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THE

## SEMINARIAN

Vol. 41 No. 10 November 29, 1978.

Advent Vespers: Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 1978 at 7:30 pm  
(note editor's date correction and see details inside).

Foster McCurley dispells another nasty rumor.

by Joanne S. Kernitz

Woman was not created to be man's assistant!  
This was the message that came across during Dr. McCurley's lecture during convocation on November 14<sup>th</sup>. The topic, "The Divine and Human Sexuality" was sponsored by the newly formed Women's Concerns Committee here on campus, and is the first of a two part series.

Jeanette Rapp-Smith, Catherine Ziel and Ann Larson, who were responsible for the presentation, were pleased to see over fifty men and women in attendance and found this to be an encouraging response to a serious issue: Women parishes being confronted with Biblical literalism.

Dr. McCurley drew his conclusions from a word study he did on the word 'ēzer' which has been translated as "a helper fit for him" (Gen. 2:20 RSV). More precise meanings are "counter-part", "partner" or "the one opposite him."

Curiously enough, the word study revealed that the only other times the word 'ēzer' is used in the Old Testament are in reference to Yahweh's relation to his people. The following references are from RSV: Ps. 121:2- "My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth." Ps. 124:8- "Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth." See also ps. 20:2. Therefore, "help" comes from the Lord. On the basis of other parallels 'ēzer' could well be translated as "strength."

According to the creation account in Genesis 2 which uses very physical language (i.e. rib, bone, flesh and naked), it seems that God has given the joy of human sexuality to man and woman for the sake of pleasure, and the priestly kerygma "be fruitful and multiply" is not present.

Dr. McCurley continues by referring to the Song of Soloman 4:10:

"What spells lie in your love my sister, my promised bride! How delicious is your love, more dolicious than wine! How fragrant your perfumes, more fragrant than all other spices!" (Jerusalem Bible). Therefore, it would seem that love is good, and leads to shalom.

(continued on pg. 5)



Dear Editor:

I can appreciate the tough job you have in putting out the Seminarian each week. I understand how hard it is to get enough help. I would like to compliment you on the good job you have done this year.

I would also like to bring up two minor concerns I have. In the last issue of the Seminarian one of your typists promoted me to Pastor John. While I appreciate the thought it would be better not to appear presumptuous. Also, your various typists have a vendetta against my daughter's name: RAEHEL. They keep amending it to read Rachel. If you could look to these two matters I would appreciate it.

Once again, Thanks for a job well done.

"Father" John Roberts

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#### Announcements

##### Attention Juniors and Middlers:

Special class meeting on Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 1978; immediately following lunch in the Library Rotunda. Dean Burgess will be there to inform the classes about courses being offered in January and 2nd Semester. Remember that registration for January Interim and 2nd semester begins next week.

##### LCA Installation Travel Info:

A sign up list on the Campus Bulletin Board shows that some people are interested in going to the LCA Installation this coming Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Since not enough signed up, renting a bus was not possible; another list will be up to help those interested in car pooling. Directions to Riverside Church can be obtained from Cheryl Mienschien and use the sign up sheet to make your own arrangements for transportation.

##### Attention Seniors:

Senior seeking calls are reminded that if they wish to be included in the appointment schedule for the January meeting of the Synod Presidents they are to advise Mr. Kaufmann. This should be done before the Christmas recess so that

the schedule can be prepared by the first week in January. The Synod Presidents will be meeting on the campus on Monday, January 15.

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Reminder: Community welcome 2 Red-Cross representatives speak about services needed. A film will be shown. Thurs., Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 p.m. Tappert Room in the Library.

Reminder: Union 7301 presents Talent Show in the Library Rotunda Fri. Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>. Everyone welcome. If you still want to perform, and haven't signed up, contact Chris Sauer-242-4685 or Fran Ormand 242-5331 by Thurs. Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### Advent Vespers:

Advent Vespers, the biggest spiritual and social "bash" of the academic year, will be celebrated by the seminary community on the evening of Wed. Dec. 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m. (There's usually a standing-room-only crowd in the chapel, so come early.) Dr. Bornemann and the choir have been working on some exciting music for quite a while now. Two medieval plays (M & M: a miracle and a mystery), lessons, and lots of congregational singing will round out the worship experience. (No sermon!)

Instead of an all-too-hurried buffet dinner before the service as in previous years, there will be more elaborate post-worship refreshments in the library rotunda. Festivities will continue there with carol-singing, entertainment by community-members (see Jim Bowers to volunteer), and leisurely socializing.

It should be a great time. But in order for it to be the high-point it always has been in the past we need your help. This is not a commitment-for-life, and if a lot of us work together, even preparatory and clean-up could be enjoyable! Contact Kevin Ogilvie to help buy, transport, and/or put up evergreens and candles in chapel and rotunda. (Anyone know where we can get some trees?) Contact Paul Myers to help with refreshments (especially setting up) Any help you can offer will be deeply appreciated.

