



# THE SEMINARY NEWS

1992-1993 Edition 11

Monday December 14, 1992

## NEW SEMESTER REGISTRATION

As we change semesters, here is a reminder of procedures for adding or dropping a course, filing for extensions and audit:

### Adding or Dropping a Course

After the end of the formal registration period, changes in registration are made by using an add/drop form (available in the Student Services Office). To add a course, a student consults with her or his advisor and completes an add form. All add forms must be signed by the faculty advisor. The completed add form is taken to the Student Services Office. Spring term courses may be added, up to the last day of the first full week of courses (February 5). January courses may be added up to the end of the first day of the course.

At any time prior to the last class session, a course may be dropped. Courses dropped after the beginning of the fifth week of the Spring term (March 1) or the third day of January term will be entered on a student's transcript as a W (withdrawal). Courses dropped prior to that time will not appear on a student's transcript. To drop a course, a student consults with her or his advisor and completes a drop form. The completed drop form is taken to the Student Services Office. All drop forms must be signed by the faculty advisor. A refund of tuition charges is available on the following schedule:

100% refund with withdrawal prior to beginning of the third week for Spring term or the beginning of the third day for January term.

50% refund with withdrawal prior to the beginning of the fifth week for Spring term or the beginning of the fourth day for January term.

After the fifth week of Spring term or the fourth day of January term, no refund is available.

### Extensions

According to the student handbook, all work for courses is to be completed by the time established in the syllabus of the course, which is never later than the deadline for completing assignments as published in the academic calendar (January 4 for the 1992 Fall term, May 12 for the 1993 Spring term). A student may request an extension for time to complete course work. Such a request is not automatic and is limited to one course per semester. In order to request an extension for course work, a student must complete a request for extension of class work form (available in the Student Services Office). This form must be signed by the course instructor **and** the student's faculty advisor before an extension is granted. It must be filed in the Office of the Dean prior to the deadline for completing assignments. Fall term extensions must be completed by February 1, 1993.

## **Auditing a Course**

Full-time Master of Divinity students may audit up to two courses during a semester at no charge. In order to audit a course, students must seek permission of the professor. The extent of involvement of the auditor is to be negotiated with the professor. Professors may reserve the right to refuse auditors, and auditors will not be permitted in a course filled with the maximum number of registered students. To audit a course, the student submits a completed audit form (available in the Student Services Office) and enters the course as an audit on the registration form at the time of registration.

Part-time Master of Divinity students may audit courses for a charge equal to one-half the regular tuition rate.

Students successfully completing an audit will receive an "AU" on their transcript. Students who do not successfully complete an audit will receive no indication on their transcript. At the conclusion of the course, the professor will determine if the student successfully completed an audit. If so, the student will receive an "AU" on his or her transcript. If not, no mark will appear on the transcript.

## ***SUMMER SCHOOL IS SCHEDULED***

From June 7-25, 1993, Lancaster Seminary will hold a summer session. Three 3-credit courses will be offered. An official announcement about the courses and descriptions will be available in January.

## ***ARCHITECTS SELECTED***

The architect selection committee composed of faculty, staff and students, has selected the firm of David Lynch & Associates Architects of Lancaster to perform the campus plan, make improvements to Santee Chapel and the Refectory and renovate Richards Hall. In the near future, architects David Drasba and Maryann Vajda will begin interviews with all portions of the LTS community, including students, faculty, staff, trustees, etc. relating to how space is currently used, future space needs and suggestions for improvements. Times and locations are indicated below:

Monday, December 14, 4 p.m.--faculty  
(available in offices)

Thursday, December 17, 9-11 a.m.--faculty  
(available in offices)

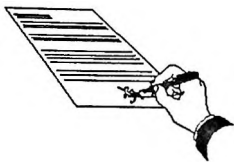
11 a.m.--resident and  
non-resident students, Schaff 204

Wednesday, December 23, 7 p.m.--resident  
students and spouses, Mayer Commons.

**RSVP for scheduling purposes by contacting Jay  
Ellison by 5 p.m. December 18.**

### **ATTENTION!! CLASS TIME CHANGE**

At its December meeting, the faculty voted to change the scheduling of morning classes on Tuesday/Thursday. Courses that were previously scheduled from 9:40-10:50 a.m. are now scheduled from 9:35-10:55.



## President's Page

Christmas, 1992

Once again Christmas comes whether we are ready or not, deserving or undeserving. In a world of disease, starvation, violence and war, it comes as a stranger. The world presents us with the juxtaposition of life and death, wealth and poverty, cooperation and warfare. These forces play out in terms of religious, racial and ethnic warfare, the systematic destruction of neighborhoods, poverty and disease, arbitrary violence against defenseless persons and a general disregard by those that pass by.

