



The Seminarian

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MAGGIE KUHN TO SPEAK AT LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Maggie Kuhn, the founder and head of the Gray Panther Movement, will be speaking at LTSP on Wednesday, March 7th, beginning at 9:30 am.

The Gray Panther Movement embodies Ms. Kuhn's unique philosophy of old and young striving together to eradicate "ageism". Since her 65th birthday in 1970, she has almost single-handedly created, nurtured and built the Gray Panthers into a national movement. She contends that "old age is not a defeat, but a victory; not a punishment, but a privilege." Among the books she has written are You Can't Be Human Alone, Let's Get Out There and Do Something About Injustice, and Maggie Kuhn on Aging.

Ms. Kuhn is also involved in numerous national programs relating to aging. President Carter recently appointed her to the Task Panel on the Elderly of the President's Commission on Mental Health.

Also participating in the Convocation will be Dr. Martin J. Heinecken, professor emeritus at the Seminary, and Dr. Harold Reisch, an administrator from the Germantown Home. Both men have been extremely active in espousing the rights of the aged.

The program will begin at 9:30 am on the Seminary campus. A registration fee of \$5.00 will be charged to all participants. Lunch will be served on campus to those who have made advance registrations. The convocation will conclude at 3:00 pm.

Growing old may not sound like a picnic--but think of the alternative.

So goes the favorite and possibly the only joke of the professional gerontologists. Come to the convocation on March 7th and meet a woman who is making her aging process into a pilgrimage and a lark:

When Maggie Kuhn is not away on a speaking engagement, or a TV appearance in this country or in Europe, she lives in Germantown 5 minutes away from our Seminary.

Maggie will talk about how we can learn to deal effectively with the elderly in our congregations. She is a delightful person, and a vigorous force for human dignity for people of all ages.

Joanne Kernitz

(Editor's note---Joanne Kernitz was Administrative Assistant to Maggie Kuhn before entering the Seminary last fall.)

DR. JESKE IS CONVOCATION SPEAKER

Women in the New Testament: Boundaries and Frontiers

"...the women should keep silence in church..." (Cor. 14:34)

Numerous women setting out to prepare for or engage in the ordained ministry have been confronted by those who do not see the public ministry as an appropriate place for women. The passage above, among the favorite "proof-texts" which seems to establish boundaries for women's participation in the church, is well known. Not so well known, however, is a whole different stratum of NT material which seems to offer frontiers and new opportunities for women. In speaking on February 21, Dr. Richard L. Jeske suggested that these "boundary" proof-texts and "frontier" passages can be assigned to different periods in the church's history.

The first period (30-60) was a time of revolution in which women had an important place in Christianity as reflected in Paul's letters (1 Cor. 11:5 indicates that women were engaged in preaching; and women are cited among his co-workers) and the gospels. Where genuine Pauline passages limit women, references are to specific cultural norms, the violation of which would hinder the preaching of the gospel.

Following 60 A.D., Dr. Jeske sees the setting in of an "androcentric reconstruction of office". As the church entered its second generation, losing direct personal contact with the events surrounding Jesus of Nazareth, issues of authority became important concerning creeds, canon and institutional hierarchy. Women's participation was curtailed; it is to this period that "boundary" texts can be assigned, including many that now intrude in Paul's original letters.

Dr. Jeske, along with Dr. Foster McCurley in the earlier convocation which explored "Divine and Human Sexuality" in the OT, also sponsored by the Committee on Women's Concerns, has offered valuable exegetical tools with which men and women can understand women's ministry in the light of the biblical witness. Tapes of both convocations are available in the LTSP library.

Ann K. Larson

MEN OPPOSED

Why the Student Christian Movement of Britain and Ireland opposes the ordination of men:

1. Because man's place is in the army.
2. Because no really manly man wants to settle disputes other than by fighting.
3. Women would not respect men dressed in skirts.
4. Because men are too emotional to be priests. Their behaviour at football matches, in the army, at political conventions shows this, while their innate tendency to appeal to force and violence renders them unfit to represent Jesus.
5. Because some men are so handsome they will distract women worshippers.
6. If the Church is the Bride of Christ, and bishops are husbands to the Church, all priests should be female.

