

# Seminary News

Edition 19

Lancaster Theological Seminary

Wednesday, March 16, 1994

## COME CELEBRATE HISPANIC EMPHASIS WEEK

Members of the Lancaster Seminary community are invited to participate in the celebration of Hispanic Emphasis Week. Programs, which run from Sunday, March 20 through Sunday, March 27, involve the Seminary, as well as the wider Lancaster City community.

- Sunday, March 20** - 10:15 a.m. worship at Faith United Church of Christ, Lancaster.
- Monday, March 21** - Santee Chapel worship service, 11:10 a.m., David Mears is chapel leader.
- Tuesday, March 22** - Santee Chapel worship service, 11:10 a.m., Lydia Munoz is chapel leader. Special music by Tito Cevallos. Ms. Munoz is the fiancée of Lancaster Seminary student, Willie Caraballo. Mr. Cevallos and his band are visiting the Seminary from Costa Rica.
- Wednesday, March 23** - Service of Word and Sacrament, Santee Chapel, 11:10 a.m., Dr. Fran Ringer, emeritus professor of theology and ethics at Lancaster Seminary, is chapel leader. Mr. Cevallos will provide special music, and the cross-cultural group which recently visited Central America will assist with the service.
- Thursday, March 24** - Community Hour, 11:10 a.m., Mayer Commons, "Rhythms of Life and Your Worship: The Role of Liturgy Built from Everyday Events," will be presented by Mr. Cevallos.
- Sunday, March 27** - 11:00 a.m. worship at El Redentor United Methodist Church, Lancaster. 6:00 p.m. worship at First Assemblies of God, Lancaster.

## LAST CALL FOR STEWARDSHIP WORKSHOP

If you haven't yet signed up for the Harwick Workshop on Biblical Stewardship, Friday, March 18, do it now. The event, "*Pastor as Encourager of Generous Giving*," will be given at Hafer Center from 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. There's no cost for students, faculty or staff. To register or for more information, see Barbara Stephens, Office of Continuing Education, Lower Level Lark.

## COOK LECTURE COMING UP

"*A Sacred Trust: The Public Role of Religious Buildings*" is the title of the 1994 Cook Lecture to be presented in Santee Chapel, Thursday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. Robert Jaeger of Partners for Sacred Places in 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.



## COME CELEBRATE CELTIC AMERICAN HERITAGE!

*A special service in Santee Chapel on March 17, 11:10 a.m., will mark Celtic American Emphasis Week at the Seminary. Speaker is the Reverend Jim Skimins, pastor of First Presbyterian*

*Church, Carlisle, whose presentation is titled, "The Celtic Alternative." A highlight of the service will be the singing of the hymn, "St. Patrick's Breastplate," by members of the community.*

**Registration Week  
March 21 - 25, 1994**

## 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 titles being added on each day of the sale.

## SCC ELECTIONS

Officer elections for the Seminarian Community Council for the 1994-95 academic year will take place from Monday, March 21, through Friday, March 25, in the Library between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Ballots will be found in Shirley Wallace's office. Please be sure to cross your name off the registration list as you submit your ballot into the box. Most importantly, remember to vote. Your opinion counts!



## COMMENCEMENT UPDATE

### 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.

### COMMENCEMENT USHERS NEEDED

Two worship schedules are scheduled for Commencement Day, May 14. The Service of Word and Sacrament at 8:15 a.m. in Santee Chapel is designed by a committee from the graduating class. This service tends to be smaller, more intimate and would be comparable to a baccalaureate service. Just prior to the service, Certificates of Appreciation are presented to those designated by the graduates as being supportive of their theological education.

The Commencement service, held at 11:00 a.m. at Church of the Apostles, is open to the public. The worship service is accompanied by an organ and brass choir. An academic procession with faculty, administrators, preceptors and trustees adds pomp and majesty to this colorful service. Come as an usher this year, and get a preview of your own special day.

Ushers are needed for both services. See Mary Lin in the President's Office if you are interested in volunteering for either or both!