## DEAN'S ITEMS

1. Please note that the last faculty meeting of the semester is Monday, December 4th. Anyone wishing an extension beyond the end of the semester must have faculty approval. Therefore, if you think you may need an extension in any class beyond the last day of exams you must have a request in to the Dean's office before the faculty meeting at 3 p.m. on the 4th.

2. Intersession courses have been augmented by a course in reading Patristic Greek. Anyone interested in the course should consult with Dr. Lee before registering, as admission to the course is only with the approval of the professor.

3. Instead of the one orientation course 602 Church and Community, we are offering this year a choice of three electives. Middlers and other students who are required to take 602 may sign up for one of the electives. The electives are limited in size and will be filled up on a first come first served basis. Middlers and those required to take 602 will have the first chance to sign up for the courses. If there are any other spaces in the courses left, interested seniors may sign up.

The three electives are:

607-THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON RACE RELATIONS IN AMERICA - Marcella Sawyer (limited to 20 students)

This course will introduce students to various theoretical approaches useful to understanding racism on the personal and institutional levels. The black experience in America will be used as illustrative of racism in America, and will lead to a deepened awareness and understanding of various forms of oppression.

The course will also discuss the implications of oppression for various minority groups including women, the elderly, and other groups facing prejudice and discrimination.

608 -URBAN CHURCH OUTREACH - Gordon Simmons (limited to 15 students)  
Urban communities, whether lower, middle, or upper income, are usually

characterized by rapid change. This course examines the strategies, techniques, and resources available to urban congregations in their evangelism and social ministry outreach to these communities.

609 -ISSUES IN CHRISTIAN NURTURE

G. Frdrerick Schott (limited to 15 students)

This course deals with the nurturing function of the parish as it relates to supporting and challenging members to intentionally express their Christian faith in conversations and lifestyles. It will discuss how a parish becomes conscious of its need to reach out to the community beyond themselves, how it can learn to deal with issues of social concern and social justice. It will look at these issues from the point of view of urban and suburban ministries.

We will discuss this at the junior-middler class meeting on Wednesday, November 29th following lunch in the Library Rotunda. If you have other questions, please see me or Mr. Kaufmann.

Ad taken from the Village Voice:

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# LCA INSTALLATIONS

The Rev. Dr. James R. Crumley, Jr. will be installed as president of the Lutheran Church in America and the Rev. Dr. Reuben T. Swanson as secretary at a service Sunday, December 3 at the Riverside Church in Manhattan.

The Rev. Dr. Robert J. Marshall, who served as LCA president for ten years before joining the staff of Lutheran World Ministries in New York November 1, will be presiding minister.

Assisting in the rite of installation will be the Rev. Dr. William H. Kohn of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, president of the Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches; and the Rev. Dr. David W. Preus of Minneapolis, Minnesota, general president of the American Lutheran Church.

Lectors will be L. Milton Woods, treasurer of the LCA; and the Rev. Dr. James A. Graefe, president of the LCA's Metropolitan New York Synod.

The Rev. Dr. Gerald S. Troutman of Atlanta, Georgia, president of the Southeastern Synod, will present Dr. Crumley. Dr. Swanson will be presented by the Rev. Dennis A. Anderson of Omaha, Nebraska, president of the Nebraska Synod.

The Rev. H. George Anderson of Columbia, South Carolina, president of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, will be preacher. The choir of Lenoir-Rhyne College, Hickory, North Carolina, will take part in the service.

The service will begin at 4 p.m. Riverside Church seats nearly 2,500, much more than any Lutheran church in the area.

# FATHER JOHN'S CONFESSIONS (and traveling road show)

Parent Aptitude Test (answers and scoring)

## PART 2

### QUESTION:

### ANSWER

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | D   |
| 2 | A4, B3, C2  |
| 3 | D (if you said C you get 0 on this test)                                    |
| 4 | A (if you said C you will be a very busy parent.)                           |
| 5 | D   |
| 6 | B   |
| 7 | D (This is an example of humor in children. Don't expect it to make sense.) |
| 8 | A (or B as you prefer.)   |

SCORING: Part 1 - 5 points each  
Part 2 - 3 points each

### HOW YOU RATE:

- 44 - 34 - O.K. you have permission to be a parent. You will suffer only minor psychiatric damage.
- 33-23 - You are allowed to be related to children in a non-supervisory capacity. (Warning: sustained contact with children will be hazardous to your health.)
- 22-12 - You are allowed to see pictures of other people's children.
- 11-0 - You are ordered to report to the W. C. Fields Child Avoidance Center.

