

DEC 13 1977

SEMINARY AT PHILADELPHIA

# THE SEMINARIAN

## MT. AIRY STUDENTS BECOME THEFT VICTIMS

A rash of thefts last week has caused a radical tightening of security on campus, especially in the Dorm. On Tuesday, a sweater and some cash was stolen from an unlocked room in the Dorm. On Wednesday another room was entered and a stereo receiver, tape recorder, rings and car keys were taken. Finally, on Thursday night a car was taken from the Dorm parking lot. The tape recorder and the car have been recovered. All students are adv' to lock doors and possibly to have antitheft devices installed on cars. Thefts should be reported to the Phila. Police at 911 as well as to Bud Gustafson on campus.

## ADVENT VESPERS TAKE PLACE TONIGHT

The presentation of Advent Vespers this evening will be an occasion to explore the musical heritage of the Reformation era. The performance of Advent Vespers has been taking place since 1940 and the 37th performance will begin with a half hour program of baroque music performed by the 17-member Chamber Choir at 7:30 p.m.

The Seminary Choir will follow with a program built around the Bach cantata No. 142 "Uns ist Ein Kind Geboren" (Unto Us a Child is Born) which was first performed in 1712.

Many of the Canticles and Versicles sung at Advent Vespers are from the new Lutheran Book of Worship and sung to music from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Other music will include the anthem, "In Dulci Jubilo" by Michael Praetorius, sung in Latin and German, and "Vox Clara Intonat,"

(Behold, a Clear Voice Speaks) a sixteenth century Latin piece. Sixt Dietrich, the composer, was a contemporary of Luther and his compositions were probably first performed by the church choir at Wittenberg.

The Choir was directed by Elmer E. Zieber from 1940 until 1955 when Dr. Robert Borneman began his association with the Choir as director. According to Dr. Borneman, the celebration began as a service of lessons, carols and special music held before Christmas dinner. The choir would follow the dinner with carolling at the dorms and faculty homes. The choir would conclude with a reception at one of the faculty homes.

Since the early 1970's Advent Vespers has been in the hands of the Committee on Worship and Community Life and has derived its present form. Christmas dinner at the Refectory is shared by the Seminary community and immediately precedes the musical program in the Chapel. It is suggested that the boarding students eat at the first sitting at 5:30 followed by married students, spouses, commuters, faculty and friends at 6:00 p.m.

Dr. John Reumann will be preaching at the vespers service, which will be followed by a reception in the multi-purpose room in Hagen Center at approximately 9:30 p.m.

## Coordinating Committee

- Scott Larson
- Timothy Lull
- Thelma Megill

## Decorations Committee

- Dani D'Aunay
- John Hazel

(continued)



USE OF COMMON CUP FOR HOLY COMMUNION  
NOT ILLEGAL, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TOLD

JUDITH THE OBSCURE

New York (PRT) "There is no illegality in the use of a chalice in the same common form which seems to have been employed at the Last Supper itself."

With that line of ~~an~~ information" item, the Lutheran Church in America's Executive Council accepted a report from H. Ober Hess, Philadelphia attorney and chairman of the council's Committee on Legal Matters.

And it will be presented at the 1978 LCA convention as a reply to a delegate to the 1976 LCA biennial convention in Boston who questioned church use of a common cup for Holy Communion. He submitted a resolution that stated he had made a survey of all 50 state attorneys general and numerous state directors of health departments" and learned "through even an incomplete return of replies that 'the use of a common drinking cup is prohibited in all public places'". He requested a report to the next convention.

In its response the committee informed the Executive Council:

"State attorneys general have no general power to advise the public on legal matters... the committee has looked into it carefully under the law of Pennsylvania which is likely typical of that of all states" and that "such law does not anywhere outlaw the 'common drinking cup.'"

Mr. Hess did report that the "matter of sanitation" is covered in a law which calls for thorough cleansing of glasses or other receptacles in "public eating and drinking places."

He concluded "on the face of it this measure would not apply to a church, for it has no 'patrons' and is not a 'public eating or drinking place.'"

STAFF

Editors: Marsha Jark, Barry Mitchell  
Production Manager: Gerry Sanders  
Production Assistants: Dr. White, Dave Brant, Bruce Todd, Peter Pettit  
Typists: Judith Bahrs, Peter Pettit, Paul Myers.