## YOUTH EVENT PLANNED

"For the Sake of a Call...Kaleidoscopes," a special event for high school age youth, has been planned by the Admissions Department for Saturday, April 9. The program explores such issues as...what is a vocation - a call; how can Christian faith be part of the high school, college and job experience. A panel with representatives from the church, high school and college communities is one of several activities planned for the day. The event, the initial Kaleidoscope program, is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Continental breakfast and lunch are included. Registration deadline is March 28. If you know youth in 9th, 10th and 11th grades who would be interested, please see Kecia McMillian, Office of Admissions.

## PROF. LEE BUTLER LEADS CHAPEL

Wednesday, March 16 - 11:10 a.m.  
Service of Word and Sacrament  
Santee Chapel

### 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.

## ALUMNI/AE & COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES

### Friday, May 13, 1994

12:30 p.m. Lunch for graduates (guests of the Seminary) - Church of the Apostles  
1:30 p.m. Commencement Rehearsal at Church of the Apostles  
3:30 p.m. McCauley Lecture - Santee Chapel  
5:30 p.m. Alumni/ae Day Social Hour  
6:30 p.m. Annual Alumni/ae Banquet - Hotel Brunswick

### Saturday, May 14, 1994

8:00 a.m. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation - Santee Chapel  
8:15 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament - Santee Chapel  
9:15 a.m. Social time  
9:30 a.m. Graduation Picture  
10:15 a.m. Leave for Church of the Apostles  
10:30 a.m. Academic Procession forms at Apostles  
10:50 a.m. Academic Procession will be led by the Marshal  
11:00 a.m. Commencement  
1:00 p.m. Approximate conclusion of Commencement Service

# President's Page

## Fear and Grace

One of the projects I have been working on is to chart the differences between liberals and conservatives. This has gotten complicated because while most of the traditional descriptions still apply, they also need qualification. For example, many argue that conservatives affirm a fixed authority and liberals claim an open-ended concept of authority. But this does not explain why most conservatives will concede the practice of divorce. So I have been making a list of other factors.

Of the four or five I have identified so far, one is a person's underlying fear. Since I believe we operate out of what we love, as well as what we know, it follows that what we fear or even hate will enter into our evaluation of particular issues. My impression is that in general liberals and conservatives fear different things. Conservatives tend to fear chaos whereas liberals tend to fear repression. These tendencies connect with other preferences by the two camps. Conservatives tend to see freedom as the maintenance of the social order and traditional values, whereas liberals tend to see freedom as self-expression. For conservatives the primary threat to social order is things coming unraveled. For liberals the greatest threat to self-expression is external forces that repress individual development. For example, if you take the issue of multi-culturalism, conservatives get nervous because they perceive in this affirmation of many cultures a relativism leading to chaos. By contrast liberals are more accepting of multi-culturalism because it signals liberation from an ostensible uniformity of culture, which tends to be the imposition of white, middle-class European points of view. Since the word multi-culturalism conjures up such radically different fears, it is very difficult for each to understand the other when they debate the topic.

So what does this have to do with theological education? It might be a helpful way to understand why different students have very different reactions to the same educational experiences. While it is always precarious to speak for all faculty and the institution, let me risk saying that Lancaster's education has been informed by two basic themes from the Bible and the Reformation: One is the prophetic theme which is always restless and critical in the face of the status quo, always cautious about identifying God with present-day culture and the current state of things in society or the church. The second theme is an affirmation of faith, seeking to reappropriate the tradition and the Bible for our time and place. Jesus' simple declaration at the beginning of the Gospel of Mark expresses the two themes: repent and believe.

For those more content with the present social order in society or the church, a call to repentance and/or critical inquiry is seen as a threat. The curriculum is perceived as a descent into chaos. How can you keep the faith if you question the tradition? For those who are refugees from the warfare of the world, who have known the repression of authoritarian and close-minded systems, the critical side of theological education is most welcomed. They are now given permission to be critical and also to name the demons that have oppressed them up to this very day. But they get nervous when we start talking about reappropriation of the faith. It's that business of having to write the credo that arouses fears of new forms of repression. So depending on your spiritual history, as well as your current state of mind, you will probably react in very different ways to theological education at Lancaster. One student might declare that this place is destroying faith and on the way to chaos, while the other will declare that this place is way too traditional and simply a new form of repression.

