

# *The Seminarian*

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ON MARCH 14th CHAPEL WILL BE HELD IN THE NAHER CENTER.

One of our students, Mr. Reynolds Schenke, will make a slide show presentation, entitled "To Cast A Shadow". Reynold has spent several years developing this presentation and has invested a great deal of time and money. He has made several presentations to local churches in the area and has received excellent reviews. The show tells the story of the birth and growth of a small church, of a people and a society. The story unfolds in Southern Lancaster County. It is a fascinating tale of how it was in the beginning of our land, how the people worshiped, how they survived, and how they grew together in small communities. Most slide show presentations are boring, but I think you will find that Reynold's audio-visual production to be rich with creativity, radiant with beauty and full of spiritual content. I urge the members of the community to take advantage of this opportunity. Reynold is quite adapted at working with audio-visual equipment, in fact, he has customized some of his three thousand dollars worth of equipment to produce some special effects that are not attainable with standard factory products. He will be available to talk with interested people concerning the production and the customizing of equipment.

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Dear Editor:

I appreciate your article in last week's paper. Your spirit of openness has inflamed in me that same spirit. I, too, have observed many 'things' on this campus which cause me trouble. I wish to concentrate on the stewardship aspects, though.

The thermostat in my apartment is guilty of having been set at 80 degrees. This was done against my will (as if anyone has a will around here). It seems as though the heating system only works if the thermostat is set at 80°. Naturally, my apartment gets rather warm, and my wife and I sweat (perspire) at night, in the middle of winter. In the name of stewardship (and a good night's sleep), I have lowered the thermostat to 76°. Why can't this institution fix the heating system, or the thermostat, in the name of stewardship? Another thing that can be done is the remodeling of the windows, so that storm windows can be used to keep the heat in. This would save on the heat bill (but the idea is too simple.)

I must admit, we do practice stewardship around here; though in my opinion, it is rather unusual. The first example comes from Richard's Hall (the thorn in the side?). I have discovered a practice there that no one has been able to explain why it occurs. In the name of stewardship (I guess that's why?), the residents are issued only one sheet per week. They are told to take the top sheet and put it on the bottom, and to put the new sheet on the top. This system goes on week after week. Now, I appeal, to the faculty, administration, trustees, and fellow students (those not in Richard's Hall), Does anyone out there not realize how ridiculous this system is? Does anyone out there believe that when one sleeps, the body touches only the bottom sheet, and only it gets dirty? Does anyone out there use this system at home? But, this system is used in the name of stewardship (and to keep prices down). I appeal to the students in Richard's Hall to bring your top sheets in and give them to a faculty or administrative member to use at home for a week. I mean, under this system, the sheets would be clean, and they would not be afraid to use them. (It's probably an unrealistic goal.)

The second example is in the renovating going on. There are plans to build a plexiglass covering over the sidewalk from the library to the Academic building. I have heard the figure \$50,000 as the cost of the ceiling. I have seen the model and question the intelligence of such a decision on two points. Anyone who has walked on the sidewalk realizes that the wind blows alot in that area of campus. In inclement weather, the covering will keep the sidewalk and those on it dry, only if the wind doesn't blow. Otherwise, the covering is useless. The only time we can be assured that it will work is when it is sunny outside, in which case it is useless. The second point is: who is going to clean the top of this elephant? We do have bird friends who fly above, and I can imagine looking up and seeing blotches of droppings. What an unusual stewardship adaptation! We have built something to see the underside of bird droppings, snow flakes, raindrops, leaves, etc. (as if they look differently from the underside). Who knows? We may provide a useful service to science. Stewardship (?), I doubt it.

I have heard a counter plan which makes more sense than the covering. The seminary ought to go out and buy 300 umbrellas. Issue one to each member of the community, have the left overs for friends, and save anywhere from \$43,000 to \$48,000. (But again, this program is too simple). Sounds like better stewardship to me, but what do I know.

I appeal to the members of this community to think about these, and other stewardship practices going on. Remember, the only ones we can hurt are ourselves.

Shalom,  
Tony V.

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Part two of the series.

### CABIN FEVER???

Now this time of year inevitably brings sharper criticisms than other times of the year. Why? Well, for one thing, we've been shut up over the winter and patience with Person Nature wears thin. There are few times where a nice walk will suffice to calm yourself down. The only thing that goes down is your whole body on the ice. And there are lots of other reasons. But does that negate the criticisms? Never. It may add weight to them, or rather, it should add weight to them.

People sometimes become disgustingly honest during these times. And I like to listen. The year is over half over, anticipation of spring and summer begin to add to the impatience and bam! Let me out of this hole! I don't mean to press this to the extreme, but there is a message there. It is ignored because we all know that it has a lot to do with the time of the year. So, we let it ride for awhile.

Ah yes, then spring begins to spring and green replaces brown and blue is in the bushes as well as the sky and all is well. We are re-born and take pleasure in the season. We become blind to some of the problems which personally were traumatic a few weeks before. Those problems were not so bad after all.

Yuch! How can that be? It is always assumed the problems were false problems or that a personal binge of some sort was in the midst. But yet they return and return. Spring is always going away again just as the criticisms come back again. But the heat is off for awhile.

Is it not odd that every year the same criticisms erupt? And why are they ignored? It is typical of the actions and reactions we experience. Being nice so as not to be honest. I'm sorry, but that is not Christian. There are many temples which need to be cleared. Many small problems of the past have blossomed into crises for the reason of ignoring them. Cabin fever? No way!

Love, Al Mann