Many thanks to those who did their fair share and even more!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

12/14

ADVENT VESPERS

WED

12/15

6:15-8:00 pm. IAWM Rev. LaVonne Althouse and women from Eastern Baptist here for conversation and refreshments. Tappert Rm. 8:30 pm. Film: We the People in ~~the amphitheater.~~

THURS

12/16

8:30 pm. Christmas Party in the Pit. Don't forget to bring your goodies!!

FRI

12/17

An interesting thought: "It is impossible to draw important theological conclusions from the translator's ignorance." Douglas Jones

SAT

12/18

And another:

"It is almost impossible to be sane & Christian at the same time, & on the whole I have been more sane than Christian." Reinhold Niebuhr

SUN

12/19

EXAMS BEGIN

(Good Luck, all!)

MON

12/20

REMINDER: if you've borrowed books from anyone this semester, be sure to return them. Our libraries are precious to us all.

TUES

Have a joyous Christmas!!!!

Pax - Judith

## Evaluation of course and instruction.

(1) On Friday morning of this week I will distribute to each student enrolled at the seminary four copies of a questionnaire designed to measure our effectiveness as teachers. Since the purpose of the questionnaire is "to assist the instructor in her/his professional development," student responses will be examined only by the instructor(s) involved in the course.

Students are asked to use this form in addition to any other questions or questionnaires the instructor might distribute. In this way all faculty members and their courses will be evaluated according to a standard established by the area chairpersons.

The questionnaires should be filled out only after all course requirements are completed and be returned to me in early January. In line with our school policy of openness in all evaluations, students are asked to sign their name to the questionnaire. In this way meaningful dialogue can occur as a follow-up to the form itself.

(2) I would like to remind all those involved in small groups that according to the guidelines established (see Student Handbook, Page 8), small groups are to be disbanded after the first semester and members reassigned for the second semester. The group may petition me to stay together for the second semester. Therefore, unless I hear to the contrary, I shall reassign students and faculty for the second semester.

Note: Small groups normally do not meet during the January intersession.

Foster McCurley

Maintenance director Bud Gustafson has an engraving pencil available for anyone who is interested in marking valuables with his/her social security #. Please see him. Window and door stickers announcing that room contents are marked may be available soon.

## Adjustments to Library hours

The evening of Advent Vespers, Dec. 14th the library will be open only from 6-8pm. For those few of you who may not be celebrating please plan your studies accordingly. Reserve books may be checked out after 4 pm.

con't next column

## library hours (con't)

Evening library hours will cease as of 10 pm, Wednesday, Dec. 21st, until the opening of the second semester.

The library will be open 9 am to 5pm Monday through Friday with the exception of Dec. 26th and Jan. 2nd.

There will be additional "study hall" hours the weekend before final exams, but they are not scheduled at the present time.

## OPEN HOUSE at the Gustafson's!!

When: Dec. 17th 7 pm til ?

Where: 7204 Boyer St.

Who: Anybody and everybody on Campus

What: Food, Fun , Fellowship.

## Special Advent Vesper Announcement

Time to bring out your Christmas decorations! This year we will have a community Christmas Tree in the Multi-purpose room of Hagan Hall. We would like everyone here to help us decorate this tree. Help us trim this tree by bringing one decoration; think what it would look like if everybody added something! (Hints: pictures, bows, traditional decorations, Christmas cards, etc.) The tree should be up by Dec. 13th, so come and put your decoration on it!

It has been brought to the attention of the worship and community life committee that communication can always improve! A reminder might be in order that not all students here are campus residents or full time students. Whenever special announcements take place in classes or the refectory, we could help out by transmitting these to the commuting students to check and see if they have heard the news. Also, commuting students don't forget you are invited to the pit in the dorm, the refectory rooms or the oasis in Hagan Hall for places to 'congregate' when you have free time.

-Scott Larson

--Catherine Phillips is currently at home following a stress EKG in connection with congestive heart disease.

Her address: 338 West Oak Lane  
Glenolden, Pa.

Your prayers and cards would be appreciated!

