

# Seminary News

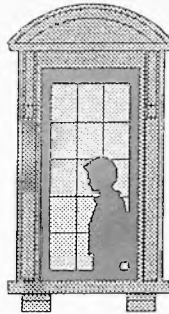
Edition 18

Wednesday, March 9, 1994

## WOMEN IN WORKPLACE SYMPOSIUM

"Would You Hire This Woman: Shattering the Glass Ceiling," a symposium exploring the difficulty women face in the job market, will be presented by the Seminary on Thursday, March 10, 7:30 p.m. The program, in Santee Chapel, is free of charge.

Speaker will be Dr. Carol J. Auster, associate professor of Sociology, Franklin & Marshall College, who is an author and researcher on sex and gender roles. Responders will be Dr. Earl Hess, founder and president of Lancaster Laboratories; the Rev. Karen King, an area conference minister of the Penn Central Conference UCC; and Madelyn P. Nix, a local attorney. The event is part of the Campus 100 celebration of Lancaster Seminary's centennial year at its present site.



## WOMEN'S WEEK PROGRAM

Come hear **Rev. India Garnett** (1993 Lancaster Seminary graduate recently ordained as "pastor, teacher and counselor" by the Women's Bethesda Mission Shelter for women and children experiencing homelessness) and **Rev. Cheryl Moore** (1993 Lancaster Seminary graduate recently ordained as associate pastor at St. Stephen's UCC in Perkaspie) and **Rev. Jacqueline Sanders** (a frequent auditor at Lancaster - on study leave from St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Lancaster) talk about "*Ordination and Beyond - The first year out: Lessons lived and things I wish I had known.*" The program is set for Thursday, March 10, 11:10 a.m. in Hafer Center.

## WOMEN'S WEEK MEDITATIONS...

Santee Chapel is the home of two stained glass windows which illustrate women in our traditions: one, an unnamed woman in the crowd, and the other, the woman at the well.

During Women's Week, this week, March 7 through 11, the Campus Centennial Committee invites you to visit these windows. As we celebrate 100 years in the Lark Building, consider these women who are still a part of us today.

A meditation will be posted next to each window. A chair will be placed for you to sit and meditate. Enter the chapel, and visit these women. As you leave, consider what folks will say about you 100 years from now.

## LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The annual Schaff Library Book Sale will be held Tuesday, March 15, through Friday, March 25, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Lower Level Library. Hardbacks will sell for \$1.00, while paperbacks are 50 cents each. Some sets and older books will be priced separately. Thousands of volumes will be available for sale, with some different books being added on each day of the sale.

## S.C.C. ELECTIONS

There will be a brief but **IMPORTANT** general meeting of the Seminary Community Council on Thursday, March 10, at 11:10 a.m. in the Mayer Commons. At this meeting, we will accept nominations for executive officers and will approve a slate for the elections which will be held during the week of March 21-25. If you are interested in running for an office, you must see either Star McCarthy, Misti Johnson, Dave Mears or Kevin Fruchtl before the meeting on Thursday. The slate will be approved and closed at the Thursday meeting.

## Mayer Commons is Open

The Mayer Commons is open for student use on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 10 p.m. Come out and use the Commons for study, small group meetings, or socializing -- but definitely come out and use it!

## NOT TOO LATE FOR STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

It's not too late to sign up for the 1994 Harwick Lecture/Workshop on Biblical Stewardship. The event, "Pastor as Encourager of Generous Giving," will be given at the Seminary's Hafer Center on Friday, March 18, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Workshop leader is the Rev. Brenton Dodge, an ordained pastor of the American Baptist Church, who regularly leads groups of pastors in developing skills as fundraisers. To register or for more information, see Barbara Stephens, Office of Continuing Education, Lower Level Lark.

## COOK LECTURE SET

"A Sacred Trust: The Public Role of Religious Buildings" is the title of the 1994 Cook Lecture to be presented in Santee Chapel on Thursday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. Robert Jaeger of Partners for Sacred Places (Philadelphia) will discuss the historical and architectural roots of the Lark Building. Professor Rochelle Stackhouse, adjunct instructor in Worship and Preaching at Lancaster, will comment on the liturgical implications of the design of Santee Chapel, including its relation to Mercersburg liturgical theology. The two will offer responses to each other and to questions from those attending. The lecture is open to our community and the public without cost.

