



THE SEMINARIAN

PHILIP SCHAFF

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"ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING"

On March 28, 1976, the United Methodist Church will be receiving contributions for the "One Great Hour of Sharing". We would like to encourage the Methodist students at LTS to contribute to a donation that would be made in the name of the United Methodist students of LTS. It is our hope that each UM student will give a dollar if possible. If you care to participate please contact Jim Garner or Dr. Hartley.

Jim Garner

NEW THOUGHTS ON AN OLD ISSUE

OR

"BROTHER ARE YOU SAVED?"

It seems like a time out of the dark ages of pre-history when I first came to "dear old LTS." Memories of those days are dim and confused with recent readings in books by Conzelmann, Bornkamm, Marxsen, and the authors of M.A.S.H. Y'all don't expect me to go without bein' reminded of the luscious sins of the world do ya? One of the memories of my cold water baptism into seminary thought was recently re-awakened by the re-appearance of a charismatic leader in the news. When I first came to Lancaster, charismatic renewal was being talked about up and down Pine Street, and I felt left out. "Are you charismatic?" was the question. "No, I'm sorry, I'm an Irish, Presbyterian, Independent. What's charismatic a new political party?" I thought some new development touching on Water-gate had turned up. Nobody could give me a definition of it, except to offer obscure references to its origin in a Greek word, which was really an additional way of putting me down because

I didn't know any Greek.

Then the Junior Seminar came, and we visited a church where people talked about the charismatic movement, and all of a sudden I realized that "charismatic" was just a new word to describe what Depression Day Methodists, and present day Presbyterians had called The Holy Spirit. Y'see, when I was a boy, people who were "filled with Christ" accomplished great tasks that had frustrated them before, because they had "the power of Christ" in them and were "filled with The Holy Spirit." It awakened fond memories of the Methodist Youth Fellowship, and the days when the boys and girls played "boys and girls together" in church during the highly spiritual singing and prayin' and carryin' on in the Spirit. It wasn't immoral, but it sure was affectionate!

Then, last fall a close friend took me to Parkersburg, and I witnessed an even stranger phenomenon. It seems there's this Presbyterian Church run by a feller who reminds me of my Uncle John Jarvis, but who seemed to have a lot more fun than Uncle John ever had, except out of trout fishin'. Well, we got to singin' and prayin' and carryin' on with speakin' in tongues and such like, and it lasted for better'n' two hours, which is unheard of in a Presbyterian Church. You just don't stay in the Buildin' that long 'thout changin' the program, or the roof'll fall in on ya. We had lots of fun. A few folks got up and told how "The Spirit" had helped them, and everybody had a wonderful time. It started me thinkin', which is dangerous 'cause strange things happen when you begin thinkin'.

When folks asked me, "Are you charismatic?" I interpreted it in the same way I do when some nut comes up
(CONT. P2)

to me, grabs my coat collar, and says, "Brother, are you saved?" It implied that all the hell I'd lived through for the past thirty or forty years and all the good times I'd had with my God beside me, were for nought. It brought into question on the validity of my Baptism, my Confirmation, my conviction, my Christ, and my call. It implied I was a second class Christian which I ain't. I know I ain't, because God doesn't call second class Christians. We're all first class. Now I know that's not what was meant, but that's how it came across.

Then I learned about Gnosticism which Fr. Walsh explained, 'Supposin' Phil had the secret words. He could do anything he wanted to, and still get into heaven.' To which I replied "Hurray!" and grabbed the good lookin' girl sittin' next to me. It seemed bein' charismatic bordered on some of the same thing, though not quite so extreme. If you were charismatic, you had special knowledge, or powers, or experience that set you apart from the rest of Christendom, and made you exclusive.

From what I saw at Parkersburg, it also has an element of escapism in it. Some of the younger folks there seemed to get a sense of group identity by takin' part in the peculiar postures, and sounds and noise makins' that went on. It had the effect of makin' everybody feel good, even me. But, I must confess that the good feelin' I came away with was a combination of amusement at myself, havin' a good laugh over a few things, enjoyin' a wild religious setting, and a spontaneous religious experience and being reassured that there wasn't anything really new or different in it, which I hadn't seen in a different form, and understood, many years ago. It doesn't remove the fact that it's a manifestation of the Holy Spirit. To me (for me) it does require that it be taken with a liberal sprinklin' of salt.

Y're mst hble obd't servant
Texas Brown Hat

DON'T FORGET SEMINARY CHOIR
WEDNESDAY @ 3:15 PM IN THE CHAPEL

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HELP SUPPORT ST. PETER'S
UCC BOY SCOUT TROOP #22

place all your news papers in
garbage pavilion for pick up
1st. Saturady of each month

Ken Tracy

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UNICORN ODE #2

The corridors, whose twisting paths
once led,
the captive to confinement, hear
the dead silence, where the captor's
laughter fed on suffering and shame,
on fear, and dread.