The Christmas season has come upon us once more, my friends. Amidst all the shopping, gift giving and frills and cookie baking of this holiday season, our thoughts at some point turn to that special day itself—the day of the birth of our Lord-Christmas. We celebrate this day as the day of the birth of the savior of all people—who would one day die on a cross and bear all our sins, so that we might start our lives with new hope. We see Christ's birth as the great gift of God's love for his children. But there is another side to what Christ's birth means for us.

Sometimes, especially at the end of the semester when tensions are mounting, it is difficult for us to accept the loving criticisms of others and also our own imperfections. We tend to see everyone as getting down on us, picking apart everything that is said to us, and unmercifully mentally torturing ourselves for not being perfect. We can't accept our own faults. Well, for me this is exactly where I see Christ at work in our lives. He is not just the Lord and Savior of the world or the greatest gift God could ever have given us, but he is the 'Critic of Love'. He criticized the people of his day for not living their lives under God's laws and sharing God's love with all people and he still criticizes us today for those same things. But even with these criticisms and all our faults—His love is always right there for us if we'll only reach out with open arms and take it. If Christ, who was perfect, can accept us with our imperfections then we should be able to accept ourselves with them. If he can give criticism out of love, (and I believe we all can) then those criticisms can be accepted in the same vein.

Christ's birth, life and death and resurrection can help us to grow in accepting criticism with love and can also help us to grow in accepting our own imperfections and failures. Maybe this will help us to grow stronger in our Christian faith, so that when we are ridiculed and criticized for believing—we can share the joy of knowing what Christ's birth brought to the world. The Lord of Life, Savior of the world, King of Kings, Lord of Lords and Critic of Love. God's most abundant blessings to all in this most blessed season. -Nix Huseman

In France the Christmas service would not be complete if the Pastor did not tell his Christmas tale.

Here is one about a dog named Baloues;

Baloues was a smart long legged dog who was the companion of Melchoir, one of the three wise men. When Melchoir set forth with Gaspar and Baltasar, following the star, he told Baloues to stay home and wait patiently for his return because the journey would be too long for a dog. Baloues was very sad when he saw his master go but he obeyed and stayed behind. But he grew sadder and sadder as time passed and he grew impatient. Something told him that he should not miss the event that the three wise men would be witnessing. So he sniffed and sniffed, found the way his master had gone and set forth.

But how long was the journey and how tiring! He walked and walked and sniffed and walked and his paws hurt—they kept sinking in the sand and hurting on the pebbles. He would have stopped but he sniffed and he knew that the wise men had gone further and further. He knew he had to go on. His paws were being so worn by the sand and the pebbles that his legs grew shorter and shorter, but he kept walking on. On and on he went and shorter and shorter his legs grew. But at last he saw a glittering star lighting a barn and he knew his journey was over. Nearly collapsing, but very happy, he approached the barn and there they were: his master and the two other wise men kneeling beside a baby. And suddenly Baloues knew why he had wanted so much to come, he knew what made his painful journey so worthwhile and his sore, shortened legs did not hurt anymore. He came close to the baby who was smiling to him and transported with joy lied down to adore the Holy Child, the child who made him the father of a new breed of dogs, dogs with very short legs. And if you ever ask a dachshund why his legs are so short he will start telling you about his ancestor who 2000 years ago made that long journey to Bethlehem. And do not forget to put the dog in the creche near the wise men!

Helene Beguin

Merry Christmas to one and all from the Editors and Staff of the Seminarian!

## BROTHER BRUCE

In preparation for this X-mas issue, Brother Bruce (with the assistance of some dear friends) has been busy in an attempt to provide students and faculty with a specially selected gift. In the process of compiling this list, however, several comments were received which described my attempt to write this column as 'tasteless, colorless, worthless, and lacking humor.' Thank you, I am always open to receiving compliments! Keep them coming.

