



the Seminarian

150 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CHURCH

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THE SPIRIT OF ACTION

In response to Wednesday's town meeting, the Spirit has moved me to share the following brief, yet hopefully meaningful thoughts. I found the meeting interesting, however, I felt we - as a group - kept talking in circles, an occurrence I have sensed ever since October of this academic year.

Without a doubt, there is the potential and need for all members of this community (administrators, faculty, and students) to relate in a manner more consistent with the teachings and example of Christ. In this community, some people feel neglected, some hurt, some left out, some oppressed, some powerful, some insecure, some happy, some ill, some confused, some unanswered, many feeling all of the above. To negate these feelings, to yell peace, peace, where there is no peace is insensitive and an insult to each other and to God.

I feel it urgent to consider how we might cooperate more meaningfully. One-to-one relationships, committees, and special groups all can and have functioned in the past in negotiating contrasting views, interests and demands. I, personally, see faculty/seminarian committees as helpful and indeed one of the segments that should be a part of the seminary structure. Perhaps, at the next town meeting, we can take a stand, decide what we want, and put our wishes into action.

To say the Spirit will guide us, that Jesus is the center of power, that love is our goal - and stop at that, both confuses the issue and uses the concept of the Spirit quite recklessly. A time comes when we must carry through on what the Spirit tells us, when we must say "Amen" in action, not in words alone.

As a commuter, the Spirit moves me to desire to attend classes every day, yet I

still need my car, or a similar vehicle, to get to the seminary. While we certainly must be guided by the Spirit in functioning as a seminary community, we must also develop and use visible and reliable vehicles in getting where we are going

- Todd Snyder

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TOWN MEETING

It was encouraging to see over 50 people in attendance at the town meeting Wednesday afternoon, for the discussion of the faculty/seminarian committees. The date for the next town meeting has not been finalized, but when it has been decided on, adequate publicity will be spewed forth concerning the next meeting time, place, etc. Perhaps at the second meeting, specific arrangements will be made concerning the use of committees. It is hoped that all who were in attendance at the first meeting will be present at the second, along with all others who were unable to be present this Wednesday. There has been much talk about what went on in the meeting - some very positive feedback, and some very negative. Many thanks to all who participated, and we hope you will be in attendance to express yourselves at the next meeting.

- Lee Jessup, for
the SCC

I believe that it is not good to have chaplains under military control. I have expressed the following reasons:

- It may tend to divide the chaplains loyalty between obedience to God and obedience to country.
- It may tend to imply that Christ judges persons by what nation they belong to.
- It may be an affront to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Yet, I believe that the men and women of the armed forces need ministers of their respective faiths.

The following is from a document prepared by the Peace Project Committee of the National Association of Laymen in April, 1971. It suggests a way out of this dilemma.

"Chaplains (should be) under a non-military governing board made up of representatives appointed from all denominations and faiths (in agreement). This board would:

- Set the quota of chaplains required from each denomination or faith...
- Assign chaplains to their station of duty.
- Control and administer the payroll of chaplains....
- Establish an efficient and unrestricted channel of communication with all chaplains...to accomplish immediate reporting of grievances and atrocities.

"Chaplains (would)...have immunity from the Uniform Code of Military Justice and from reprimand due to the nature of their counselling.

"Chaplains (would)...have accommodations and privileges comparable to (civilian ministers).

"Chaplains (would have)...the protocol of equals when dealing with officers.

"Chaplains (would)...have no military rank and no military uniform."
(IDOC-Internationsl, No Am Ed, 29/5/71)

I urge that this or similar plans be considered by churches. A Christian message unaltered by national interest will be heard in the military only when chaplains themselves can control that message. As it is now, the chaplain's commanding officer, not the chaplain, is "responsible for the religious life, morals, and morale of the command".
(AR 165-20)

Fred Barker

As I mentioned last week, there will be displays and demonstrations in the HUB during the two days of the festival. Now, as well as needing your help by participating in sharing your arts, crafts, and handiwork with us, we also need your help to make sure that our items on display will remain with us and not disappear.

For this we would like to set up our own little "security system." The HUB is being locked at 5:00 PM now, and this will be the case during the festival, except for the times when other activities will be in there. But we would like to have someone to be there in the HUB at the other times during the day, when the activities are not going on.

I will be posting a schedule of the times that people are needed to be there in the HUB, after the Easter break. I hope you will want to help out in this way, too, in order to assure the safety of our items. Thank you.

Peggy Wetzel

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THE CONQUERING CHRIST

They nailed Him to an ugly cross
That bleak and dreadful day;
And thought forever from their midst
They'd driven Him away.

But three days passed, and He arose,
Triumphant o'er the grave,
With Hell's keys in His mighty hands,
And wondrous power to save.

