

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Bulletin

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156 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CHURCH

May 1981

Miko Receives Meck Award

The Rev. Ernest Miko is the 1981 recipient of the Allan S. Meck Award for Excellence in Ministry.

Mr. Miko is senior pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ, Nazareth, PA. He has also served the Lower Saucon Charge, Hellertown, PA, and Colonial Park United Church of Christ, Harrisburg, PA. A native of Passaic, NJ, Mr. Miko attended Farleigh Dickinson Junior College and Bloomfield College and Seminary. He graduated from Lancaster Theological Seminary in 1953. Mr. Miko and his wife Gaye are the parents of three daughters. Their daughter Melinda M. Keck is a 1979 Lancaster graduate.

Ernest B. Racz, a member of St. John's Church, nominated Mr. Miko. "His ministry is. . . unique, exceptional," said Mr. Racz. He is "a true representative of Christian attributes. . . a loyal and true friend and spiritual leader of all his flock."

In praising Mr. Miko's administrative, pastoral and preaching abilities, Marian C. Shimer, seconder, concluded, "He is very much loved by all who work with him."

The Allan S. Meck Award was established by the LTS Alumni Association to recognize graduates for distinguished service and contribution to the professional parish ministry. The Award honors the Rev. Dr. Allan S. Meck, who was president of the Seminary from 1947 to 1957.

The Award, represented by a citation and a bronze medallion cast in the seal of the Seminary, was presented to Mr. Miko at St. John's Church May 3 by LTS President James D. Glasse.

Costas Addresses Graduates

The Rev. Dr. Orlando E. Costas addressed the graduates, members of the Seminary community and guests at the 156th Commencement of Lancaster Theological Seminary. The exercises were held May 16, 1981 in Hensel Hall of Franklin and Marshall College.



Dr. Costas and Dr. Glasse

Dr. Costas spoke on the topic "Outside the Gates." He is the Thornley B. Wood Professor of Missiology and the Director of Hispanic Studies at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. An ordained minister in both the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Church, Dr. Costas studied in Puerto Rico, the United States and The Netherlands. He has served as parish pastor, administrator, professor, author and lecturer in many parts of the world.

The Rev. Dr. James D. Glasse, President of the Seminary, presided and conferred graduate degrees upon 54 persons. The Rev. Dr. Lloyd D. Hartley, Dean of the Faculty, presented the candidates and announced academic prizes.

Honors and Awards Announced

Barbara Brummett, Faith D. Jongewaard and Phoebe F. Sabas received degrees summa cum laude at the 156th Seminary Commencement in May. Six graduates were awarded degrees magna cum laude. They were Patricia A. Carque, Richard P. Herb, Jeanne M.H. Linderman, S. Ronald Parks, Philip Sabas and Nora B. Smith. Cum laude graduates were John-Christian Aierstuck, Neal A. Brown, Levina S. Huber, Robert G. Wallace. Lawrence O. Walser III, Donald L. Wise and Lenn L. Zeller.

Fifty graduates received the degrees of Master of Arts in Religion, Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Theology or Doctor of Ministry. Four persons were granted certificates of graduation.

Academic prizes were awarded to several seminarians. Marc A. Wessels received the Frederick Shaeffer prize in Church and Community for excellence in the field of Religion and Society.

The Spessard Prize in Christology for the best paper in the field of Church Life and Work was awarded to S. Ronald Parks. Mr. Parks also received the prize for the best sermon.

Nancy Saunders and Mark Schlecter were awarded the Jacob Y. Dietz Prize in Church History for the best papers in that field.

Lou McShirley received the Guy L. Moyer Book Prize given to an outstanding certificate student.

The Paul Reid Pontius Memorial Award for excellence in worship was awarded to Lou Ann Earnst and to the Arts Ensemble.

The Schaff Prize in Church History was awarded to Luann Ketcham for the best paper on an assigned topic.

Third World Church Leaders At LTS

Two internationally recognized leaders of Third World churches contributed to the life of Lancaster Theological Seminary during January.

The Rt. Rev. Ananda Rao Samuel, a bishop of the Church of South India, visited LTS as a visiting professor during the month of January, teaching the course "A Christian Approach to Other Religions."

Bishop Samuel received his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1953 from the United Theological College, Bangalore, India, and was ordained into the ministry of the Church of South India in 1954. During 1955-56 he studied at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in the Program of Advanced Religious Studies.

He returned to India to teach at the Theological College in Dornakal, India, and, subsequently, carried pastoral responsibilities in rural areas. He was consecrated a bishop in 1961. From 1972 to 1980 he also served as moderator of the Church of South India.