-From the August 18, 1978 issue of "Christian Century" Magazine.

(submitted by Scott Larson)

NAZIS, ETC.

The long awaited and long debated Nazi rally at Independence National Park never materialized but the issues it raised remain. The key issue did not always remain in focus during the discussions of the past several weeks. The question is not whether the American Nazi Party is profoundly offensive to every sensitive and discerning person in this country. This is one thing which organizations as diverse as the Jewish Defense League and the Veterans of Foreign Wars can agree on. The question is rather whether despite their offensiveness the Nazis have rights which are protected by the Constitution. If the Nazis are denied these rights then the Constitution is not being allowed to do what it was designed to do -- to protect the rights of unpopular minorities -- and when this line is transgressed democratic principles suffer. Those who demanded the revocation of the Nazi rally permit claimed that they are unhealthy, have destructive intent, are a menace to the country, and are un-American. Though these things are probably true this is just the kind of language which a majority or a government could use to suppress any group it disagreed with. In fact I remember one of the police officers who arrested me at an anti-war civil disobedience demonstration in Washington calmly explaining to several of us how people in the minority should not be allowed to express views contrary to the interests of the government because it disrupts society. This officer was not attuned to the governing principles of the government in whose service he was enlisted.

Nazis have also been in the news in Germany where the showing of The Holocaust on television has provoked a period of national self-examination. Some Germans are apparently confronting their painful past for the first time while others persist in contending that the unpleasant past is best forgotten. This is probably untrue, not only because ~~forgot~~ history tends to become repeated history but also because it tends to be unredeemed history; it tends to be history which crushed the future beneath its unacknowledged weight. America seems to have 'forgotten' Vietnam, though perhaps the proliferation of films about the War evidences an awakening. But up to the present time we have persisted in treating a man like Henry Kissinger, who is responsible for the murder of thousands of Vietnamese civilians, as a sort of national celebrity. The past can be a source of pain, for both persons and nations, but the now widely accepted truth that an honest acquaintance with the past is essential to individual health is one which is applicable to nations as well.

Galen Tinder

JUST A REMINDER

On Monday, March 5th, at 3:30 pm, there will be a special meeting of the Student Body to discuss the documents on Student Rights and Due Process, as well as the issue of re-instating articles pertaining to an honor system back into our Bylaws and Constitution. I urge you to attend this important meeting. Thanks

Jim Bowers

A LENTEN REFLECTION

The recent plan to hold a Nazi march in Philadelphia coupled with the discovery of Auschwitz aerial photographs provide as stark a reminder as any of the evil that prowls in our midst like a roaring lion. We know too that the ravages of sin are not only "out there" among a few fanatics. In full view of our own Independence Hall, our liberty in Christ, we continue to demonstrate our failures to love God above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. Mayor Rizzo said that he would deny police protection to any Nazi demonstrators. They were to be left to the consequences of their folly. In spite of the good news that Mayor Rizzo is not the guardian of our souls, but that our safety rests in the crucified hands of our risen Lord, there are times when we feel defenseless and alone in our strugglings, follies and defeats. I would like to share here a poem by Nelly Sachs, "The Chorus of the Rescued". Like the subjects of this poem, we face our own varieties of dangling nooses. Like them, we have been rescued from death even as "the worms of fear still feed on us." And like them, we too require abundant patience and compassion. The following section from the introduction to Sachs' book of translated, selected poems (O the Chimneys) is particularly timely for a week with Ash Wednesday at its heart:

As sand, the dust is at home in the desert, where, in other words, no shelter exists whatsoever. The home in the homelessness of the desert is baptized Israel. Nelly Sachs is the last poetess of Jewry who writes in German, and her work remains incomprehensible without this royal origin. In her Stockholm refuge she experienced the genocide more closely than we who lived near the death camps, and her book remains the only poetic testimony that can hold its own beside the dumbfounding horror of the documentary reports. As incomparable as this poetic deed may be, one cannot confine her work within this achievement... To Nelly Sachs as to the ancient writings, Israel is representative of the story of all of creation's fortune and misfortune. Dust, smoke, ashes are not the "past", which one might be able to have done with, but are always contemporaneous.