And He ascended to His throne,
The Spirit to send forth,
That man no more alone should be,
And every life have worth.

He's coming back some golden day,
And victory shall He bring.
For He'll be conqueror when He comes;
Our Lord, our coming King.

by J. Melton Thomas

contributed

by ASW

REPLY, FINAL

I hope we are finally winding up this never-ending barrage of words about the chaplaincy. Since Fred was good enough to summarize his main points, I'd like to take this opportunity to do the same.

I believe we need a chaplaincy that is a ranked position in the military system, with all the rights and responsibilities that accompany such a position. To establish this necessity, I've stated the following:

1. A rankless chaplain is a powerless chaplain; lower ranking men need the clout that a commissioned officer can wield in their behalf.
2. To serve your country - if your country in a basically just society such as ours - is not pitting service to the nation against service to God. It is rather service to God through service to the nation.
3. This country is a good, just society. It is not the only nation worth defending. It is not especially favored of God (in the sense of a "chosen people"). It is an honorable calling to serve in the forces that protect this nation and our way of life.
4. This country is not a Christian country; it is a religious country. To serve God in the uniform services is not to violate the first amendment, which refers to the establishment of a state religion; it is to serve those persons who seek spiritual guidance, moral support, or just a sympathetic ear to listen to their troubles. To ban the chaplaincy as contrary to the first amendment, this nation would have to adopt an official position of agnosticism. Instead of "In God We Trust", our coins would be stamped with a question mark. Neither seems likely.

To these points, I would add one final comment: no military person who understands the function of the chaplaincy would ever ask that they be rankless and uniformless. A chaplain gives up a measure of his freedom, as do all soldiers, so that all of you who bask in the academic sunlight of a free land can continue to do so in safety. It is paradoxical that such must be the case: that soldiers must surrender a bit of their freedom (e.g., the freedom to refuse to follow lawful orders) in order to protect your freedom. But there is a precedent for self-sacrifice somewhere in the New Testament, I believe.

I ask and urge churches: do not allow the anti-military mania which has swept our country in the wake of Vietnam to disarm and water-down an institution as vital as the military chaplaincy. For I tell you,

brothers and sisters, that a chaplain as a ranking military officer can do more than just proclaim the Gospel; he can wield the power needed to relieve suffering and combat injustice in that strange, authoritarian world in which we soldiers have chosen to live.

- Tom Schreck

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From the desk of Dr. Jessup, zod.

In the past few weeks, it has come to my attention that near-perfect displays of wing-wang jargon has passed the lower abdominal muscles of some of our best Xerox test-takers. This emotional absurdity has not gone unnoticed by the upper-eschalon dictators of the halls of Monty Zuma, and to speak about things like this at this time would be nothing more than mere tiger waste. Of course, if one were to two, than three four, shut the door, but who really gives a damn about those kind of people anyway.

"May the sewers of Rangoon back up into your breakfast," said Poe to his insurance agent one night when he was looking at a bright green blackbitd.

- Dr. J.

office hours 4 to 3,
fourth inning

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LOST: ONE UMBRELLA

Yesterday, while at the town meeting in the Library, someone mistakenly picked up my umbrella. Would you please check to see that you have the right umbrella in your closet, or whether you may have mine, by mistake? The umbrella is black, with a wooden cane handle, and a push-button device for raising the umbrella. If you find you have mine, please return it to me at Nevin-104. Thank you.

- Jim Werner

TOM SHRECK, I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE A GOOD
MILITARY CHAPLAIN.

I can't believe you would compromise your faith or beliefs so much, that you would advocate what was written in last week's Seminarian article.

In opposition to what was in that article I would affirm:

1. No person has greater power than that person who ministers in the name of God, inspite of any institution to which that person is a member.
2. To minister properly one need hold no rank or position, but he only needs to love both God and man.
3. A military chaplain, who assumes rank in the armed forces, has added no additional power or authority to his position, than that which he had acquired as a child of God.
4. In fact, in this acquisition of rank the chaplain has instead yoked himself to the unconstitutional authority of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, instead he has bound himself to a caste system which is at best dehumanizing, and he has instead sold himself to a power system whose primary function is to preserve institutions not to preserve the respect, honor and uniqueness of each human life. Within this power system the human life is instead wasted as a tool of the system.
5. You ask whether I can take orders from people with whom I may disagree, if I can listen to anguish and not sit in judgement, and if I feel the need for a defense establishment...I reply that as an individual who must live firstly by his conscience and desires a right to disagree; that as a veteran who must one day be judged himself, and that as a child of God who finds my fortress of defense in him, I decline your offer of a military chaplaincy and in fact condemn this rank military chaplaincy as it now stands.

