as the College church. Located on Chambersburg Street one half-block from the town square, Christ is within easy walking distance (then again, so is everything in Gettysburg). Sunday services are at 10:45 am. A nursery is provided.

**St. James Lutheran** is located on the corner of Stratton & York Streets. Sunday services are at 8:15 and 10:45 am. Communion is every Sunday, alternating between the services. A nursery is provided. Sunday School begins at 9:30 am and offers a full range from two year olds to Senior Citizens.

The **Lutheran Retirement Village** offers a very different worship experience. Serving primarily the nursing home residents, the Pastoral Care Office also provides worship leadership for Village residents in both apartments and cottages. Sunday services are at 10:00 am with Eucharist every third Sunday. The unique characteristics of this setting include easy wheelchair accessibility, a sound system with special aids for the hearing impaired, and a lively use of the Service Book and Hymnal. Wednesday afternoons at 3:30 pm are set aside for "Church School," a short hymn-sing with an inspirational message. In addition, Pastoral Care runs a Bible study. Anyone interested in helping with "Church School" or Bible Study or just "being" with the residents should contact Chaplain Winjum (334-6204). Seminarians and family are welcome at Sunday services and "Church School." To find the Village, take Business Rt. 15 North from the square for two miles; the Village will be on your right.

## FOOD BANK : UPDATE

Food pantry services are planned to continue on the Seminary campus during this academic year. Last academic year saw many students, both single and married, struggling to feed themselves due to delayed synodical financial support. Most students living in apartment housing had counted on timely arrival of synodical checks to make ends meet, but the general shortfalls in synod and national church budgets produced cash flow problems which directly threatened the well-being of students on this campus. In response to the crisis, the Family Life Committee established a food pantry with supplies received from a local church and from within the Seminary community.

William "Bill" Griffith (3rd year), the present coordinator, has made arrangements with local grocery stores to obtain damaged goods at greatly reduced rates. In addition, Griffith has been stocking the pantry with frozen goods and various domestic essentials whenever special buys are possible. Clothing continues to be received for distribution to needy students; excess clothing was donated to Cristo Rey at the close of last year.

Items still needed include: fresh milk, fresh and frozen vegetables, fresh and frozen meats, and canned and frozen juices. Donations are welcomed from all sources. Volunteers are also needed to help staff the pantry. Those interested should contact Griffith. Regular hours for pantry operations will be announced during the first week of classes. Until announced, interim distributions are possible through Griffith.

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### *Table Talk*

*Lutheran Theological Seminary*

*61 NW Confederate Avenue*

*Gettysburg, PA 17325*