Bishop Samuel was appointed the Robert V. Moss, Jr. Visiting International Professor for 1981. While at the Seminary he was also a guest preacher in several local congregations.

Bishop Samuel was in the United States from September 1980 to May



Bishop Samuel

From The Faculty. . .

Observations On Congregational Leaders And Members

by Donald D. Freeman, Associate Professor, Theology and Ministry

Robert C. Worley has been watching very carefully and critically a trend in the leadership of some congregations which he described as follows:

. . .leaders begin to see members as entities to be used, not as persons having moral intention of faith commitments which must find expression if they are to have dignity



Dr. Freeman

and integrity. Leaders expect compliance with their goals, interests and faith commitments. No provision is made for members to express their goals, interests and faith commitments. . .Members are useful as long as there is concurrence, compliance, and economic support. 1

This tendency on the part of church leaders--to treat members as things to be used, especially for financial support, and not recognize them as persons striving to develop and express their faith--Worley attributes to a "utilitariansm" which dominates political and economic life in the U.S.A. Worley briefly identifies a couple of the key assumptions of this "utilitarian" perspective.

1981 visiting 11 theological seminaries, meeting with staff and students and sharing with them the spiritual insights of a partner church and his understandings of the Christian mission as he has lived his life in India.

Dr. Jose Miguez Bonino, an internationally recognized theologian from Buenos Aires, Argentina, led a con-



Dr. Miguez

vocation on January 29 on the Church and Mission from the perspective of one who is a highly regarded leader in Third World theological education.

An ordained minister of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina, Dr. Miguez holds his doctorate in systematic theology from Union Seminary, New York City. He is one of the six current presidents of the World Council of Churches.

Since 1954 Dr. Miguez has been professor of Systematic Theology and Ethics of the Evangelical Institute for Advanced Theological Studies. He served as rector of the faculty from 1960 to 1970. Previously, he held pastorates in Bolivia and several appointments in Argentina. He is also an active leader of the Evangelical Methodist Church of Argentina.

Two of the many books authored by Dr. Miguez are Doing Theology in a Revolutionary Situation and Room to Be People.

Dr. Miguez and Bishop Samuel participated in a round table conversation together on the theme, "Christianity in the Third World."

dominates political and economic life in the U.S.A. Worley briefly identifies a couple of the key assumptions of this "utilitarian" perspective:

 \ldots ends justify means; control is more important than reconciliation or love or justice.

In the church this control is most often exercised in terms of policies such as these: Nothing can happen without "permission," and no expenditures can be committed except with prior approval of finance person(s).

Worley sums up the impact of this utilitarianism on church leadership as follows:

Utilitarianism in the church has crippled our ability to love and to feel loving.

How are members likely to respond to the above style of leadership? Over the years one may notice that there has been a series of short-lived attempts, by a few members at a time (often newer members with some eagerness to develop and live out their faith) to find opportunity for the expression of their religious convictions in and through the church.

Most persons have long since given up on that: a few have settled back to moreor-less loyal attendance and mediocre financial support; a few have transferred to other congregations in search of a more meaningful church life.

Many have joined the ranks of the "inactive" who appear to be reluctant either to cancel membership or to attend.

And these persons commonly describe their experience during the time when they tried to be meaningfully involved in terms such as these: "The leadership was not interested in what I had to say." "The leadership does not care about people or their ideas or their faith; all they want is your mindless following and your money." "This church is spiritually dead."

Leaders, on the other hand, usually function very sincerely, often give of timeless hours and efforts, and simply do not notice how their leadership style is affecting other people and turning some off. So long as there is at least some attendance at Sunday worship and enough money to pay the bills, the underlying discontent of members may not be noticed.

The few members who openly express such discontent are often perceived (and sometimes correctly) to be malcontents, and leaders often simply wish that such persons go away--which they usually do, in time.

Recruitment of new leadership is usually from two ranks: those who have served as leaders before, and newer persons who appear to share the values of the current leadership concerning management, economics and property.

There may be frequent attempts to bring in "fresh blood." But such new persons are usually expected to "fit in" rather than contribute originally, and they often end up frustrated. They may stick out their terms and then gradually drop out of active church life.

What is the long-range impact of this kind of church leadership? It appears to be one of the factors contributing to the development of a large body of nominal Christians who still say that they believe in God but who don't really take seriously any longer the idea that there might be some real value in active church membership.

What alternatives may there be? Some congregations have broken out of the above pattern by a more open leadership style which bases the development of ministries and programs upon the expressed spiritual needs and desires of the members and involves the members themselves in the development of such ministries. Large group planning retreats with disinterested leadership have been an effective aid in many instances.