- Art Grahe

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"DAID IN HEAH, DAID BUHD ; HUNT DAID

The situation with the Chaplaincy debate puts me in mind of the last time I went quail shooting with Lady, in Georgia. I had about enough birds to make a meal, and Lady pointed a single from the last covey rise we'd gotten. I walked in and she pushed the bird into the air; and, it bein' late in the day, and me bein' a little tired, I reckon I didn't quite have it centered when it went down. So, Lady had to hunt around while I encouraged her some, by tellin' her, "Daid, in heah, Hunt daid." I had to talk Southern, because Lady was a Southerner. We found the bird still floppin', and she fetched it and I wrung it's neck. Now, I know I shot down that debate, but it's still floppin' round somewhere's and I haven't got Lady to fetch it to me so I can wring its neck.

- Texas Brown Hat
(Phil Carr)

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READING THE NEW TESTAMENT TOGETHER

I'm interested in starting a small group to read in the Greek New Testament together. It would be neither a "class" nor a Bible study-prayer group, but an informal, leisurely translation of texts and discussion of their meaning. Three of us have already started on the First Epistle of John. If you would like to sharpen your translation skills and trade ideas, join us next Wednesday from 12 to 1 p.m. in A-207. Bring a sandwich.

- Bob Webber

RABBIT ROMP

Don't forget Bunny Day, Saturday March 22 on the lawn in front of the Academic Building. We will meet in the Quad at 10 A.M. Adults must be accompanied by a child or a note from a child. In case of soggy fur, the rain date is Sunday March 23, same locations, 2 P.M. We hope that we don't have to "egg" you on to ensure your participation. There won't be as many "yolks" without you.

A. S. W.

ARE WE JUSTIFIED?

I would like to agree with Don Wetzel's letter of concern that the concept of a seminar abroad in the face of a starving world has obvious ethical implications for the Christian. I question the whole concept of the course for many reasons. My main question is, do the realized educational benefits of the trip justify this type of expenditure? It would seem that foreign culture experience might be crucial for the seminarian bound for the mission field, but LTS purportedly is oriented toward the parish which in the vast majority of cases for LTS graduates will not be a foreign culture ministry.

My question is not whether the Seminar has any value, but whether it's practical, applicable, value justifies it's being a requirement for graduation! Especially in the face of the fact that no other seminary in America (probably the world), (but I stand to be corrected on this), considers it so crucial to their Seminarians future ministry that they offer it, let alone refuse graduation without it! What is the real reason for not making it optional, or offering less expensive alternatives?

If we need inexpensive requirements at LTS that no other Seminary has, how about a Seminar in Sacrificial Giving and Self-Denial where during our leanest years we give the cost of the trip to the starving and destitute rather than pandering to our appetites for the benefits of our wealth by indulging in trips abroad. (Seminars if you like). I believe that in our culture an exercise in self sacrifice to benefit starving brothers would have a much more profound affect on our Christian life and ministry than spending our money for something most of us would like to do anyway. In conclusion, I believe it remains for the seminary to justify the Seminar abroad to the Students rather than the Student justifying why he should not be required to go. Ross Reider

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From Rob Doner: Volleyball will start March 24... It is hoped that everyone will participate.

CHAPEL NEWS

Friday : Service of Triumphal Entry.

Monday: Mr.. Duke will be preaching., and there will be distribution of Palms.

Tuesday: AM, Service of Preparation and Examination.

PM: 9:00-Community Celebration of Offices of Tenebrae and Altar Stripping, including a presentation of the sacred Cantata, "On the Passion of Christ", by David Williams, performed by the Seminary Choir.

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Response to "Are We Justified?"

This letter is in response to Ross Reider's article concerning the Seminar Abroad that appears on the opposite side of this article. I, too, agree with much of what has been said by Ross this week, and I also can understand what Don Wetzel was saying in his article last week. One thing that upsets me somewhat is the implication that Mr. Reider makes when he says, "... foreign cultural experience might be crucial for the seminarian bound for the mission field..." I for one do not at the present time consider myself "bound for the mission field", but I do believe that much can be learned about the operations of a local parish in the U.S. by looking at the operations of a local parish in another country... Ross makes many fine and wonderful statements about giving our money to the people in the world that are hungry, and I think that this is a fine thing, but perhaps a bit superficial. The giving of money in a sacrificial way is a great part of what Christianity is all about, but after that money is given, who is going to be the person to hand out the money, who is going to be the person that will see that the money goes to the right place, and what will the church's role be in all of this???? When I give money, I want to be darn sure that the money is going for food and clothing, and not to a bunch of beauracrat, political nit-wits. Therefore, people are needed in the church that know a little about the world and how it operates. I don't feel that I can obtain this kind of world view that is needed to minister to worldly concerns by spending three years on James and College Streets. Lee Jessup

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SEMINARY COMMUNICATOR - 150:24

March 20, 1974

*Open to Seminary Community

**Open to General Public

Numbers in parentheses refer to announcements which follow.

