



THE SEMINARIAN

Volume XXXVIII

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Issue 3

S.C.C. MINUTES

The following are an abbreviated version of the SCC Minutes for the meeting held Oct. 23, 1986.

Treasurer's report - current balance is \$1,251.55.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Each Trustee will receive a copy of The Seminarian at the Nov. 6-7 meeting. Upon request, monthly issues will be sent.
 2. Chet Carbaugh reported on the need for additional space for commuters to sit, relax, and read. Locker space is available in Richard's Hall (\$3.00 key deposit). Available space for a lounge in the basement of Richard's Hall is considered unusable because of the presence of asbestos.
 3. Susan Minasian reported that asbestos had been removed from all areas of Richards except the basement.
 4. A report on the Oct. 9 forum with Pres. Schmiechen and Dean Baxter was made.
 5. Len Knighton reported on COMP which will meet bi-monthly in the fall and monthly in the Spring.
- (continued on page 3, col. 2)

VICTIMS OF ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP

Recently as I sat in the waiting area of a hospital emergency room, I overheard the mother of a three year old boy desperately trying to convince the attending physician that the bumps and bruises on her son's body were the result of a fall. From where I sat, I could see the little boy as he lay on the table, curled up in a fetal position, tensing up and whimpering whenever anyone came near him. I could see the pain on his face and knew that the physical pain was somehow not measurable to the emotional pain - the look in his eyes revealed that. And I hurt for and with that little boy, for I could easily remember the times I visited hospital emergency rooms after "falling."

Abuse, unfortunately, comes in many different modes: physical, emotional, sexual, verbal, child, spousal, parental. Abuse does not discriminate against age, sex, race, religion, income level, occupation or living conditions.

(continued on page 2)

VICTIMS OF ABUSE SUPPORT GROUP

(continued from page 1)

In a book entitled Unkempt Thoughts, Stanislaw Lec writes, "wounds heal and become scars. But scars grow with us." I know all too well of the increasing difficulty in masking behind the face and antics of a clown, not only the combined pain of the bumps, bruises, broken bones, and scars, but also the added pain of nightmares, memories, anger, hurt embarrassment, and the fear of the abuse re-occurring.

To be a victim of abuse is not something that can be shut away, never to be mentioned again -- just because it remains unnamed does not make it go away, does not undo the scars, does not ease the pain. No matter how hard we may try, it always somehow affects all other relationships, however unconscious the effect may be.

The need for and organization of a support group here at LTS for abuse victims arose out of a consciousness-raising week last year. That group has re-organized this year. As a support group, the members establish a set meeting time, as well as availing them-

selves to one another in times of need and crisis. The group sets its own agenda according to the needs of its members.

At a meeting in October, future plans of the group and how it can better serve the needs of the LTS community were discussed. Some of the ideas included: planning sessions for educating the community on the problem, providing a structured/guided sharing time, inviting in speakers, correlating personal experience of abuse to the call of ministry, planning a retreat for abuse victims, as well as attempting to serve whatever needs that are voiced.

The group can only effectively serve the needs of abuse victims in our community if those needs are made known. The next meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 17 in apt. H-202. If you have suffered from the effects of abuse and/or domestic violence, either as an infant, child, adolescent, or adult, you are invited and encouraged to attend.

For further information, please feel free to contact Allen Kroehle, Curt Zemencik, Linda Meredith or myself.

Kathy Cordaro

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A TIME OF TEARS

There are times of difficulty and there are times of joy and celebration. This, however, is the time of another time - a time of tears. Tears are for grieving, grieving for a child that was not allowed to be. A child hurt and broken down. A child who grew up only to be hurt and broken down again. What type of a person does

this child grow to be? A person that is compassionate and very much aware of the hurts of others. A person caring for others. A person who now grieves inside herself for that small child - that child who was not allowed to be.

Nancy Kuhns

KIRKBRIDGE RETREAT

Father Ed Sanders, Susan Foster, Phillip Myers, Craig Stoudt, and Linda Meredith are the representatives from LTS to a three meeting retreat set up at Kirkbridge. The purpose of these three meetings is to discuss Spirituality and Social Issues.

The first meeting was held the first weekend in Oct. and was attended by 41 persons representing eight seminaries. The wide array of students and staff persons proved to be an interesting mix. We shared our stories of how we got to seminary and how we go to be a part of this particular program. This process took many hours, but seemed to bond the group in many ways.

We will be meeting again in Feb. at which time we will have a speaker/leader concerned with social issues. While the last workshop spoke more to spirituality and group building, this next one should speak largely to social concerns. The third workshop will be in April and should pull this all together.