¹The quotations are from Worley's paper, "Dry Bones Breathe," mimeographed for distribution by McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago.

Wessels Goes To Australia

Marc A. Wessels, who completed his Master of Divinity study at LTS in December, 1980, has become a Minister of the Uniting Church of Australia for a three-year period, serving as co-pastor to a three-congregation parish located in the suburbs of Melbourne. While under salary to the Uniting Church of Australia, Rev. Wessels will be an Associate of the United Church Board for World Ministries.

Rev. Wessels was a student at Lancaster Seminary under care of the Eastern Virginia Association of the Southern Conference of the United Church of Christ. He was ordained on January 4 at the Christian Church Uniting, Virginia Beach.

During his seminary career he served as assistant to the university chaplain of the University of Pennsylvania and carried out clinical pastoral education at the Presbyterian University Medical Center in Philadelphia. He also served the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors as a religious counselor and as church liaison person.

The Uniting Church of Australia is an ecumenical denomination with roots in the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregationalist traditions.

Associates of the United Church Board for World Ministries are persons who are working in the international sphere of the Church, but who do not receive direct salary support from the Board which is the international agency of the United Church of Christ.



Wessels is pictured above (left) with the Rev. G.A. McAnalley of the Uniting Church of Australia. The Rev. McAnalley was a convocation speaker at LTS in October 1980.

Alums Enjoy Annual Banquet

Twenty-five members of the Class of '81 stood to represent this year's graduates and to be welcomed by newly-elected Alumni/ae President Evelyn Aurand.

The reception of the newest LTS graduates was one feature among many highlights at the April 22 Annual Alumni/ae Banquet.



Mr. Hengen and Mr. Baum

W. Scott Hengen III called the group together, said his thanks and goodbyes

In Memoriam

J. Donald Paine ('53)

The Rev. J. Donald Paine, pastor of St. John's United Church of Christ, Slatington, Pa. for 17 years, died February 24, 1981. He was 52. Following his retirement last year, Rev. Mr. Paine and his family moved to Lebanon, Pa.

Mr. Paine was pastor of Christ United Church of Christ, Allentown, Pa., 1952-57 and was editor of children's publication for the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. He was also a writer of Sunday school materials for International Uniform Lessons Services.

Mr. Paine was a graduate of Lebanon Valley College, Lancaster Theological Seminary and Temple University.

Born in Lebanon, he was a son of the late Dr. Howard C. and Mary (Bowman) Paine. He is survived by his widow Nancy (Matterness) Paine, a daughter, three sons and a brother.

Alumni/ae Activities Held At April Convocation

Hafer Center became the headquarters area for alumni/ae business April 21, as the grads took over the room for several hours of meetings preceding the opening of the Spring Convocation lectures.

as retiring president, and introduced Toastmaster Vernon Baum, who led the 140 persons present through a varied program. Dr. Alfred Bartholomew presented a beautiful tribute to his friend and co-worker the late Dr. George Bricker. The Arts Ensemble performed and the Allan S. Meck Award was announced. The delightful conclusion to the evening was a presentation by Lancaster's newest faculty persons David and Denise Hopkins. The Hopkins, Instructors in Hebrew and Old Testament, had their first formal introduction to the alumni/ae as they presented "Sharing a Teaching Ministry."

The Meck Award to Ernest Miko was announced by Norman Bucher, representing the selection committee. Both Mr. Bucher and Mr. Miko are members of the Class of '53. Following announcement of the Award, Benjamin Griffin, pastor of Trinity Church, York, where Dr. Allan Meck had served for sixteen years before his election as Seminary President, presented on behalf of Trinity Church a permanent wall tablet for recording of the Meck Award recipients each year. The plaque-will be placed in the Lark Building.



Dr. Glasse Mrs. Shimer Mr. Miko

Retiring alum president, W. Scott Hengen III, presided at the morning Council meeting. Newly elected Council members were introduced: Linn Finger of Lincolnton, N.C.; Harold Henning, Womelsdorf, PA.; Paul Ritter, Buffalo, N.Y.; Theron Snyder, Takoma Park, MD., District of Columbia area; and Mary Wenck, Baltimore, MD.

The Council discussed the positive and negative aspects of this year's switch of alumni/ae activities from Commencement in May to Convocation in April. It was agreed that there is much to commend the April plan and that there are some other possible designs for the schedule details during the two days which might be tried. On motion it was decided to keep the alumni/ae events related to Convocation for two more years. Evaluating will go on, and another decision will be made for 1984.