I do not share the following poem to deepen our guilt, but rather as a reminder of the fragility and need for tenderness that is common to all of us who are made of dust, enlivened only by the breath--and the blood of our God. "In our relations with one another, we should veil whatever blemishes and infirmities we find in our neighbor, doing our utmost to serve and help him (or her) to promote his (or her) honor. (Luther, L.C., 8th Commandment)." "For I desire mercy, and not sacrifice. For I come not to call the righteous, but sinners." Matt. 9:13.

CHORUS OF THE RESCUED

We, the rescued,
From whose hollow bones death had begun to whittle his flutes,
And on whose sinews he had already stroked his bow--
our bodies continue to lament
With their mutilated music.

We, the rescued,
The nooses wound for our necks still dangle
before us in the blue air--
Hourglasses still fill with our dripping blood.

(continued on page 5)

We, the rescued,
The worms of fear still feed on us.
Our constellation is buried in dust.
We, the rescued,
Beg you:
Show us your sun, but gradually.
Lead us from star to star, step by step.
Be gentle when you teach us to live again.
Lest the song of a bird,
Or a pail being filled at the well,
Let our badly sealed pain burst forth again, and carry us away-
We beg you:
Do not show us an angry dog, not yet-
It could be, it could be
That we will dissolve into dust-
Dissolve into dust before your eyes.
For what binds our fabric together?
We whose breath vacated us,
Whose soul fled to Him out of that midnight
Long before our bodies were rescued
Into the ark of the moment.
We, the rescued,
We press your hand
We look into your eye-
But all that binds us together now is leave-taking,
The leave-taking in the dust
Binds us together with you.

submitted by Heidi Neumark

"Ash Wednesday"

The naked traveller,
Stretching against the iron dawn, the bowstrings of his eyes,
Starves on the mad sierra.

But the sleepers,
Prisoners in a lovely world of reeds,
Make a small red cry,
And changes their dreams.

Proud as the mane of the whinnying air,
Yet humble as the flakes of water
Or the chips of the stone sun, the traveller
Is nailed to the hill by the might of March's razor;

And when the desert barks, in a rage of love
For the noon of the eclipse,
He lies with his throat cut, in a frozen crater.

Then the sleepers,
Prisoners of a moonward power of tides,
Slain by the stillness of their own reflections,
Sit up in their graves with a white cry,
And die of terror at the traveller's murder.

Thomas Merton

BLACK EXPRESSION EVENTS FOR SECOND SEMESTER

- Monday, March 12- Visitation Retreat Service, 9:40 AM. LBW Morning Prayer No Sermon. LTSP Jazz Band. Liturgists, Lee's advisees.
- Thursday March 15- 9:40 AM. LBW Service of the Word. Guest Preacher - Rev. Thomas Sligh, Pastor, Mt. Airy United Methodist Church, Liturgists, Lee's advisees.
- Sunday March 18- 6PM. Germantown Community United Presbyterian Church, Sunday Forum Series. Speaker- Rev. Burgess Carr, Tulpehocken and Greene Streets.
- BLACK EXPRESSION WEEK - Monday March 26 to April 1
- Monday March 26- 5PM. LBW Responsive Prayer 2 & Black Expression Hymn Sing.
- Tuesday March 27- 8:30 PM. Black Expression Coffee House. "Sermons and Songs African Expressions of the Gospel" John Mugisha & Company.
- Thursday, March 29- 9:40 AM. Presentation by Father Giles A. Conwill, Director of Church-Vocations, National Office of Black Catholics, on African-American and Euro-American Epistemology. Amphitheater
- 7:00 PM.- LBW Service of the Word. Guest preacher- Vicar Gwendolyn King Liturgists- Black Expression Committee.
- Saturday March 31- Perspectives on Black Expression, 2-5 PM. Amphitheater Presenters- Rev. J. Quinton Jackson, Teacher and former pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and Mike Cobbler Responders- Dr. Harold Albert and Rev. Charles Leonard.
- 7:00-9:30- "Black Expressions in Dance and Music." Presented by "Afro-Movers" of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, and jazz group "Pieces of a Dream" with Danny Harmon.
- Sunday April 1- 4PM. A service for the celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Germantown Ave. and Phillelana St (6671 Germantown Ave.)
- Tuesday April 17- 8:30 PM. Black Expression Coffee House. Reading from Third World Poets, by Julius & Romona Carroll and Keith Hardy