I apologize in advance to those persons I may have omitted and if you really feel left out, please let me know. I can always do some late X-mas shopping in January and catch the bargains. Here they are. Friends--  
Ashburn-Eng. lesson at Berlinz,  
Bolz-lifetime membership in Mickey Mouse club, Bowars-lunch with Namata, Boyd-year-round pass on Conrail, Brant-study manual info. desk at library, Fearheller-best violin made in world, Gadelunch with Peanuts, Grogan-more time with Caleb, Havel-autographed copy of his book, Henderson-out of his choice, Houck-Rockem, Sockem Robots, Jolliff-a new stereo, Koch-self pronouncing last name, La Riviere-a back shave, Larson-a cow catcher for his car, Malpica-honeymoon in Alaska, Meinschein-a car that works, Miller-stamp with 'MR' in caps, Miner-another toni perm, Myers-a week's vacation for reflection, C. Nelson-try-out with Mummies, Newmark-Earth Shoes, Ringenwald-complete set of Alvin and the Chipmunks, Rowe-copy of Albert's 'Ten Biggie Wedding Homilies', Sanders-four more small groups, Sauer-his own chair in the Bookstore, Shafer-set of pistols, Shaman-dueling shotguns, Stott-rubber gloves, Taylor-eye-glasses, Todd-new chapel organ, Wolff-permanent desk in library, Ziel-calculator for Sherry Hour, Bond-pair of socks, Peterson-moustache comb, Staller-a date with Betty Crocker, Auudreey Folly-her name misspelled and libeled in my column, Begouin-book of nursery

tales, Wagner-starch for deaconess bonnet, Witman-hotline to Bethlehem, Noel-a modelling job, Welton-a visit from Janice, Hansen-a subscription to 'American Handicrafts', Heckathorn-free babysitting during coffee breaks, Rippel-dictaphone for minutes, Luedke-extension on sermons, Pope-more dialogue with M.E., Smith-intern church with gym and football field, Wilbur-year's supply of cookie dough, Williams-'two front teeth, Filer-a good supply of typing paper for master's thesis, Jark-finding 10 great columnists like me, Anderson-another bottle of red dye #2, Bahrs-Billy Graham fill-in, Bailey-a great learning experience in D.C., Baumann-silver flute polish, Becker-continued spontaneity, Boyer-cold weather for continued employment, Breon-call to a Greek speaking congregation, Conway-a quiet X-mas at home, Cook-free alterations for winter coat, D'Aunay-bookshelves for her car, Davis-lunch with A.G.B., Dawson-new jogging shoes, Ellis-the treasurer's job, Endruschat-same gift he gave BGT, Gerber-X-mas vacation in New Orleans, Hake-St. Alfred Medal, Heckman-patience, Humphries-wall of his choice to punch in, Huseman-date with newspaper editor of her choice, Irvin-A string from a Martin guitar, Koup-an NFL soup bowl, McElderry-a white X-Mas just like..., McGill-visit from St. Mike, Michelson-one year pass on Conrail, Mitchell-garage for his car, Moyer-hair, Nelson-vacation from crazy wife Judy, Pettit-curling iron for beard, Rowan-St. Agnes Medal, Swain-rubber band for rotary engine, Walbert-Grecian Formula 44, Walck-a day with CPE3, Wallace-bookshelves, Weiss-batteries and needed equipment for VTR room, Wimmer-key to executive washroom, Beck-glass grips, Burkat-call close to St. Paul's, Combs-years supply of strawberry incense, Diefenderfer-a good night's sleep, Embley-a quiet X-mas with new family, English-try-out for the Gong Show, Hugus-round trip ticket to the islands, Jones-a lifetime of paper extensions, Matthy-a separate

# Through a Glass Darkly

by Heidi Neumark

In my dream  
I thought it was thunder  
as I woke  
to find a starling  
delirious with fear  
break through the hole  
the landlord hadn't fixed  
knocking bits of rotten beam  
and plaster onto my desk  
into my typewriter  
begonia petals batted round  
the room  
as it hurled itself  
frantic against the glass  
over and over  
against the glass  
why do you leave us here  
the window locked  
we do not have the strength  
or skill to undo  
nothing except to smash the panes  
except the rock we are too weak  
too worn to grasp or lift  
come break these panes  
that keep us from the sky  
they call us to  
come break these panes  
for we are beaten through and  
through  
heaving ourselves against the  
glass  
as hearts tense like fists  
and pound within  
come break these panes  
that ideologies  
theology  
and all our alphabets of hope  
shatter at your feet  
and we are flung  
into your clear and bracing  
silence  
like molting birds  
flocks of human faces  
shed their wretchedness  
faces fresh with joy  
fill your tree  
until branches sag under the  
weight  
of so many glorious buds