CALENDAR

Monday, March 24

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|------|
| **9:00 A.M. | - Chapel | |
| *7:30 P.M. | - ASW Lecture by Dr. Webber | L214 |
| 7:00 - 10:00 P.M. | - Night Ministry | |
| **9:00 P.M. | - Bowling | |

Tuesday, March 25

- | | | |
|-------------|---|------|
| **9:30 A.M. | - Chapel | |
| 12:00 noon | - Trustee Executive Committee | L204 |
| **9:00 P.M. | - Chapel Service of Altar Stripping,
Tenebrae Office, Choir Presentation | |

Wednesday, March 26

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|--|
| 8:00 A.M. | - Executive Cabinet | |
| **9:00 A.M. | - Chapel | |

EASTER RECESS BEGINS AFTER LAST CLASS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

Saturday, March 29

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--|
| **1:00 P.M. | - Bowling | |
|-------------|-----------|--|

April 1 - Classes Resume

(over for Dates Ahead)

DATES AHEAD

April 9 - 10 - ATS Visiting Team will be on campus
April 11 - 12 - Council For Higher Education will have meeting
here on campus
April 16 and 17 - The Arts Festival
April 19 - The Celebration Road Show
April 23 - Norman and Sandra Dietz will be in Lancaster
May 15 - Baccalaureate
May 16 - Commencement

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communicator 150:24

From the Office of Development and Communication

Seminarians who are writing letters to prospective college students are asked to complete this assignment before the Easter break. If you cannot do this, please return names to Miss Book.

LTS logos pins and tie tacks are on sale for \$2.00 in the LTS bookstore.

I returned home from Lancaster General Hospital on Wednesday following a cholecystectomy (fancy for gall bladder surgery). My post-operative week in the hospital was very smooth with no complications.

Dorothy Book put in the Communicator last week "Mr. Farrar would appreciate not having visitors for a few days...so I could get rest." I did! This week I thank many within the seminary community for a whole variety of expressions of concerns. Those expressions were appreciated! A special word of thanks to President Glasse for his special attention and concern.

I will be pacing myself remaining at home most of the time until after Easter. Next week I will receive visitors informally and have some appointments at home. Please check with Miss Book or Mrs. McCardle in the ODC office as to my time schedule. I will return to my office on a daily schedule following the Easter break (April 1).

Again, thanks for the many expressions of caring!

Lyman G. Farrar

In case you hadn't discovered it, a number of Lancaster Seminary people are featured on Theses Theological Cassettes during recent months. The December, 1974, Cassette features a segment by Doug Whiting on "A Teaching-Learning Church" and another by Tom Brown on "Effective Religious Leadership". Professor Irion is featured on both the January and February, 1975, issues of this very important Cassette series.

It is good to have members of our community receiving this kind of national recognition. Perhaps we could put all these together on a special edition of a Cassette, and use it to interpret some of the things going on here at Lancaster Seminary.

I enjoyed listening to these tapes, and am sure others in the community will want to listen to them.

James Glasse

(over)

Item of Historic Interest

Attorney Paul E. Stein, a Trustee of the Seminary and Co-chairperson of the 150th Anniversary Committee, has discovered a plaque on a building at 401 West Market Street in York. The plaque identifies that location as the place where the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church was located during its stay in York. The next time you are in York you might want to drop by and pay your respects.

James Glasse

To All Collegia

A hearing will be held on April 9, at 3 p.m., in the Hafer Center, to receive recommendations of collegia to the Collegium Committee concerning the proposed guidelines for collegium experience at LTS. Representatives selected by each collegium are urged to attend and participate. Each representative will be given 10 minutes to state the views of his or her collegium. If you have not already discussed the document or chosen your representative, please do so as soon as possible, and notify Mrs. Ober at CPDM of your intention to be represented.

Robert Duke, Chairman of the
Collegium Committee

Special Chapel Services

Tuesday, March 25, the morning chapel service will be a Service of Examination and Preparation. At 9:00 p.m. there will be a special Service of Altar Stripping, The Tenebrae Office and the Choir's presentation of "On The Passion of Christ" by David H. Williams. Wednesday, March 26, there will be a Service of Penitence and Petition at the morning chapel in preparation for Easter.

Mike Iski

Volleyball, anyone?

Volleyball will be starting Monday, March 24. I will have a schedule for all participants on Monday. Please contact me.

Rob Doner

Faith At Work Summer Internships

Faith at Work is looking for seminarians for a ten-week summer internship program with a relational parish and pastor. Experience and interest in the Faith at Work style of relational ministry is required. Please contact Mary Ruth Allis for further information. The deadline for applications is April 1st.

Mary Ruth Allis