In other business and reports, President James Glasse and Development Director Robert Fogal had the opportunity for greetings and the sharing of alumni/ae related financial support figures.

New officers for the Council were recommended by Nominating Committee Chairman, Charles Williman. His report was accepted. The 1981-82 leaders of Alumni/ae affairs will be: Evelyn Aurand, President; Warren Bates, Vice President; Charles Sigler, Secretary. Scott Hengen was thanked for his services as president during the last two years.

In the annual Association meeting which followed over lunch, the membership heard the resume' of Council actions from the earlier hour, adopted a revised Constitution which had been in progress for more than a year, and welcomed the officers just elected. President Evelyn Aurand expressed her appreciation for the confidence indicated by her election. "We can look forward", she said, "to a good year for LTS alumni/ae work. We shall seek to increase the support and participation of all graduates, and make a specific goal of generating regional alumni/ae organizations".

50th and 40th Year Classes Honored

Seven members of the Class of 1931 received half-century recognition for their graduation from Lancaster Seminary at the 156th Commencement exercises in May. Dean Emeritus Lee J. Gable called his class role and President James Glasse conferred the citations and congratulations. Those present were J.D. Backenstose, Professor Gable, Howard Koons, Jacob Painter, Nevin Smith, Robert Urffer and Calvin Wingert. Wilson DeChant, Harold Ditzler, George Johnson, Imre Kovacs, Sr., Harrison Lerch, Fred Lucks, Louis G. Novak, William Petre and James Wagner were not able to be present. They will receive citations by mail. The Class of '31 and their families were entertained at lunch by President Glasse following the Commencement ceremony, adjourning later to the library building for conversation and photographs.



Dr. Gable and Dr. Glasse

The Class of '41 attended the Commencement in a group. President Glasse had presented 40th year citations to the members at a dinner the previous evening. Arthur Antel, Edgar Cathers, William Coulter, Dean Feather, Warren Hackman, Woodrow W. Kern, Charles Leibig, Laurence Leonard, Albert Robinson, John Royer, Donald Schlicher, Stuart Snodgrass, and Paul Strauch were included.

Alumni/ae Notes

Paul Westcoat ('57), Conference Minister, Penn West Conference, was honored by the conferring of the Doctor of Divinity degree by Thiel College. The degree was given as part of the college's commencement ceremonies at Greenville, PA, May 24, 1981. Dr. Westcoat served parishes in Salisbury and Punx-sutawney, PA, and other Conference staff positions before accepting his present position in 1971. He has been active in ecumenical and community affairs and in United Church of Christ denominational work. He is presently a trustee of the Seminary.

Brad Lutz ('74), Pastor of St. John's UCC, Schuylkill Haven, PA, was given the Legion of Honor Award by the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, Temple University, December 7, 1980. The award is based upon service to others and nominations are offered by former recipients. The Shrine of Three Faiths, in which the Chapel is located, is dedicated to the four chaplains who went down with the troop ship Dorchester in 1943 after giving their life jackets to others.

Gayle Gerber Koontz ('77) has been named to a full-time position on the religion faculty of Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana. She is also a Ph.D. candidate at Boston University.

Chester Brachman ('32) writes that he is enjoying his 10th year of semiretirement, now living in Sligo, PA. He has handled 10 interim pastorates since retirement, as well as supply assignments in more than 30 churches.

Bill Siegel ('39) at Terre Hill, PA, received some publicity in local newspapers focusing on his special ministry of reading to the blind worked out by him and other church people in Terre Hill.

Ted Boltz ('42) at Bristol, Connecticut, is expanding on an interesting special ministry format doing dramatic interview style monologues of key bible characters complete with authentic costumes, make-up props, etc.

Bob Rezash ('55), Coshocton, OH, is chair of Ohio Conference Commission on Social Witness and Mission, and also chair of the Finance Committee of Ohio Council of Churches.

Hoyt Whitehead ('44), Keokuk, Iowa, reported his retirement in 1979 after serving in the Lutheran Church in America since receiving the STM from Lutheran in Chicago, 1957. He is however, continuing a busy schedule as interim supply.

Claude Kelly ('45), South Amherst, OH, celebrated his 35th ordination anniversary in the Southern Amherst Congregation last November.

Ted Haas ('53), Frederick, MD, reports an active ministry to the Frederick County Correctional Institutions. As a result, Ted has been appointed to the Planning Committee for a new multi-million dollar county correctional facility.

Dale Heckman ('54), Sacramento, CA, continues working for the state of California, but is also pursuing his research and writing interests begun at LTS and continued through his Ph.D. work focusing on "Relation of Faith to Courage".