Hearty thanks are in order for the gratifying representation from our community who attended the ecumenical Thanksgiving service last Tuesday, November 21st. Despite rumors that many would have departed for the four corners of the earth by that time, the worshipping community represented a significant number. Although "ecumenism" seemed to be restricted to our contingency and St. Charles students, a warm spark of fellowship (sorry women!) marked both worship and the talk and refreshments following.

Father Flood of St. Charles and I have been in conversation to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January jointly. For those on campus in January this should allow for furthering the contact made at Thanksgiving.

This week our weekly celebration of the Sacrament of the Altar returns to Wednesday evening. The service will begin at 7:30 p.m. The setting will be SBH II, and Dr. Lull will preside.

Thursday we mark the festival of St. Andrew, Apostle, using LBW Morning Prayer. Galen Tinder will preach.

Next week we have an ending and a beginning. During the last week of formal classes we begin the Advent season, which will culminate in our campus worship highlight with Advent Vespers on Wednesday, December 13th. (Sorry interns, you will have only leftovers if you follow Jeannie's advice in the last issue of The Seminarian and show on the 14th.) It should be a banner evening (no pun intended.)

The other services during reading week will include Compline at 10 p.m. Monday, Matins on Tuesday, and Communion Thursday at the regular times.

Exam week worship will be held in the Library Rotunda at 12 noon daily.

January term worship is emerging from the drawing boards, and word will be disseminated shortly about it.

DAVID J. WARTLUFT

After the fall, man was given control over woman as if she were a piece of property. In Genesis 3:16 "...and he shall rule over you." (RSV) "...yet he will lord it over you." (Jerusalem), and "...he shall be your master." (New English) Dr. McCurley asks, "Should we who have been redeemed by the Gospel conduct our lives according to the pattern of sin as described in Genesis 3? The Gospel frees us to be the creatures God made us to be. Our norm should not be law and condemnation, but shalom and a loving relationship of male and female under God."

The soon-to-be-announced second presentation will be based on the New Testament with Dr. Jeske. Anyone interested in the Women's Concerns Committee may talk with Catherine Ziel, Ann Larson, or Ruth Hankins.

CELEBRATED LUTHERANS: (from People's Almanac # 2)

Can you identify them:

1. Johann Andrea
2. Louis Agassiz
3. Soren Kierkegaard
4. Albert Schweitzer
5. Reinhold Niebuhr
6. Jean-Paul Sartre
7. Dag Hammarskjold
8. Dietrich Bonhoeffer
9. Walter Reuther
10. I. W. Abel
11. Eric Sevareid
12. Ingmar Bergman
13. Helmut Schmidt
14. James Schlesinger
15. Max von Sydow
16. John Updike
17. Jean Seberg
18. Liv Ullmann
19. Margrethe II

(next week we'll identify who they are?)

## Brothers Bob

Since this is the issue of the Seminarian closest to Thanksgiving, we are going to take this opportunity to tell you what the Brothers Bob are thankful for. Well, there are hot dogs (both kinds), doughnuts (especially the hole), earth shoes, telescopes, binoculars, microphones, and recording devices. We are thankful for our sources, those members of this community who are as devious as we are and quite willing to tell all about their next-door neighbor. We are thankful that nobody has discovered who our sources are or the true identities of the Brothers Bob. But most especially we are thankful for each other.

Seriously, we are thankful for those members of the community that have shown us that they can take a joke, such as Bill Damrow, Earl Knaus, Tim Lull, and Arlene Stofflet. And then there's Cheryl Meinschein and Linda Fearheller. In fact, there's everybody whose name has appeared in our column. Face it, what fun would this column be and what fun would this column be for us to write if people weren't able to laugh at themselves?

We are so thankful that this week we are going to give "relish" instead of "hot dogs." First of all, there's Dean Faith (really Roberta "Bob") Burgess, who has done such an excellent job in her new position. The Student Body officers, Jim Bowers, Bruce Ewen, Gerry Sanders, and Phil Emanuel, are working hard for us. The co-chairs of the Social Activities committee, Bill Henderson and Bob Bolz, do such a great job with our parties and other events. Dave Brant and Bob Ashburn, of the Athletics Committee, make sure that there are no excuses for us to be out of shape. (Note: The Brothers Bob are not out of shape!) Bob Stott and his crew of volunteers help keep Keith Wilbur active in this community. The Student Bodies and Rick Reeser and his crew of volunteers help make this campus more beautiful, while Bud Gustafson and his crew help make it more functional. Dave Wartluft and all

the sacristans and liturgists lead us in fellowship of the Spirit while Catherine Ziel and the Sherry Hour volunteers keep us in fellowship with the "Spirits." And there's the class presidents who do work that the class members aren't aware of. Why even Scott Larson works hard as Seminarian editor! And there are so many others who add to our community life who we haven't mentioned, but none the less we relish you all. Amen.