I thank all of you for making this series a reality, and I hope and pray that it will be well received by the seminary (and wider) community.

Michael L. Cobbler

FROM A BLACK PERSPECTIVE

by Julius Carroll

Franklin A. Thomas will take over as president of the Ford Foundation on June 1, 1979. Mr. Thomas will be the first Black ever to head a major American foundation and will become one of the nation's most influential Black Leaders.

Thomas was born in an impoverished area of Brooklyn, N.Y. known as Bedford-Stuyvesant and is a graduate of Columbia Law School. Mr Thomas has recently stepped down as president of the most successful urban restoration project in the country- Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp. For ten years he spear-headed the dramatic restoration of a neighborhood that had virtually lost all hope of survival. His ability to attract businesses to the area and facilitate home mortgages for middle-income Blacks looking for an opportunity to remodel Brownstone homes, has gained him the reputation as a problem solver and a brilliant executive & lawyer.

It is encouraging to see a philanthropic giant choose a Black man to guide its future. Perhaps inroads are being made to radically intergrate the decision-making process in America.

Now what about the Church??

THE JOHANNINE LITERATURE

Spring Training: A good baseball player is proficient in five very essentials skills: pitching, hitting, batting, running and fielding. One like Pittsburgh's Dave Parker, for example, can do all well (substitute throwing for pitching). There is, I assert, a correlation between these abilities in baseball and our theological training here at Seminary.

Batting is fundamental: it involves knowing the strike zone, when and when not to swing, how to hit and bunt. So Biblical studies, both OT & NT, are fundamental, giving us a groundwork for basic exegetical skills. Drs. McCurley, Bornemann and Jeske are thus our Batting Instructors, not just bat boys.

Hitting is based on batting, but usually involves the more refined skill of "hitting it where they ain't" and power hitting. Such is Systematics. Dr. Lull, like Larry Bowa, can scatter theological points all around, in between detractors' arguments, while Dr. Lundeen, like Gregg Luzinski, is the long-ball threat.

Pitching is that which delivers up that which is to be hit, namely, the ball. So, tossing the theological ball is preaching, or homiletics. Dr. Albert hones these hurling skills, teaching us our curves and fastballs, and giving new meaning to the term "Bullpen."

Running, as in getting to one base from another, is the most efficient way of advancement. Education is the best way to advance out theological selves. Dr. Krych helps us to stay sharp on the basepaths, trying not to get thrown out (damnation?).

Fielding is taking what comes at you, and making the play. So, counselling would be preparation for all of the wonderful adversity which makes being human so interesting.

Thus, a well rounded theologian is one confident in exegesis, with a good batting eye, capable of hitting singles and home runs, equipped to deliver the Word to the heart of the strike zone, speedy and crafty to circle the bases, and smooth and quick with the glove to field all problems hit his way. The LCA is the ballpark caretaker, Dr. Bost is in charge of the farm system, but watch out, for the Owner is also the umpire.

With all of this, I wonder if Luther belongs in the Hall of Fame? Not to mention "Who's on First?"