in the room  
a bird got trapped  
with no one there  
it struck against the glass  
too many times  
wind knocked out of the small  
body

unconscious  
of waiting  
motionless on the sill  
for you  
and there is no sill  
where your promise does not  
stretch

no chirp of praise  
from one so beaten

on the sill  
in Belfast Capetown Jerusalem  
Jerusalem  
and here  
smoke blackens the glass  
the sill is red  
and blood is senseless as dream  
conscience useless as deceit  
ideals of revolution  
evolution poems guns retreats  
manifestos pills and diaphragms  
gather in the corner  
cobwebs  
scraps of gauze for the wound  
that gapes  
wide as earth  
this room  
is shaken with winds  
blasted in storms  
but nothing stirs  
though it has four walls  
there is no place to lean  
though it has one floor  
there is no place to stand  
though it be wrapped in atmosphere  
like a blue kerchief  
to keep off the sun by day  
and the moon by night  
there is no air to breathe  
nothing to keep the sun  
from making ashes  
of our hair  
though it be wreathed in galaxies  
and planets whirl like petals  
round our heads  
there is no spring  
no blossoming no tree  
no light  
without your face

though we throng the continents  
there is no meeting  
without your hands  
though we have explored  
so little  
there is nowhere left to go  
without your feet  
though rivers flood our fields  
and oceans drench our shores  
dust thickens the air  
because the only water  
that does not run dry  
is on your lips  
though our hearts can open  
gates of life  
beat and whimper  
leap and shout  
there is no ventricle of song  
no chamber of passage  
where your blood does not rise  
and fall  
no groan  
where your heart does not ache

though in this room  
there are multitudes  
unconscious of waiting  
on the sill  
there is no sill to touch  
no sill to lie on  
except for one  
loose as ash  
before these blackened panes

when I was a child  
I ran through the fields  
and sang as a child  
Ladybug Ladybug  
fly away home  
but I have finished  
with childish things  
only one thing is left

your house is on fire  
your children are home  
Mazanatha  
do not abandon  
the work of your hands

Bake at 350° for 15 minutes, then  
place under the broiler for 5 minutes.  
Serve Hot.

Makes approx. 24 stuffed caps.  
Minced mushroom stems can be added  
to the meat mixture, or just slice and  
separate the stems for use in other recipes.

## Christ Child

by John Hazel

See a star now blazing bright  
over yon hill in dead of night  
See a host of heaven's best  
singing out a song so blest

For on this night a Hand would dip  
and into mankind a deity slip,  
as in a manger sad, forlorn  
Look now world, Christ Child!

Christ Child, a man soon to become  
to burst assunder a nameless tomb  
and open for all eternity  
a path of grace for you and me.

So now my friends, in this glad  
time  
forget not that child who born  
divine,  
would grow to save a dark world  
drear  
and by a cross destroy all fear.

And now with Christmastide at hand,  
praise God with that heav'nly  
holy band  
and help announce the victory,  
Christ Child is ours eternally!

### Stuffed Mushrooms Recipe

For all of you who might be looking for something special to serve at your holiday party, here it is (and for all of you who have been waiting so patiently). This little treat comes to you from Deb McConomy. For all of you who were in attendance, these little goodies were the hit of the night at Lee Diefenderfer's birthday party. Enjoy!!

- 1 lb. Italian sweet sausage
- 1/4 lb. (or slightly less) Hard Salami
- 1 egg
- Italian style bread crumbs
- 1 lb. fresh large mushrooms

Wash mushrooms and remove stems by pulling stem directly away from mushroom cap - set aside.

In a bowl, combine sausage (remove skin) and minced salami. Add egg and enough bread crumbs to make the mixture dry but still able to stick together. Mix thoroughly.

Pile the meat mixture tightly into the mushroom caps. Put filled caps, meat side up, in large ungreased baking dish or muffin tin.

CONTINUED

## ADVENT

I cannot do cartoons this year or anything fancy because I do not have the coordination in my arm or hand to do such a thing. So I am writing this note to tell you how I felt last year during the advent season.