## GRADUATING STUDENTS' BIOGRAPHIES

Graduating seniors, please return your green information sheet to Barbara Stephens as soon as possible. April 1 is the deadline for these sheets to be returned with information to be used for press releases to newspapers and church-related publications about your graduation. If you've lost your sheet, don't worry. Replacements are available in Barbara's office, Lower Level Lark. Also, if you need to have a black and white photo taken to be sent with your news story, please contact Jennifer Knighton in the Development Office.

## SENIOR GIFT COMMITTEE

The Senior Gift Committee will meet Wednesday, March 16, in the Refectory at 12:00 noon. Anyone who will graduate this May is welcome to join in the decision-making process for the senior gift to the Seminary. If you have questions, contact Jennifer Knighton, Office for Development.

## NOTE SEMINARY NEWS DEADLINE

If you have items for the Seminary News, please put them in Barbara Stephens' mailbox by Monday at noon. Students, faculty and staff are invited to submit items for the publication.

MARCH 21-25

This year's Hispanic Emphasis Week, March 21 to 25, will feature music and worship, a Community Hour on March 24 and special visitors from Costa Rica. A full schedule will follow in next week's Seminary News.

## 1994 BEST-WRITTEN SERMONS SOUGHT

In preparation for Commencement exercises in May, nominations for the Prize for the Best Written Sermon are being sought from middlers. Please submit manuscripts on 8-1/2" by 11" paper to Professor Rochelle Stackhouse (in her mailbox) no later than March 25.

## SUMMER OPPORTUNITY

The Rev. Geneva Butz, pastor of Old First Reformed Church (UCC) in Center City Philadelphia, will be on campus Wednesday, March 16, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to meet with students who are interested in a summer position coordinating a youth employment program for 12 to 15 urban teens (ages 12 to 15)

from June 15 through August 26. She will be available on Lower Level Lark.

The position includes job recruitment in businesses in the neighborhood of the church, interviewing and orienting the young applicants, scheduling and assigning youth to each position, providing secondary supervision of teens during the employment period and evaluating and celebrating the achievements of each young person at the end of the program. This is a live-in position as part of a five-person staff which also rotates responsibility for a youth hostel in the church social hall during the evenings. There is regular supervision provided by the Rev. Butz and selected church members. The position is very rich in opportunities for learning about pastoral care, youth ministry, urban ministry, community life and even worship.

## STORAGE AREA ALERT!

Last call for retrieving your belongings from the storage rooms in the basement of Bowman Hall. See Vic Wright if you wish to claim articles. He can also help you organize a new storage space if you need one.

# President's Page

LENT

Several years ago a new musical director staged three of Mozart's operas in modern dress for TV. One was *Così fan tutte*. This opera is usually staged as a farce, but even as such it is hard to endure. The premise is that women are fickle. Two soldiers, in love with two sisters, object to such a claim. A wager is therefore made with a third party. Each soldier will attempt, under disguise, to seduce the other's betrothed. Each is confident that his love will remain true, but equally confident that he, because of his irresistible powers, will be able to win the other woman's love.

Herein lie many levels of deception: each soldier seeks to deceive his friend's love, without anticipating the effects of success. Each is confident that his love will remain true, though this confidence is as much based on arrogance about oneself. There is also a confidence, which grows into rivalry, that each will be able to win the other woman's love. These deceptions are ultimately forms of self-deception: each assumes he can succeed without harming his friend or the friend's romance, or without himself being compromised. When staged as a farce in elaborate 18th century costumes, these dimensions are muted by comedy. But when staged in contemporary dress, without interruptions of applause, with close up camera and taken seriously by the cast, the story takes on tragic proportions. It is no longer aimed at women alone but becomes a study of human motivation.

This sorrowful tale, with its bittersweet music, comes to mind in this season when Christians reflect on the moral life. The modern age, or any age for that matter, has not been happy with the Christian view of sin. Critics in and out of the church claim it is too negative. Optimistic rationalists argue that our misdeeds are errors in judgment, based on wrong information or the emotions. Others see the self pressured by external forces, be it spiritual demons or social forces (the family version is the kids down the block). A medical model suggests that we are mentally ill, having lost the capacity for rational, free choice and subject to compulsive behavior.

There is some truth in all of these theories, but the Christian view is unrelenting in its insistence that the problem is not in lack of data, external forces, or the loss of freedom. The problem is ultimately in our willingness to love ourselves more than we ought, to allow pride to cloud our vision, to refuse the knowledge that might lead to a correct judgement, or to bring upon ourselves compulsory behavior that is destructive. In the end the Christian view is moral and not rational: if we could explain why we engage in so much self-destructive behavior we would not do it. After all, it does not make sense to destroy ourselves.