FREE! RELEASED INTO A WORLD SO
NEW, WHERE COLORS BRIGHT EXPLODE
IN EVERY HUE, AND BURSTING SONGS'
DISCORDANT HARMONIES PROCLAIM THE
TOUCH THAT LIBERATES AND FREES. NO
JEERING MOCKERY WILL SOUND HERE,
FREEDOM'S HANDS ALL THINGS SURROUND,
THAT SENSES MAY PERCIEVE, AS SUCH,
THE PULSES THAT KNOW NOT THE
CAPTOR'S TOUCH.

'mid shattered fetters, broken
bits of chains and rusty shackles,
silence grandly reigns, o'er barred
windows glazed with cloudy panes,
this cell no more its prisoner
detains.

Armen Dichter
JM

CHAPEL SERVICE*
UCBWM

Chapel Service next Thursday,
March 18th will be led by Doug
Dandridge and Lee Jessup for the pur-
pose of discussing LTS's involvement
in The Council of Theological Students
and the UCBWM. This is an important
service for all seminarians and in-
volves everyone who is interested in
the UCC's involvement in World Ministries.
All are encouraged to attend.

Doug Dandridge

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOUG DANDRIDGE
AND DEBBIE ON THEIR MARRIAGE. GOOD
LUCK IN THE FUTURE.

I have three half-brothers and two sisters. My youngest brother is in prison. He did some foolish things and got caught. He is a sensitive boy of 17 who, like the rest of my family, is unaffiliated with any church. I want to give you a piece of his soul, in the form of a poem he sent to me. It is printed with his permission. When you enter into ministry, you will meet many youngsters like Darryl. Perhaps this will help you understand his kind a little better.

SOMETHING TO NOTHING
by Darryl Carter
(as written at Berks County Prison)

Once on yellow paper with green lines
He wrote a poem and he called it Skip
Because that was the name of his dog
and that's what it was all about.
And his teacher gave him an A and a gold star
And his mother pinned it on the kitchen wall and showed it to his aunt.
And that was the year his sister was born
and his parents kissed all the time
And the little girl around the corner sent him a postcard signed with a row of x's
And his father tucked him into bed every night
and was always there.

Then on a white paper with blue lines
he wrote another poem
and called it Spring
because it was that time of year
and that's what it was all about.
And his teacher gave him an A and told him to write more clearly.
That was the year his sister got glasses
and his parents never kissed any more
and the little girl around the corner laughed when he fell down off his bike
and his father got mad when he cried to be tucked in.

Then on a piece of paper from a notebook
he tried another poem
and called it "?"
Because that was his big concern
and his teacher gave him an A
and a hard look
And his mother didn't say anything at all
Because he never showed it to her.

The regular meeting of ASW will be held on Monday, March 8 at 7:30 PM at the home of Linda Turner, apartment H-305. Dr. Gary Gruber will speak to the group on "Demands of a Parish - Needs of a Family."

Every woman on campus is welcome to our meetings. We would love to see some new faces, as well as the old familiar ones. Come, join us for learning, fun, and fellowship.

Also, just a reminder that we will again start a craft night to be held Wednesday nights at 7:30, this week to be at Mary Jo Jessup's home, H-204. Bring whatever you happen to be working on at the moment - Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint, Crewel, or what have you. Even if you're not doing anything, come for some fun getting together with each other.

Norma Hull
ASW

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"GODSPELL"

Godspell, the opportunity to a fantastic dramatic production, will be performed by Dubbs Memorial Church, March 13 - 14. Anyone interested see Dale Serfass. If enough people are interested, bus transportation may be provided for a cost of \$3.50

SOMETHING TO NOTHING....

And that was the year he caught his sister necking on the back porch
and the little girl around the corner wore too much makeup
So that he laughed when he kissed her but he kissed her anyway.
And he tucked himself in at 3 in the morning with his father sleeping in the next room.

And that's why
on the back of a match pack
he tried another poem
and called it Something to Nothing
cause that's what it was all about
and he gave himself an A
and a slash on each wrist
and hung it on the bathroom door because he couldn't make it to the kitchen!

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PRESENTS

THE ARTS FESTIVAL 1976
MARCH 31 - APRIL 1 & 2

MARCH 31 - Classical Concert

April 1 - Variety Show and
Dinner

APRIL 2 - Crafts Night and
Art Auction



ATTENTION ALL SEMINARIANS AND FAMILIES
FACULTY AND FAMILIES
ADMINISTRATION AND FAMILIES

The arts festival planning committee is in full swing to make this year's festival the best ever - a planning sheet has been placed in your mail box, so please fill it in very carefully and return it to the box placed in the Hub so we can best serve you. The committee needs information in relation to the display and demonstrations, and what you have to show the community. Also the Bake sale needs information to see how many entries there will be for this year. I hope you have lots of good recipes! Also we are calling all talents to make themselves available for a night of fun and entertainment. Singing, Dancing, Reading, Magic and just about anything will do. Also don't forget about the Crafts Night and art auction - we need you to help make the arts festival a success. Please return all sheets by March 8. The Seminarian will also have a special issue during the festival for all the writers and poets on campus. All pieces should be in the Seminarian Office no later than MARCH 24.

If you have any questions please feel free to call on: Jim Werner, Jim Moyer, Dana Schlegel, Nancy Lilly, George Jewell, and Alice Zimmerman.