Auf Wiedersehen
Johann

NEWS FLASH - VISITATION RETREAT - MARCH 11-13, 1979

The retreat intended to provide both college students and folks already in the working world a number of formal and informal opportunities to ask about, to see in operation, and to experience a seminary at work. Over 25 persons have registered thus far who will be provided with events as noted on the schedule that will meet personal needs and help to provide as complete a picture as possible of a church related education.

There is a special need on the part of the Student Body to be hosts for our guests. This year you will probably not have to give up a bed to host due to the large number of empty beds in the dorm. If you would like to be a host, there is a sign up sheet for both single and married students on the bulliten board in Hagan Hall or in Main Dorm. If you have any interest or questions on hosting you can speak with Ruth Snyder or Carey Miller.

Don't forget! Visitation Retreat begins Sunday March 11th at 6:30 PM in the Pit with registration and refreshments. Please plan to take an active part and welcome our special guests among us. Thank You!!

The Visitation Committee

To: The Editors of the Seminarian
From: D. Wartluft
Subject: Submissions for this campus' premiere publication.

Although somewhat belatedly, I want to give thanks to the individuals and groups on campus who supported me in my recent hospitalization by their prayers, cards, visits, and other considerations.

I am certain that the support which emanated from this campus, and indeed across the country, made what could be a frightful experience something which I could face with equanimity.

The ultimate outcome obviously still hangs in the balances. Yet, it is likely that the event should not be interpreted as travail but as the gracious action of God. I am told that the detection of growths in the colon at as early a stage as this was most unusual. Because of the early detection, the malignancy was apparently not widespread. Sometimes the Lord works in strange ways...Deo gratia.

If you are a C.S. Lewis fan, or even if you are not, the recent book by Gilbert Meilaender THE TASTE FOR THE OTHER: THE SOCIAL AND ETHICAL THOUGHT OF C.S. LEWIS (Erdman's) is well worth reading. It points to the dual reality in Lewis' consciousness of a strong moral impulse yet balanced by an awareness of human sinfulness. Even if you haven't time to digest the book this week, read the fine review by Ralph C. Wood in the February 21st issue of THE CHRISTIAN CENTURY.

The Library has just received THE PROPOSED STATE HEALTH PLAN OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, which was released for public comment on December 16th. Unlike many government publications, this item is readable and worth reading. Not only do you have opportunity to respond to the lawmakers before legislation is enacted on an important forward-looking concern, but you also can gain a great deal of insight into the present state of the practice of medicine in the state. Ancillary benefits include explanations of the various forms of maladies such as arthritis, cancer, and communicable diseases (in layman's language), data on current health-care costs, and demographic profiles. In Christian ministry one cannot disassociate oneself from human health. Here is an opportunity for grounding in the whole area. Oh yes, ask for the volume at the Circulation Desk: it will not be cataloged until the feedback time has passed.

SENIOR NUTS AND BOLTS

Tuesday, March 6th at 7:00 pm at the Library-Room C
Topics: The Relationship between the Pastor and the Funeral Director
Guests: Mr. Robert Wetzel (a local funeral director and a Lutheran)
Prof. Robert Hughes and Mr. Larry Stiles
Some possible issues: Do pastors do a good job in dealing with families involved? Do pastors handle the funeral service well? How much does a funeral cost? Do funeral directors take death seriously? Where should the funeral service be held? When a death occurs, who should be called first, the pastor or the funeral director?...other issues too...
Format: Discussion by guests followed by open discussion and questions.

LOST

A red three ring notebook with B.S.A. logo and word. COMMUNICATION on the front. Contains notes from last semester. Please contact Jim Bowers.
phone: 242-6408

BROTHERS DOB

There has been a lot of talk recently about the supposed existence of gnomes. Balderdash, we say, and not strongly enough! The idea that gnomes exist in this world, no less on our own campus, is the product of over fertile imaginations. One would question the sobriety of any proponents of such an absurd theory. As truly dedicated scholars we feel that it is our moral obligation to inform you, the reading public, of the theological, doctrinal, and historical-critical scholarship concerning the existence of gnomes.