Last year I spent my advent season at Moss Rehabilitation Hospital. Since I had just recently been admitted, I didn't go to advent vespers because I was just starting to move. But I was there in spirit. One of the students recorded the advent vespers for me and I played the tapes at my leisure. It was a beautiful service and it was my communication with the community.

The advent season was marked with an advent calendar on my wall and my wife opened the doors each day she came in. I received cookies from my visitors and as you can see I didn't gain any weight even though I kept eating them. I also received an advent wreath made out of candy from my church and it hung over my bed. Everyone was welcome to it. I also received a fruit basket from the student body and it was a great gift! I did not expect to go home for Christmas, but some of the nurses asked me if I wanted to go home. They spoke to the doctor, and he gave me a day pass. I was one of the few patients who went home, because many of the families did not understand or want their relatives to be around, since they were patients.

I remember very distinctly going home for Christmas. I was so happy. During Christmas, since many of the patients were Jewish, a rabbi bid us best wishes for the upcoming holiday season. But I thought and I knew, after the rabbi spoke, that I was just a vehicle for God's will. Then on Christmas day I remember going home for the first time since my illness. I could not talk but shared Christmas with my family. Later that day I communicated to a friend how good it felt to survive and see the Christmas season again.

The advent season of reflection

is a gift of God bestowed in His Son, Jesus Christ, and He gives each of us the power of our own humanness through His will. I think this upcoming season is a time of such preparation and reflection on what the next year will bring forth. We should be thankful for the next year.

Keith Wilbur

## ADVENT CUSTOMS

The Advent Wreath is a German and Scandinavian tradition. It can be used in the home to provide a meaningful worship center during the advent season.

Each part has a meaning all its own. The wreath as a circle is a symbol of eternity. The evergreens represent eternal life. The Advent candles arranged with the spray symbolizes life. It is the burning light, the living flame, that gives the candle its meaning.

The four white candles represent the four Sundays in Advent. The first is the Prophecy candle, announcing the period of waiting. The second is the Bethlehem candle, symbolic of the preparations made to receive and to cradle the Christ child. The third is the Shepherd's candle, which denotes the act of sharing Christ. The fourth is the Angels' candle, indicating love and final coming.

Sometimes a red or white Christmas candle is placed in the center and lit on Christmas eve. In other traditions three violet and one rose candle are used. The violet is the color of Advent; the pink or rose is lit on the third Sunday to symbolize the joy traditionally associated with that day.

The Kristkindl, like the Advent wreath, is a German custom. The word means Christ Child. We prepare for his coming by seeing and serving him in others. Each person writes his name on a slip of paper. They are put together and everyone draws a slip. The name on it is his Kristkindl. He must



THE TURNING POINT:  
A MOVIE REVIEW

For those who like ballet, this is a picture to delight the eye and warm the heart. The young dancers, Mihail Baryshnikov and Leslie Browne, are charming and delightful as dancers and lovers. They are supported in their dancing by the members of the American Ballet Theater.

The real meat of the plot action is left to Anne Bancroft and Shirley MacLaine who do their usual fine job--Bancroft as an aging ballerina and MacLaine as a former dancer now mother of budding ballerina Browne.

The story is perhaps predictable, but the acting is top drawer and the dancing is exquisite. The only big star of the dance world who does not appear is Nureyev. But there is Wilson, and really, one Russian premier dancer is about all this gal could stand.

If you'd like to escape the rigors of seminary life, and if you love ballet--omane, you'll love "The Turning Point".

Andrew Foley

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO.....

Today I caught on the radio a feature entitled "What ever happened to the Great Gilderlove?". Preparing for class in my usual "trying to get back among the living" morning mood, I unfortunately missed the specifics, but the program centered around two radio personalities of yesteryear and what they were doing today. It did cause me to realize, however, the temporariness (if there is such a word) of life. Up today, Down tomorrow, "Vanity of Vanities, all is vanity and striving after wind."

Richard Wurmbrand, the Rumanian Lutheran pastor who suffered much under the hands of the Communists, tells a similar story. It seems walking through a graveyard one night, he noticed all the headstones, "dead at the age of 43, Dead at the age of 17, Dead at the age of 21". Realizing for probably the first time in his life that there would be a time when he would be earthly no more, he sought a "Party" (like the Communists, Socialists or Republicans) that would give him life unending. He later found such a party in Jesus Christ.