Those words appear to describe Yugoslavia. They also describe New York City, which I visited last weekend. The comparisons are enough to give one pause. Is Yugoslavia a sign of the world to come? Of New York City? Of Lancaster? Of the seminary? The Bosnians claim they were persecuted during the WWII era, so this is only retribution. And the Muslims? Muslims within Europe: who cares about them? It is obvious that the European nations do not. The fact that more than one war in Europe was started by bloody feuds among the little nations does not appear to motivate intervention. The Germans have their own problems with prejudice and the former Soviet states are still struggling for survival.

It will take a great deal of courage this year to proclaim: "Peace on earth." Since there is so little of it, perhaps this state of affairs will cause us to hope for it. Or even more, cause us to ask from whence does such peace come? Luke's answer is quite clear. There is an intervention into human affairs, but quite unlike that of the Marines landing in Somalia. It is the surprising work of God to scatter the proud and put down the rulers from their thrones.

I am continually amazed by the song Mary sings in Luke 1:46, which we have come to know as the Magnificat. Its origin adds a richness to the words, as does its inappropriateness. You are aware that Mary's song is based on the song of Hannah in I Samuel 2:1-10. Hannah, the wife of Elkanah, was childless and in great distress because of her barrenness. But God answers her prayer and she

calls her son Samuel, "I have asked him of the Lord."

Why does Mary sing this song of Hannah, when she is not married or grieving being childless? It would be more appropriate for Elizabeth to offer the prayer and song of Hannah, since she is both old and childless. My sense is that Luke wishes to connect Mary with a long series of women who bear children against all human expectations only by the intervention of God. Hannah is not the first such woman: Sarah, Rebekah and Rachel all fit the type: women without children who receive a son by grace. So perhaps that is what Christmas is all about. The wondrous work of God in our midst, against the coldness of our hearts and the dullness of our imaginations. The disclosure of what we have allowed the world to become. But more important, the revelation of what the world might be in the peace of God. Let Mary's words be our words; let us magnify the Lord and let our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. Peace.

Peter Schmiechen



## ***CAN WE TALK!?!***

...About safety and security, that is!! With the number of security incidents increasing on or around campus, some items need to be brought to your attention. The incidents include: the breaking of windows on vehicles, theft from vehicles, unknown persons found in buildings at night, theft of keys from students' coats hung outside classrooms.

What can you do to protect yourself and improve safety on campus? Don't walk alone during evening hours; arrange for an escort or walk with someone. Stay in well-lighted areas; avoid areas with obstructed vision (i.e. high bushes). Approach your vehicle or residence with your keys in hand to reduce exposure time for a crime to occur. Keep your personal belongings with you (wallet, keys, cash, etc.). Do not leave possessions in study carrels or in coats outside classrooms. Don't leave items visible on your car seats; lock them in the trunk. All criminal activity needs to be reported to Lancaster City Police, as well as to the Business Manager. If we expect improved police patrols, we need to document evidence of heightened criminal activity. An incident report form is available in the Business Office.

By the time you read this, we will have implemented a new lock-up hour for Lark Building and the Campus Center--6:45 p.m. This may cause some inconvenience, and I am open to discussion on how to remedy it. Hopefully, the hour change will alleviate items being removed from coats, coffee money disappearing and mysterious persons being found in buildings by reducing the hours the building is open with limited occupancy. In order to

improve safety, everyone needs to play a part. **Safety is everyone's business!!** How can you play a role? Report criminal activity; make sure doors are locked when you leave buildings; and "buddy up" with another person. Please take a few extra seconds to make sure the door you exited is closed and locked. If this small step is overlooked, locking the buildings has no effect because the door is open for access.

As you will read in this issue of the *Seminary News*, we have contracted with an architectural firm to conduct a "campus plan," reviewing the present conditions and future uses of our buildings. Early on we will identify the need to increase security on campus. In this way, a plan can be developed that will comprehensively address this issue, rather than taking a piecemeal approach. Securing perimeter doors of the administrative/classroom buildings and the entrance doors of the residence halls would be included in this plan. There are numerous types of access systems available on the market--from cypher locks to intelligent keys to proximity card readers--requiring different installation configurations. Most systems will automatically unlock and lock doors at predetermined times. Additional issues in the campus plan will be continuation of improving campus lighting, as well as reviewing landscaping relative to safety.

I hope that your cooperation and involvement will contribute to the overall improvement of the safety/security on campus, as well as keep you from being a victim. Your patience is also appreciated as we define our needs and work toward improvements.