Our commitments to this group are multiple. One, we have covenanted to attend all three sessions. Two, we have covenanted to be in prayer for each other in all the interiums. And third, is the concern that we all take to, in some way, to represent these meetings and the learnings gained there to our respective seminary communities.

If you are interested in further information, please feel free to contact any of the persons who are attending.

Linda Meredith

S.C.C. MINUTES

(continued from page 1)

6. Additional representation for the Jr. Class in the SCC was requested.
7. Susan Minasian reported that those having electrical problems in the Pine St. houses should contact the business office.
8. Dana Schlegel will be requested to present an up-date on the Arts Room at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Wendell Yorkman voiced concern of the problems of single parents in the ministry.

VOTES

1. It was voted to secure an electrical contractor to evaluate the safety of the wiring in the Pine St. houses.
2. Phil Myers was requested to compile the student's concerns about the apartments and/or houses and submit them to the business office.

The next SCC meeting will be Nov. 20, 1986 at 9:30 a.m.

John Freudenberger, Sec.

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SPIRITUAL LIFE

The Spiritual Life Committee is open to suggestions and comments. Any persons interested in being a part of the Spiritual Life Committee feel free to contact Allen Benner or Linda Meredith. The regularly scheduled spiritual life events for this semester include:

- 1) Compline on Thursday nights at 9:30 p.m. in the chapel.
- 2) Community Prayers at noon on Wednesdays and Fridays in L-102.

Linda Meredith

From the Editors' Desk

"It says in the Bible that women aren't supposed to speak or preach in the church and you can't tell me any different." If I ever had any doubts about the hurtful or destructive power that words can have, they have disappeared as I heard that statement.

Perhaps it was the timing (20 minutes before I was supposed to preach) that made it so difficult. Or maybe it was the mirror-like image that I saw in the person that addressed me. Here was a young, single, professional woman who with one sentence rejected the validity of my call and my seminary training.

Maybe her remark hurt me because it was so unexpected. It never occurred to me when I entered seminary that my sex would become an issue. After all, being a woman is crucial to my identity as a person. My call to ministry is the focus of all my energy and interest. How can one fact negate the other? When people hinted that I might have difficulty finding a job, I dismissed that as out-dated pessimism.

Now I am confronted with people who seem eager to convince me that my dreams of a pastorate are in vain. It's the old story—does one maintain one's faith or bow down to apparent reality? I am convinced that I am called by God into the ministry. I am less certain that I am strong enough to withstand hidden and overt criticism and doubt. But I feel I have no option except to go on.

I can speak only from my own experience, but it seems to me that we so often dismiss one another's dreams with very little care. Women are told they are too weak, children are told they are too young, blacks are told they are inferior, senior citizens that they are too old. How quickly we diminish the personhood of the people around us.

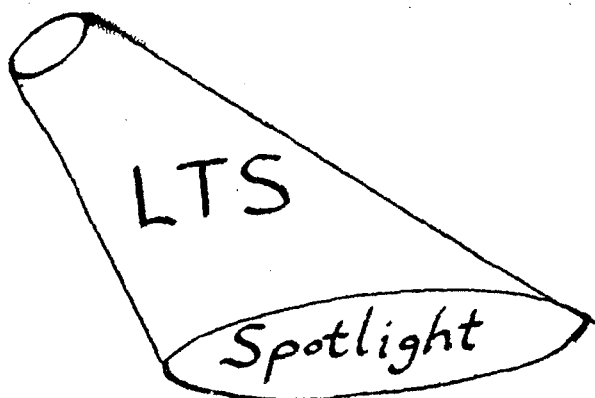
People need the freedom to explore their God-given identities. We all need to be careful that we don't take away that freedom by our actions or words.

SJF

ASBESTOS IN RICHARDS HALL

It has come to the attention of the Seminarian Community Council that there is asbestos covering the pipes in the basement of Richards Hall. Since asbestos dust poses a known health risk, this presents a problem for plans to establish an arts/dance studio and a commuter lounge in Richards. Susan Minasian, Vice-president of the SCC, filed the following report:

The business office has called someone to come in and evaluate the asbestos situation in Richards Hall. At the present time they are waiting for the bid and then we will know what the next step is. Until the asbestos situation is cleared up, the Arts Room/Studio is at a stand-still.



NANCY NORRIS

We all know the requirements to graduate from LTS: One has to study a certain number of courses from each area, take specific tests, and live through a variety of "experiences." But wait - there is another, unwritten requirement. It goes something like this: you can't get through seminary until you meet Mrs. Nancy Norris.

