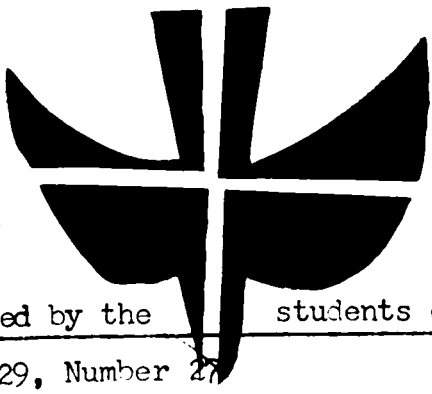


the



# seminarian

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## HE IS RISEN! HE IS HERE!

As we mourn the death of a great man and an inspiring leader, Martin Luther King, the reality of suffering and death stands out sharply. Christians throughout the world who think,, these days, of our Lord's humiliating death are further saddened by the cruel and senseless assassination of one of His children and one of our brothers.

To read the Bible as far as the twenty-seventh chapter of Matthew's Gospel is to remain in sadness, grief, and despair for Jesus and for those who follow Him to such an inglorious end. But you and I and all Christendom have read the next chapter as well. We have finished the script, and we know that Death does not appear in the final act.

The Easter announcement "He is risen!" resounds with the message that God in Christ has conquered death and that He holds out to us the gift of life. Death, though real indeed, has lost its sting; the final enemy, while he remains that, has been overcome. And so we look to the day which will come like a thief in the night -- suddenly and unexpectedly -- the day on which God will raise all the dead to life. It will be a glorious day when the Lord comes again: the archangel will cry out, the trumpets will sound! Then there shall be a new time--a time of  
(cont. p. 2)

### STUDENT BODY MEETS - MAKES RESOLUTION

On Thursday, April 4, there was a student body meeting held during the Convocation Hour. The agenda of the meeting consisted of three major concerns of business:

- (1) The acceptance of a resolution that students at the seminary would be urged not to work for employers who discriminate against persons on the basis of color or race.
- (2) The acceptance of constitutional changes brought about by the inclusion of an Intern year in the curriculum. The changes concerned election procedures, centering on the qualifications of students holding the various student body offices.
- (3) Date and place for the student body election are determined.

The first item on the agenda of business caused much debate and inter-

(cont. p. 4)

### A DREAM

The following sermon was given on April 5, 1968, in the chapel at the Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, by David Newhart.

Yes, it did happen...Andy Robin was correct...Martin Luther King had been assassinated. My God! My God! went through my mind! Immediately...above all things was it a white man? My God! YES...it was thought to be a white man. Today; Tomorrow; the summer...What the hell would happen this summer? Philadelphia, Chicago, New York, Detroit, Watts, Hough, Newark. What do you do? Where do you go? Joke about Australia just to take the immediacy away, but it really isn't an answer.

The TV news comes in and you watch it, you hear the story, you see the people, you see KING...the night before he said: "I just want to do God's will... and He's allowed me to go up to the  
(cont. p.3)

# YOUTH MINISTRY

PHILADELPHIA-(PRT)-Responsibility for youth work in the Lutheran Church in America will be in the hands of a new Commission on Youth Ministry composed half of adults and half of young people ages 14-21, if the Church's executive council accepts the plan and the biennial convention approves it at Atlanta in June.

The new commission would replace both the existing Commission on Youth Activities and the Luther League auxiliary on a church-wide level. Reasons for the proposed change were expressed by the Rev. Lawrence E. Nelson, director of the Commission and executive secretary of the Luther League. "A group of adults, such as the present Commission on Youth Activities represents, charged with planning programs for the youth is inconsistent with the philosophy that youth and adults should be working together to involve youth significantly and critically in the total life of the church," he said.

The president of the Luther League, Frederick Schott, a student at Lutheran Southern Theological Seminary commented: "Auxiliaries have had their day. Young people are not responding to the auxiliary approach as they once did. It is time to show youth and adults that young people are a significant part of the church while they are young. Young people are not 'Christians in training' for some tomorrow of full participation in the life of the church as the auxiliary approach implies. They need to be involved as full partners in the decision-making process and in the action of the church."

A joint statement issued by Pastor Nelson and Mr. Schott pointed out that synods would have the option of creating a synodical committee on youth ministry patterned after the new L.C.A. commission or of creating a synodical youth auxiliary to work in cooperation with the synod's youth committee.