- Jay Ellison

## OH, CHRISTMAS TREE!

Cut your own Christmas tree for only \$15.00! Hundreds of pines, firs and spruces are available to choose from. Please come on Saturdays only, during daylight hours. Saws will be provided. DIRECTIONS: TAKE KING STREET EAST OUT OF LANCASTER. TURN LEFT ONTO ROUTE 340 EAST (AT WEIS MARKET). STAY ON ROUTE 340 EAST



THROUGH BIRD-IN-HAND, INTERCOURSE, WHITE HORSE AND COMPASS. DON'T MISS THE TURN WHEN ROUTE 340 TURNS LEFT AT THE BLINKING YELLOW LIGHT IN COMPASS. PROCEED FOUR MILES AFTER THIS TURN AND LOOK FOR MAILBOX #282 ON THE RIGHT.

SEE JERRY SMITH IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION.

- Bob Crane (215)384-1818

## CHAPEL DOINGS

Be sure to bring friends, family...whoever...to the service of lessons and carols for Advent, Tuesday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Santee Chapel!

Thinking about your schedule for next semester? Miss your chance to lead worship this semester? Check the new signup sheets on the door of the Chapel Dean's office (Lark #30) and get your first choice of a date now to lead the seminary community in worship on a Monday, Tuesday (preaching service) or Friday. Seniors, this will be your last chance!

Thanks to all who have helped with chapel, signed up to lead chapel and done such wonderful services for us this semester. Thanks also to Darrel and the choir, the chapel advisory group, faculty and Vic for all your help. **Regular chapel services will resume Monday, February 1.**

## REFECTORY UPDATE

The Refectory will close for the Christmas season on Thursday, December 17. It will reopen on Wednesday, January 6 and serve only on Wednesdays through January due to the light campus population. Full service (three days per week) will resume in February.

Menus will be posted for Refectory lunches for December 15 and 17. A special Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday, December 16. All are invited.

## PAYROLL TIME SUMMARY SHEETS DUE

Just a reminder that payroll time summary sheets are due in the Business Office by the close of business on **Thursday, December 17**. Remember to have them signed by your supervisor. **EVERYONE** needs to complete and submit a form. This is the last warning! Next year: no time summary, no paycheck. Payday will be December 23, with the check dated the same so you can get those last-minute gifts for me that you forgot.

- Jay Ellison

## NO MORE NEWS

This issue is the last **SEMINARY NEWS** until the beginning of the Spring term in February.

## ***VOLUNTEER SERVICE EXCHANGE/INTERNATIONAL***

Information has come in about an exciting, hands-on reconciliation project cosponsored by Pacem in Terris in Wilmington, Delaware and Phoenix Youth and Community Centre in Lurgan, County Armagh, Northern Ireland. They are looking for young adults who could spend a month next summer, living with host families, and serving as volunteer counselors in a day camp program for Catholic and Protestant children (ages seven through fourteen). See the summer section of the opportunities notebooks outside of the Office of Contextual Education.

There are also many volunteer service opportunities available through the United Church of Christ Board for Homeland Ministries (summer and year-round). They are briefly described in a brochure in the opportunities notebook. Additional information may be secured from Ms. Susan Sanders, Secretary for Volunteer Service, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114-1100; 216-736-3800, FAX 216-736-3803. Or you may want to chat with Carl Bade (who is on campus on Wednesdays to counsel about financial aid), who served in the same role with UCBHM before his retirement.

- Allen Kroehler



A two-week visit to a partner church anywhere in the world will be awarded to the writer of the most objective, dynamic and insightful essay or sermon on the importance of global communities of faith and their impact on us.

Writers must be members of the United Church of Christ or the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Laity and clergy are encouraged to participate. Well-written pieces will be included in a book.

**Deadline April 1, 1993**

Entries should be typed, double-spaced and may be submitted in original languages.

Length should not surpass 15 pages.

A panel of readers will look for creativity, uniqueness and clarity.

Winner will be announced at the General Synod & Assembly in July.

Send your entry to: World Ministries in the US  
United Church Board for World Ministries  
700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1100  
Phone: 216-736-3210, Fax: 216-736-3259

*For information, see Professor Jordan.*

## ***MERCERSBURG PRIZE***

The Mercersburg Prize is being offered by the Mercersburg Society for the 1992-93 academic year. Deadline for the prize is March 1, 1993. Recipient of the 1991-92 award was Kathleen Chestnut, whose paper was published in the autumn issue of *The Mercersburg Review*. Papers are to be submitted to the Archives of the United Church of Christ. If you have any questions about requirements for the prize, please see Professor Payne.