Years hence people might ask:  
(con't next column)

"Whatever happened to Jimmy Carter?", "Whatever happened to Gerald Ford?" Maybe even the junior class might ask "Whatever happened to Williston Walker?" Life is temporary, even our greatest accomplishments become lost in the never-ending flood of new genius. Statues are torn down and new erected. Top stars fade into oblivion, Philosophies come and go. Nothing is permanent, except God. And that, my friends, makes all the difference!

Don't put your trust in transient things of Glory. Trust in God, he is permanent, and because of that, on that Last Day, nobody is going to ask, "Whatever happened to,..." - John Hazel

BROTHER BRUCE (CON'T)

identity, Nye-moustache, Pawluk-vacation in the Bahamas, Schantzenbach-a lavender Friar Tuck shirt (with tab off-centered), Jerge-a microwave oven, Searing-a hat, Shelly, a bottle of Geritol, Shoop-directions on how to dress himself, Werley-neck chain, Wesoman-a hair cut, Wright-a permanent voice, McCurley-a lobster dinner, Reumann-a sure chance at the \$64-000 question, Lee-bunny rabbit puppet, Jeske-4 hour class with 80 students twice a week, Lundeen-burial of nickname "Lumpy" for it no longer fits, Hughes-an enthusiastic middler class for liturgy, Bornemann-starring role in new opera, Hosea and Gomer", Bost-canteen filled with pure Phillie water for Mexico trip, Kaufman-lifetime supply of rubber fingers, Burgess-a helicopter to make traveling to Gettysburg easier, Lull-permission to take a vacation after his period of chaplaincy and Advent Vespers are ended, Krych-a house finally in order, Aden-3 free visits to Brother Bruce's office (discreet of course), Albert-infallible VTR equipment, Lehman-5 8:00 classes, White-vacation from Seminarian Project. Please leave your forwarding address so that Santa may deliver the goods on time. To y'all a blessed Christmas!!

Brother Bruce

(Brother Bruce is a regular feature in the Sunday Seminarian.)

CHAPEL IN THE ROUND  
(RING AROUND THE CHAPLAIN?)  
or (I GET AROUND?)  
or (WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN?)

Dear People Who Dwell in Darkness Wait-  
in for the Light:

On Thursday morning, after the joy and beauty of Advent Vespers, please come back to Chapel to hear our final guest preacher of the semester --- The Rev Philip Pfatteicher of East Stroudsburg State College. He is a fine theologian and preacher, and a noted liturgical scholar. Join us for Chapel at 9:40 am and for discussion at coffee hour after the service.

The final week of the semester ought to be a good time to pray and to worship - not only in the midst of exam time, but also with the confusion of these last days and the nearness of the Christmas. Come join us for daily services in the Library rotunda. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we gather immediately after dinner (at 6:15 pm) for a brief service. Special events and special music will fill the week. The dance group will perform on Monday. St. Thomas Day is Wednesday, which will be our final service of Holy Communion for the semester. The sermon will say something about "emptiness" and "lack of faith" just before Christmas.

The final service of the semester will be on Thursday morning, Dec. 22, at 8 am - before the last day of exams. We don't expect a capacity crowd, so your presence will be especially appreciated. We plan to serve coffee and home-baked goodies that morning as a special "extra" for a day when all will need it.

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Somewhere beyond Christmas lies January, that uncharted territory of Greek and trips to large cities, of Epiphany and manifestation of snow and cold and new orders of things. We're going to continue to worship four times a week in that season and to gather in the rotunda of the Library for our services (except on the night of Epiphany). You will please note carefully the worship plans for January which will be in your

mailboxes later this week. Please inform your spouses that we have one evening service per week in that season. Please note that while we usually have gathered at 5 pm, our evening services of Holy Communion are after supper - at 6:15 pm.

I would call attention to the first week that we're back as an especially important time in the Christian year. We need to savor all Twelve Days of Christmas, to draw strength from its message for the year ahead. On the last day of Christmas, Thursday, Jan 5, our guest preacher will be The Rev. Arden Krych, of St. David's Lutheran in Philadelphia. It is possible that the presiding minister for that Communion service will be his wife, our own Prof. Margaret Krych. Come and see. And on the night of Epiphany, Jan. 6, Scott Schantzenbach and Joe Coombs have planned a special service of solemn vespers for the day. That one service during January will be in the Chapel. Once again, come and see.