Nancy, the Registrar and the Director of Financial Aid, has been at LTS for 17 years. As the registrar, Nancy keeps all the records of the students. Before a student can graduate, Nancy must confirm that all the requirements have been met and all the grades received.

Nancy is also responsible for that area near and dear to every seminarian's heart: financial aid. She tries to secure as much "outside" funding for students as she can and also directs seminarians to specific scholarship and loan possibilities. Another challenge is to sort out and then explain the continually changing federal loan rules and regulations.

Although Nancy had promised herself in earlier years never to be a statistician or to work with figures, she finds herself in-

involved with both activities now. Her enjoyment of her work is made obvious by her ready smile and easy laugh. It is easy to believe her when she says she receives a great deal of fulfillment from her career. She describes one highlight of her job by saying, "I particularly like my contact with the students." Nancy has adopted the attitude that her office is there to provide a service to the students and help in any way she can.

In contrast to her experience as a secretary in a manufacturing company, which she found to be a "cold routine," Nancy enjoys the "personal touch" of the seminary community. She describes herself as a "people-oriented" person who enjoys the comings and goings of her busy office.

When she isn't involved with campus responsibilities, Nancy enjoys being with her husband, Dick, their children and grandchildren. The family often gather for occasions of "togetherness" at the family cabin in nearby Peachbottom. A native Lancasterian, Nancy now lives in the same house in which she was born. She and Rick are accustoming themselves to the "empty nest syndrome" now that the grown children have moved out of the house (although not out of Lancaster).

When you stop by Nancy's office, you are sure to receive a welcome. Whether you want to check on your official status, get directions around Lancaster, or hear about some of the LTS history (Nancy has worked with four deans and four presidents), the Registrar's Office is the place to go.

SECOND WIND

the wind off the water
sweeps the sand smooth
stings my cheeks and chin,
whistles past my ears.

hands frozen folded;
body warmed in wool,
while the wind off the water
sweeps my soul through...

the wind off the water
sweeps my soul through...

Kathy Cordaro

* * * * *



One cannot encompass
another
Each must strive for
individuality.
Each sees life from a different
spectrum,
yet together they share the
colors of life.

(Sr.) Mary K. Rice

* * * * *

Christ was once a seminary student
and the pharisees threw him out
the Sadducees dashed his credo
the people said He misinterpreted
Church history
and when He did Field Ed.,
the congregation
rejected Him.

God ordained Him in a river of
washed sins
and a dove landed on his shoulder.
Those who had ears heard Christ calling,
Even Satan wanted to offer Him a posh
suburban church far away from turmoil.

I sat on a ladder one January morning
and painted a church office.
The voice I heard seems forever ago!
It called me out to follow the cross
It never said "how", only "you must"
So I follow....

Kathryn Schmidt

HARVEST THANKFULNESS

Somewhere just between the green of
summer and the gray of winter,
Is the color of harvest and
thanksgiving.

The sun is shining brightly
on fields of maize and bronze.
While the air is frosty and crisp,
God is permitting strange and
wonderful things to occur
throughout nature.

Somewhere inside each of us the early
summer days have dawned new changes
and new beginnings.
We have begun to reap our harvest.
In the golden colors of shared lives
new and old -
God is permitting us to experience full
each other.

MKR

REFLECTIONS

As I reflect upon this past month here at the seminary, I recall many things. Many new faces and children! I was overwhelmed to return to such a different place with people already into the swing of school. I had come "home" only to feel like an outsider.

In the month that has now passed, I have been granted the opportunity to get to know the "new" faces; I have been graced to get reacquainted with "old" faces; and classes have not destroyed me. If only I could approach the new with confidence instead of fear.

A big help in the transition for me has been that we are a community of faith. I am excited to note our excellent chapel attendance this semester. I am excited that students are willing to talk their faith and work it out. We truly do grow together as we share.

Let's not lose what we have begun. Let's build on this foundation with care and confidence. God is blessing us and this place. May we all continue to grow together.

Linda Meredith

The assorted
APOSTOLIC
FATHERS & MOTHERS
OF
L. T. S.

Hum... WHAT COMES
AFTER E?



BISHOP BOB
DUKE



INFILTRATORS? LET'S JUST INVITE 'EM TO JOIN US

As an elder in an inner-city church that daily must face the fact that it is serving a graying and shrinking population base, I am concerned about our denomination's reaction to the infiltration of our churches by government "spies." Leaders in the sanctuary movement and in the church at large are decrying this practice. I suggest that instead of fighting church infiltration, we should encourage it.