The power of Lent is found in the mystery of our self-deception. It is not, as some would argue, in the power of the church to take advantage of human frailty. We are again drawn to recognize that we love ourselves more than we ought and are willing to do harm to the very things that we claim we value. Such is the beginnings of self-knowledge and repentance. No wonder Bach could entitle a prelude: "O Mortal, Bewail Thy Grievous Sin."

Peter Schmiechen

# Bulletin Board

## CRISPUS ATTUCKS SAYS 'THANK YOU'

Executive Director Tom Hyson would like to thank members of the Seminary community who have supported the emergency shelter located at the Crispus Attucks Community Center in Lancaster. Your gifts of toiletries, toothbrushes, razors, cash and bed and bath linens have been helpful to those who are homeless, particularly in the very severe winter we have been experiencing. The shelter is scheduled to remain open through March. If you have items that you would like to donate to the Emergency Shelter, please give them to Karna Burkeen.

## WOMEN'S CLERGY GROUP MEETS

The **Women's Clergy - Seminarian Mentor Group** will be meeting on **Friday, March 25, at 1:00 p.m., St. Paul's UCC Lionville**. I would like to throw in a personal note about how valuable these mentoring relationships have been for me. I feel as though they have helped my steps to become strides as I walk the road towards ordained ministry. I invite you to join us to discuss **Issues of Women in Ministry**. If you need directions, contact either me or Ann Kemper (in the Library). Hope to see you there.

Liz Bell

## PRAYERS FOR WOMEN

Each Friday at 1:00 p.m., Middle Eastern time, women of all faiths have been "standing" for peace on the corners of Jerusalem and throughout Israel/Palestine - for the past six years! Other "Women in Black" groups in the U.S. and around the world stand, work and pray in solidarity for a just peace. Anita Steiner, a Jewish member of Women in Black, writes that after the famous handshake in Washington, DC, the women wore white sashes as a

symbol of hope and even stopped demonstrating for awhile. Now they are back at their corners and prevailing despite the familiar gestures, shouts and even broken windshields, etc., from the violent extremists on all sides.

How can we lend our support so far away from the beloved, explosive, still occupied "Holy Lands?" (1) We could purposefully pray for a just peace at the same time that they are standing for peace - that would mean praying for all the peoples of the Middle East in the early morning hours (6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.) on Fridays (Prayers are, of course, welcomed anytime!).

(2) We could show our solidarity as a seminary community in other ways - by corresponding with the Women in Black and posting their newsletter; by wearing black on Fridays wherever we are; by creating a Prayers for Peace Women in Black effort here, in solidarity with the Middle East peoples and other people around the world who struggle with injustice and oppression.

If you are interested in being a part of Prayers for Peace, please put a note in Elaine Bringer's mailbox. This is not an appeal for another group to meet regularly, squeezing another obligation into your already swamped schedule! Instead, we could sit down for one brief meeting (over lunch or dinner) to determine some direction. From then on, we could communicate through the newsletter, letters, prayers and actions.

NOTE: Those of you who have been a part of Cross Cultural Seminars and other experiences know that we need to pray for women and all people in economically and otherwise oppressed cultures: in Ghana, Appalachia, Central America and around the world. During this week designated as Women's Week (in the midst of a whole decade so designated by the United Nations), please pray for women in Lancaster, in your home church and around the world.

Elaine Boyer Bringer

## THANK YOU!

I wish to extend a thank you to the Lancaster Seminary community for your support of this year's African American Emphasis Week. Your reception of the Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter was gracious. She appreciated your spirit. I pray that you might be as supportive of our brother and sister Hispanics, as well as other individuals and groups throughout the remainder of the year.

William Kyle

## LANCASTER'S RED ROSE NEEDS A GARDENER



Each year since 1988, Sovereign Bank has selected area historic, public and community sites to receive roses to be planted in an effort to replant the Red Rose of Lancaster throughout the county. This April, as part of the Seminary's Campus 100 Celebration, we will be recipients of the special plant, *Rose gallica officinalis*. A spot on our campus has been suggested by a professional landscaper as an ideal place for our rose to grow, and the Campus 100 Celebration Committee is looking for someone in the Seminary community who will tend this special plant for a set period of time. If you are student, faculty, staff (or spouse) and have a strong desire to nurture and care for our rose, please contact Karna Burkeen in the Office of Development by March 15.