It is hard to judge the statements because they are really about the students and not the seminary. They represent what different persons love and fear. Both students fear that the curriculum is threatening, but for different reasons. One sees everything disintegrating, the other sees a reimposition of external authority.

Given our Biblical and Reformation heritage, it is natural and necessary that theological education affects us--at different stages in life or different days of the week--in these two ways. The gospel is always a radical judgment against the world; the gospel is always a call to faith in a new time and situation. I do not see how you can have theological education without anxiety, because genuine questions from either side do raise legitimate fears regarding chaos and repression. This is to suggest that the two fears are legitimate. You cannot read the Bible without at times feeling undercut by judgment or uneasy about the loss of one's freedom. There are times in our own lives as well as in the life of our culture that we are definitely threatened by chaos or repression. To have a curriculum that did not arouse these two fears would be one very lukewarm--and probably most unfaithful.

Last week it was pointed out to me that the new biography of John Calvin argues that Calvin was anxious about both fears: his concern for order reflected a deep anxiety about chaos; he also had a high anxiety about imprisonment (i.e., repression). I always knew I liked Calvin! Perhaps in this man who worries about two things rather than one, we have a model for theological education.

Peter Schmiechen

# Bulletin Board

## Thank You!

Thanks to the Seminary community for your caring, concern, cards and calls during my recent hospital stay.

Shirley Laukhuff

## ELAINE WARD AT MORAVIAN SEMINARY

Elaine M. Ward, writer and storyteller, who was the Lancaster Seminary's writer in residence during her MAR studies here (she graduated May 1993) will be speaker at Moravian Theological Seminary on Friday, April 8, at 12:00 noon. Elaine, who endowed the Ward Lectureship at Lancaster, is author of *Storytelling - With Stories to Tell and Bread for the Banquet*. Her lecture at Moravian Theological Seminary is titled, "Singers of Life: The Art of Storytelling." Cost for the session is \$35. Deadline is March 30, and registrations may be sent to ECCE, Moravian Theological Seminary, 1200 Main Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018, 610-861-1519.

## SINGERS NEEDED FOR EASTER SERVICE

Singers are needed for the Easter Worship Service at the Long Home (three blocks from here), 2:30 p.m., April 3. We usually sing four or five hymns and would like a few accompanying voices for the Easter Service. Please call David Pendleton, 717-394-9640.



## SPRING CONCERT AT McCASKEY

The McCaskey High School Vocal Ensemble will present a spring concert on April 2, 1994 at 8:00 p.m. in the Fulton Opera House. The Ensemble is attempting to raise money for a trip to England and a chance to appear before the Queen. Tickets are \$20.00 per person. For more information, please call 392-1935.

## NOTE COURSE TITLE CHANGE

"Linking Generations in Ministry" is the new name for the course, PL300, on ministry with older adults taught by Kent Groff, coordinator of geriatric ministry at Lancaster Seminary, in the Fall 1994 term. The course was formerly called "Ministry With Older Adults."

## STUDENT/STAFF EASTER HOLIDAY

There will be no classes for students during Holy Week, March 28 through April 1. Classes will resume on Monday, April 4.

This year members of the staff will begin the Easter holiday on Wednesday, March 30, at 4:00 p.m. The Seminary will be closed Holy Thursday and Good Friday and will reopen on Monday, April 4.

## WOMEN'S CLERGY GROUP MEETS

The Women's Clergy-Seminarian Mentor Group will meet on Friday, March 25, at 1:00 p.m., St. Paul's UCC, Lionville, to discuss issues of women in ministry. If you need directions, contact Liz Bell or Ann Kemper (in the Library).

### TAKE NOTE . . .

**Deadline for Financial Aid**

**Applications is 4/15/94**

**East day to register for classes is**

**3/25/94**