As a new age dawns for the Presbyterian Church (USA), we have set evangelism as our top priority. I define evangelism as the establishment of relationships between individuals and God, and while introductions can be made anywhere, the relationships are cemented and consummated within the life and worship of a congregation. Evangelism is bringing people into the church. Is our inclusive church discriminating against government agents? After all, didn't Jesus eat with tax collectors?

Jesus called Matthew, and Matthew followed; Zacchaeus was invited to dinner, and he gave half of his belongings to the poor; the Roman soldier witnessed the death on the cross, and he recognized the Son of God. Think of the good that might be done by allowing would-be persecutors and prosecutors to hear the gospel Sunday after Sunday. Would their hearts be softened by meeting refugees and sanctuary workers as individuals? Would their eyes be opened to a vision of God's realm? Could God turn these Sauls into Pauls?

Could we provide the setting for this to happen by welcoming them into our fellowship instead of shutting them out? I feel it is worth a try.

At the very least, the infiltrators would have to contribute to our churches to avoid arousing suspicion. We shouldn't be too proud to accept their money. I am sure there are churches that would be glad to have the gov't pay people to sit in their pews each week.

I propose that we begin an informal movement within the PCUSA. Let's call it the "Road Movement," remembering that we are providing a road to safety for refugees, and that Paul was convicted on a road. The main purpose of the Road Movement would be to make our churches accessible, and even attractive, to government scrutiny.

Some churches could actually provide sanctuary to refugees. Other churches could at least act like they are providing sanctuary. Perhaps real sanctuary churches could give pointers on sanctuary-like activities, and leave the details up to the creative members of the churches. I can see the talents of aspiring actors, make-up artists, painters, sculptors, and even practical jokers being utilized. If the government wants to investigate our churches, let's give them lots of churches to investigate!

And with a large number of churches to investigate and infiltrate, actual sanctuary churches would probably be overlooked. We could play a giant version of the old shell game in which the present administration would come up the loser.

I realize life is not a game, and the issues that it involves are not fun. However, I hope at least a few people with playful imaginations will read this and give my idea a try.

By Steve Cahoon (reprinted from Presbyterian Survey)

NO EXCUSE SUNDAY

Do you attend the church of your choice each Sunday? If not, why not?

To make it possible for everyone to attend Sunday services, a zealous clergyman came up with a novel idea to spur attendance.

He called it "NO EXCUSE SUNDAY" and here is what he planned to make it possible for all and sundry to visit his church:

1. Cots will be placed in the sanctuary for those who say, "But Sunday is my only day to sleep."
2. In the front, we will have soft lounging chairs and E-Z Boy recliners for those who complain our pews are too hard.
3. There will be bottles of "MURINE" in each pew for those with tired eyes from watching TV too late on Sat. night.
4. We will have army steel helmets for those who excuse themselves by saying, "The roof would cave in if I ever came to church."
5. For those who think church is too cold, we will supply blankets; for those who think that the church is too hot, we will offer fans and cool drinks.

6. Pencils and score cards will be available for those who wish to list the number and names of all the hypocrites who keep them away.

7. There will be free TV dinners available at the church doors after the services for those who can't go to church and cook dinner also.

8. We will have large buttons and banners stating "STAMP OUT COLLECTION ENVELOPES" for those who feel the church is always asking for money.

9. In the rear of the church, we will sod the floor with real grass and plant trees for those who like to see God in nature.

10. A doctor and nurse will be in attendance for those who usually plan to be sick on Sunday.

"As the popular TV commercial slogan says, "WE'LL DO IT ALL FOR YOU," last and by no means least, for those of you who have never seen church without them, the sanctuary will be decorated with both Easter flowers and Christmas poinsettias.

Hope to see you all next week!

(contributed by Nancy Kuhns and taken from a weekly bulletin)

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HARRY MOYER'S NEW ADDRESS

Harry H. Moyer, Employee
Flamingo Lodge
Flamingo, FL 33030

His birthday is November 17.

DEAN'S SPEECH AVAILABLE

Two copies of Nathan Baxter's Convocation address of Sept. 24, 1986 have been placed on the reserve shelves in the Library for anyone wishing to read them.

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THE SEMINARIAN is the monthly student newspaper of Lancaster Theological Seminary. Contributions and articles may be placed in the paper's mailbox. Next issue will be Dec. 12. Deadline for articles is Dec. 5.

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