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### the poet's corner

soon snow, such  
a silence sound  
so strong and still  
and soulful  
spring is a  
sleeping serendipity of  
sunlight searching shadows.

beth johnson

\* \* \*

### CREDITS:

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Assemblers: Bob Ashburn Ruth Hankins.

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'BOBS' by Bolz & Ashburn.

BONHOEFFER BIOGRAPHER TO SPEAK  
AT LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Today, Dr. Eberhard Bethge; author of the definitive biography on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, will be speaking at a convocation at our Seminary. His presentation will be entitled, "Bonhoeffer's Religion: A Mistake?"

Following a brief break for coffee, there will then be a roundtable discussion on Bonhoeffer with Dr. Bethge and Dr. Timothy Lull, assistant professor of Systematic Theology, here. From 1:30p.m. to 2:45 p.m., Dr. Lull will then make a presentation entitled, "The Cost of Discipleship in an Age of Spiritual Inflation." The Convocation will be held at Hagan Center on the Seminary campus.

Dr. Bethge did his theological work at the Universities of Berlin, Tübingen and Halle-Wittenberg, where he was influenced by the work of Karl Heim and Karl Barth. In 1935 he joined the Theological Seminary of the anti-Nazi Confessing Church where he became a close friend of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Director of the Seminary, until it was dissolved by the Gestapo in 1940. After the war Bethge served as pastor of the Lutheran Church in London, was a visiting lecturer at the Harvard Divinity School, at the Chicago Theological Seminary and at the Union Theological Seminary in New York. For fourteen years he was the Director of the Institute for Continuing Education for Clergy of the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland, and is now honorary professor at Bonn. At the present time he is involved with the Roian Fleck Resident-Religion Program at Bryn Mawr College. In addition to editing the works of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, he is the author of Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Man of Vision, Man of Courage (1970), and Bonhoeffer: Exile and Martyr (1975). Visitors are more than welcomed to attend this convocation.

Please use the following space for your holiday meal planning and return it immediately, if not sooner, to Mary Wien.

Within the next few weeks, look for your dish to "come up"---literally!

COCKTAILS:

APPETIZERS:

MAIN DISH:(go ahead- be festive)

DESSERT: (go ahead-fantasize)

THOMAS ACQUAINT US

Why the  
Ginko  
Stinks

Even though many of the mysteries of The Faith had been revealed to me in my years here at seminary, a part of

me had never been satisfied. From that first Autumn day in my Junior year I was drawn to (driven from?) the most unusual phenomenon of the the Ginko tree - it stinks.

My curiosity got the best of me. I asked others for their insight while I was on Thanksgiving break. Over Turkey and pumpkin pie my family and friends developed a couple of theories.

Phil's theory: My brother-in-law put forth the idea that since the female Ginko was the only one with the stinking pods, it must have some significance to the relationship between the male and female Ginko. He felt that the female was sending out an aroma which would attract any available male Ginkos.

We all know where the female Ginko is on campus, but did you know that we have a male Ginko next to the Hagan Amphitheater? I would be intersted in knowing if anyone has seen any movement of the male Ginko around Hagan toward the library.

(You might let Rick Reeser know too.)

A second theory was proposed by my friend, Don. He said that the smelly little pods served as a kind of protection for the female since she was capable of making little Ginkos. I asked what the tree might be protecting herself from and he offered, "dinosaurs and prehistoric creatures which would feed on Ginkos."

After all of this I decided to find out the real answer. Mr. Richard James, Executive Director of the Schuylkill Valley Nature Center, was kind enough to explain it to me. The answer is Buteric(sp?) Acid. This acid is the stuff that stinks and, according to Mr. James, is the same smell as rancid butter (I took his word for it). There are actually two theories about its purpose; one is that the acid helps the seed break out of the pod. The seed would be ejected with the help of the acid and then it could germinate. The other theory (the one to which Mr. James subscribes) is this: the acid helps to sterilize the soil and make it fertile for the seed to sprout.

He also informed me that the Ginko is very old and has been found in fossils dating back 300 million years to the Pliestocene Era. I guess the tree deserves our respect if not our appreciation.

One more thing...Mr. James warns of a healthy respect to be regarded for the acid in those little pods - it eats car paint.

Watch where you step,

Thomas

(You can hear Mr. James do his 5-day forecast with stories and comment on WFLN-FM every friday. Also, having visited the Schuylkill Valley Nature Center, I would recommend it for an interesting place to visit in any season of the year.)

THE END IS COMIN -IT WILL ALL END VERY SOON!-PREPARE YOURSELF!-FINALS ARE COMING!PRAY!CRAN!

The SEMINARIAN  
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First

Class

Mail

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