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When I worship this Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, it will be with a rich sense of new friends and fine experiences in recent months. Thanks to all of you - literally - who have worked hard using your gifts to lead and to enrich our worship in this semester. May you, like Mary, ponder carefully all that we have seen and heard together, and treasure these things in your hearts.

Tim Lull

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FOR YOUR DELECTATION

An excellent devotional/discussion/interest article for your consideration in this season:

Don't Pit Santa against Baby Jesus  
in Marriage and family living  
December 1977

take care that the Kristkindl does not know who he is. Each day you do something special for your Kristkindl. The names can either remain the same or change the next week of Advent.

Symbolic Plants for the Advent

Wreath:

Lavendar is an herb beloved by Mary and represents purity and virtue. Put a dozen freshly cut top sprigs into the evergreen.

Sage is an herb of immortality and domestic happiness. Flatten it with your hand--the leaves tend to curl--and set at least six clusters about the wreath.

Horehound is from Palestine and offers a wish of good health.

Blue-green Rue is a symbol of virtue and supposedly banishes evil and bestows second sight. Arrange at base of the candles.

Thyme is a manger herb and a symbol of bravery.

Rosemary for remembrance is the herb that changed its flowers from white to blue in Mary's honor.

Gabriel, "our Lady's bedstraw," is another manger herb from Palestine. --Linda Sauerwein

END OF SEMESTER REPORT FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF STUDENT BODY

Major Activities:

1. Student medical program
  - a. Student is no longer required to stand in hallway and report malady.
  - b. Continued dialogue between Dr. Bost, Dr. McCurley, and Mark Wimmer to determine the extent of information necessary to ensure proper use of program.
  - c. The hope is to establish broad categories to cover illnesses incurred.

2. Vesper programs at the Lutheran Deaconess Home in Gladwyne were arranged and conducted by members of the Exec. Comm. The Worship & Community Life Comm. has agreed to assume responsibility for second

semester services.

3. Student recruitment: Nancy Anderson was appointed student contact person for Don Myrom. Her major duty will be to arrange for living quarters & class visitation for prospective students staying overnight.

Marie Jerge was appointed chairperson of the Pre-Seminary Retreat Committee. The primary responsibility of the committee will be to make arrangements for the Pre-Sem visitation retreat to be held March 12-14.

4. Information is being sought dealing with the Seminary's pension plan for staff members.

5. A Constitutional Revision Comm. has been appointed. Its primary responsibility is to update the student body constitution, then to present it for student body approval at a special meeting to be held early second semester.

6. Hagan Key policy: For programs held after business hours, any member of a committee (faculty or student) may obtain the key from the business office at the close of the day. The person is then responsible for opening the room and securing it after the program ends. Return the key the next day.  
Mark Wimmer

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ADDENDUM TO CAMPUS GESCHICHTE

The Seminarian has learned that Dean McCurley will give consideration to rosters for new potential small groups. While this does not guarantee in any way the composition of any given group, it does provide one opportunity for student input to the Dean's decision regarding Spring semester small groups.

\*\*\*\*\*  
CORRECTION: Last week's issue of The Seminarian erred in its report on Advent Vespers. The prelude includes harpsichord, organ and the Chamber Choir.

ADVENT VESPERS COMMITTEES  
(cont. from page 1)

Arrangements Committee

Decorations Committee

Bud Gustafson  
Betsy Herpich  
Steve Moyer  
Francine Ormand  
Donna Welton  
Mary Wien

Judith Bahrs  
James Bowers  
Michael Boyer  
Mark English  
William Henderson  
Marie Jerge  
David Rowe  
Gerald Sanders  
C. Robert Stott

Refreshments Committee

Helene Begouine  
Alice Breon

Margaret Bost  
Audrey Foley

OUR THANKS TO THEM AND TO ALL WHO GAVE ASSISTANCE!

lock to the next issue for the first use of new stock like that found on pages 11-12 in this issue digit

THE SEMINARIAN  
7301 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19119

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