Congregations would be encouraged to form a committee of youth and adults to plan and supervise the total involvement of youth in the church's programs, including maintenance of the congregational youth group. The new commission would support congregational youth ministry with a variety of resources for programs and organizational procedures.

He Is Risen! (cont. from p. 1)  
complete worship of God and a time of perfect brotherhood of man. That is the message of Easter.

But there's more. He is risen! He is here NOW! The Risen Christ comes to us now. A new time has already begun. He comes seeking the afflicted and the oppressed, comforting the sorrowful and the anxious, forgiving the sinner. He lives now. Now is the unglorious time when the Risen and Exalted Lord uses His Church, the likes of you and me, to go into the waiting world. Now is the new but rather ordinary time when the Living Christ invites us to worship God by serving men. Indeed, now is the time to

let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Foster McCurley

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## MT. AIRY PLAYERS TO PRESENT PLAY 'WAYWARD SAINTS'

On Friday and Saturday, May 3rd and 4th, the Mt. Airy Players will present their third and final production of the season: "A Company of Wayward Saints."

The "wayward saints" consist of a group of comedians who do improvisations on a given theme. The characters include the Manager, Harlequin - John Shaughnesy; the Acrobat, Scapino - George Brunjes; the Old Man, Pantalone - Mark Fritch; the Learned, Dottore - Roy Lloyd; the Warrior, Capitano - Robert Sonnenberg; the Lover, Tristano - Doug Haak; the Sweetheart, Isabella - Kathy Shaughnesy; the Nag, Colombine - Joann Kniceley; and the Tart, Ruffiana - Ginny Brunjes.

Because it is a comedy, this presentation offers a change from the Players' usual fare. The play will be presented in the Library of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at 8:15 in the evening. All are invited.

Robert Sonnenberg

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ATTENTION MIDLERS AND SENIORS!

PLEASE RETURN SEMINARIAN FORMS REGARDING INTERN PLACEMENTS AND CALLS.

...AM (cont. from P. 1)  
 Mountain; and I've looked over and I've seen the promised land. (Amen! Amen! Brother! is heard in the background) I may not get there with you; but I want you to know tonight that we are the people who'll get to the promised land. I'm happy tonight, I'm not fearing any man... Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord." The crowd roared and Martin Luther King finished his last great public appearance except for the balcony of a Memphis motel.

The racist in our own heart scoffs: Who is King to play Moses? Isn't he simply another black pastor playing on the high spirit of the Negro and his emotions, getting them stirred up about what their promised land is and who will get there first? But for those who claim to be disciples of "The Man of Sorrows" other questions form in our hearts: How do the emotions of men stand up to the truth of God? How do the dreams of men relate to the promises of God? How is death's "No" overcome by God's "Yes"?

Another Christian martyr who died in order that others might live, gave his answer this way: Dietrich Bonhoeffer said: "God will not permit us to live even for a brief period in a dream world. He does not abandon us to its rapturous experiences and lofty moods that come over us like a dream. God is not a God of the emotions, but the God of truth. Only that community which faces the truth in all its aspects begins to be what it should be in God's sight, begins to grasp in faith, the promise that is given it."

Martin Luther King was a man beyond the emotional fervor of his speeches... He spoke the truth with the power given to him by the God of truth. King faced the truth, and grasped the faith which build the community and holds the promise given to it. And he did dream.

Martin Luther King said... He said; I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal.

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave-owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their

character.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together.

Yes, he did dream...but his dreams were the vital impetus to his actions and his actions were the awakening of his dreams. What does his faith say to our times...more than can be properly said and perhaps known for a long time. What do his actions say to our times...they speak for themselves only so far as we can speak for them. When he was told by the establishment that he was pushing things too fast and told to let things cool off, he said, "We've cooled off all too long and that is the danger. There is the danger that you will cool off too much and end up in the deep freeze." And when he was told that he should put on the brakes, he said, "We've got the motor cranked up and we're moving up the high road to freedom to the city of glory. We can't afford to stop now because our nation has a great destiny; we must keep moving." He summed up his entire movement and career with three words which he said do not take any great philosophical or theological background to understand...

ALL HERE NOW

ALL the rights,  
 HERE, nowhere else,

We work NOW for those rights NOW  
 Yes, what I had been told was true... King was assassinated; but his assassination was only a small portion of his life, he faced the truth and grasped in faith the promise given to him and all mankind by God. He would never witness the reality of his dream on the red hills of Georgia with the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slaveowners sitting together at the table of brotherhood...He would never witness the reality of his dream that his four children would not be judged by the color of their skin but the content of their character...He would never witness the reality of the glory of the Lord...at least he would not witness it here and now with us...