Dick Batzler ('60), Frederick, MD, of the Faith-Mt. Pleasant Charge, and the New Life Center, reports in connection with the latter ministry that he is coauthoring the book, *How to Benefit From Stress*.

Jim Fishbaugh ('64), Zwingle, Iowa, has been appointed Director of Supervised Practice of Ministry, and an instructor of Pastoral Care at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

Ed Chatley ('79), Indiana, PA, is comptroller for the Redevelopment Authority in his county, relating specifically to helping people reconstruct from flood damages-about a 7.9 million dollar project.

Sandra Fluck ('80), Lancaster, PA, taught two courses in creative writing and 20th century literature at F&M this year.

Elden Ehrhart ('42), has completed a second local church history project, this time for the Salem UCC, Rough & Ready, PA, celebrating its 150th anniversary in '80. Copies of the book, 200 + pages, are in the LTS library (Elden is from Klingerstown, PA)

Nordbeck Elected Dean of Faculty

"The Dean has an opportunity to be involved with the churches which we serve and which serve us. The Seminary and the people, pastors and churches are resources for each other. I look forward to this opportunity." Dr. Elizabeth C. Nordbeck, Associate Professor of Church History, was recently elected Dean of the Faculty for a five year term beginning July 1. She will continue to serve as Dean of Students. Dr. Nordbeck also noted the responsibilities of the Dean for internal planing at the policy level. Further, she indicated that she feels it is important for



Dr. Nordbeck

women to accept leadership roles as a responsibility to womankind and to the institutions within which they serve.

Dr. Nordbeck received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English literature from Wellesley College. She then entered Harvard Divinity School to study American literature and its religious undergirding. Becoming interested in American religious history through this project, she continued at Harvard University after completing her MTS degree to earn a Ph.D. in church history. She came to Lancaster Seminary in 1978.

Dr. Nordbeck affirms the commitment of Lancaster Seminary to preparing persons for parish ministry and fostering life-long learning. She is convinced that LTS does an outstanding job of preparing students for parish leadership, and finds it exciting to watch seminarians develop their pastoral capabilities and skills. Dr. Nordbeck is also concerned about the ministries of the laity and feels that every serious Christian should have an intentional ministry.

At the 13th General Synod in Rochester this year, Dr. Nordbeck and Dr. Barbara Brown Zikmund, Dean, Pacific School of Religion, will co-chair a symposium "Hidden Histories in the U.C.C.," which will include a presentation by Dr. Nordbeck. She has addressed a number of church groups on the subject of "New Religious Movements in America." In February she was chaplain for the Springfield (Mass.) Pastors' Study Conference. Dr. Nordbeck was Commissioned to her Seminary positions by Potomac Association, Central Atlantic Conference, on May 3, 1981.

Beth describes herself as an "antique freak", especially interested in old lighting devices. Her family home is in Maryland.

Memorial Gifts

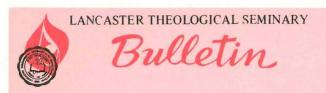
George H. Bricker

by The Rev. Frank K. Bostian Central Congregational Church, Providence, RI

The Rev. J. William Wartluft Chaplain John F. Gundlach

John E. Miller, Sr.

by Mrs. John E. Miller, Sr.



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Lancaster Theological Seminary 1981 Graduates







York, PA M.Div.



Patricia Anne Carque











Bethlehem, PA M.Div.



Winfield J. Devonshire, Jr.





James P. Dunn Hicksville, NY Cert.





Harrisburg, PA M.Div.



Newton, NC D.Min.













Frederick M. Hain



Orwigsburg, PA M.Div.



David A. Highfield



Levina S. Huber



Faith D. Jongewaard Glen Arm, MD





Fred R. Landis West Grove, PA M.Div.



Jeanne H. Linderman Hockessin, DE M.Div.







Louise K. Meckes Lancaster, PA





S. Ronald Parks York, PA



John B. Paterson Norfolk, VA



William L. Raker Williamsport, PA D.Min.



Newmanstown, PA



John R. Richardson Havertown, PA M.Div.





Randy C. Rossman Spring Mills, PA M.Div.



Philip Sabas Millersburg, PA M.Div.





Gary A. Sickles Norristown, PA M.Div.





Lancaster, PA M.Div.



Big Rapids, MI D.Min.



Montoursville, PA M.Div.



Lawrence O. Walser, III Matthews, NC M.Div.



Virginia Beach, VA M.Div.



Donald Lee Wise Leola, PA M.Div.



Lenn L. Zeller

Howard Ronald Whitebred