He did move the dream as a vital impetus to his actions--He did have his actions speak for him and he spoke for his actions--He did have the faith to exalt every valley...to make the crooked places straight...And now his eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.

## STUDENT BODY MEETS--MAKES RESOLUTION

(cont. from page 1)

esting discussion. The resolution based on the 1964 statement of the Lutheran Church in America which was accepted at the Second Biennial Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, read as follows:

"Now therefore, be it resolved that the Student Body of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia urges its members not to accept employment from any institution (ecclesiastical or secular) which does discriminate against persons on the basis of race or color."

The item was placed on the agenda because one of the Seminary students had experienced discrimination on the basis of color while he was employed by a Lutheran Church in Philadelphia. This ecclesiastical institution instructed the member of the student body to no longer take part in the community survey, which was being conducted in an all white community, because of possible social repercussions resulting from this student (a native of the Virgin Islands) being involved as a representative of this church. Discussion raised many questions and suggestions, as well as bringing out different points of view on the actual discrimination itself. The resolution was adopted by a unanimous vote. Another motion was made and accepted that a letter be sent to the pastor involved, indicating the position of the student body, and that a committee be appointed to meet in dialogue with the pastor if he so desired.

Next the resolution concerning the Constitutional changes (see the Seminarian of April 4, 1968) was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Following this, the slate of nominees was determined. They are:

For President: John Scarafia  
Gordon Simmons

For Treasurer: Bob Karli  
Dennis O'Rourke

Lastly, the date for the elections was set for Wednesday the 24th of April 1968. The place for voting will be in the respective classrooms and Hoh lounge.

THE SEMINARIAN is published each week during the school year except during vacation and exam periods. Editorial and publishing offices are located in F Hall. Unsolicited articles are welcomed. Deadline for the next issue is Tuesday, April 23rd. Editor: Mark A. Fritch. Contributors: Dr. McCurley, David Newhart, Steve Gerhard, George Yoder, Bob Sonnenberg and Robert F. Holley.

Apr. 9 - A Memorial Service for Martin Luther King, Jr. in the chapel, 11:15 a.m. The community is invited.

Apr. 10 - Easter recess begins at the end of classes.

Apr. 16 - 23 - Choir tour.

Apr. 22 - Classes resume.

Apr. 24 - Student Body elections.

Apr. 25 - Communion, 11:20 a.m.  
Choir Homecoming Concert, in the chapel, 8:00 p.m.

Apr. 26 - The Spring Banquet, Casa Conti Restaurant, Glenside, Pa., at 6:30 p.m. Dinner choice of prime ribs or combination seafood. Tickets at \$2.50 per person are on sale until Apr. 10. Music will be provided by the Trendells. For tickets or information see Walt Messick, Ted Oswald, or Mac MacPherson.

Apr. 28 - Jazz Liturgy by the Seminary Choir at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 5:00 and 7:30 p.m.

May 3 and 4 - Mt. Airy Players present "A Company of Wayward Saints" in the Library at 8:15 p.m.

May 17 - Students who will be in the Philadelphia-Camden area this summer and who wish to preach are asked to submit dates they will have open to Mrs. Prigge by this date.

## EDITORIAL

THIS PAST THURSDAY BROUGHT GRIEF TO OUR COUNTRY IN THE INCIDENT OF THE ASSASSINATION OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BY HIS DEATH WE AT THE SEMINARY WERE TOUCHED IN A PARTICULAR WAY. ON THE SAME MORNING THE STUDENT BODY HAD TAKEN ACTION TO PROTEST DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ONE OF OUR BROTHERS WHILE HE WAS IN THE EMPLOYMENT OF A LUTHERAN CHURCH. THIS ISOLATED INCIDENT IS ONLY ONE OF THOUSANDS THAT OCCUR EVERYDAY IN OUR COUNTRY THAT CREATES THE SICK CONDITION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WHICH MARTIN LUTHER KING STRUGGLED AND FOUGHT. HIS LONG NON-VIOLENT PROTEST AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ENDED IN HIS VIOLENT DEATH ON THE BALCONY OF A MEMPHIS MOTEL. HE GAVE HIS LIFE IN PROTEST AGAINST DISCRIMINATION THAT WE FIND IN OUR MIDST. THE TIME IS LONG PAST THAT ANY INCIDENT OF DISCRIMINATION CAN BE IGNORED...IN MEMPHIS OR PHILA.