First, dear readers, let us look at what the holy scriptures have to say: Genesis 1, the beloved story of our Lord's creation of all that exists, does it in any way infer, imply, or even outrightly affirm the creation of gnomes. The smallest recorded humanoid in the Bible is Zacchaeus in Luke 19 and there is no mention of him having been a gnome or displaying characteristics normally attributed to a gnome, such as a long beard, pointed hat, etc. Those misguided souls who would cite such passages as Acts 26:22, Psalm 119:14, Numbers 32:24, I Kings 5:2, Deuteronomy 1:17 etc., are mere prooftexters who probably used their Young's Exhaustive Concordance in a blind effort to ice-egete. Leviticus 21:20 does talk about the existence of dwarfs, but not gnomes. Also, there is no truth to the claim that gnomes are the lost tribe of Israel.

In historical analysis, the fascinating church history genius of Williston Walker states on page 48 that the early church fathers vehemently denied the existence of gnomes. Antignomialism was a feature of the early church as anyone who has had even an introductory course in church history will recall.

Finally, doctrinally, Aulen and Wingren both have nothing to say about gnomes. Thus, any reader of even minimal intelligence will have to agree with the scholarly evidence shown here which conclusively denies the existence of gnomes. Besides, we asked the Leprechauns and they assured us that there are no such things as gnomes.

HOT DOGS: Will Ruth Snyder ever go on a CPE? ... Great thanks and congrats to Ed Dufresne for a job well done on the MEET MARKET. We're sure everyone will get prime cuts... How does Wanda Snyder know that Julius Carroll talks in his sleep? ... Kudos to the Sunday Morning Live Staff for an excellent production... Who drove the bloodmobile in to Hagan on Tuesday? ... Yes, Glenn Zorb is still a student here, he's the tall guy with the black beard, remember? ... How many days now, Pete? .. Did you know that Bob Stott puts jelly on his grilled cheese sandwiches? New Englanders... We are proud to announce the arrival of Bruce Ewen's mustache... Has anybody ever seen Frank and Mary Anderson's marriage certificate? ... And what about JoAnn Poeser?

CHAPLIN'S CORNER

Dr. Lundeen's advisees will lead the worship services in the coming week. A brief service will be held at 5 PM on Monday and a service of Holy Communion at 9:40 AM on Tuesday. Dr. Lundeen will be the preacher and celebrant at the Eucharist.

There will be no service on Wednesday morning (the day we celebrate the martyrs, Perpetua and her companions, and the theologian Thomas Aquinas). But you are all invited to attend the Lenten service at 7:30 PM organized jointly by the Seminary and Ascension Church. We know that some of you have Wednesday evening field work commitments, but those who don't will be able to worship with their families on each of the Wednesday evenings in Lent and share fellowship with our friends at Ascension.

One of Dr. Lundeen's advisees will preach at the service of morning prayer at 9:40 AM on Thursday.

Margaret Krych

FATHER JOHN'S CONFESSIONS
(and traveling road show)

We finally decided that Raechel was old enough to own a Barbie doll. We felt that we, too, had reached the proper level of sophistication for this big step. We were wrong.

As we walked across the plush carpet to the toy counter, the tuxedo clad salesman eyed us with disdain.

"We'd like to see a Barbie doll," I squeaked.

"As well you should," he sniffed.

"How much are they?" asked my wife.

The look he gave us indicated we had committed a crime comparable to axe murder.

"If you have to ask you can't afford it," and he turned his back on us.

We finally bought one from a used Barbie doll dealer who allowed us to finance the payments for "only 10%" and lectured us on our role in "this fine bit of Americana."

Our trouble had barely begun. There should be a warning on the box that Barbie dolls may cause psychological damage to you boys and impressionable husbands.

"What are those lumps?" Jarrod asked.

"She has cancer," I snapped, attempting to end the discussion.

"I know," said John, "Farrah Fawcett has them too!"

"Will I look like that when I grow up Mommy?" someone asked.

"No one looks like that, dear."

"RATS." (John and I whispered under our breaths)

In effort to keep things respectable, we purchased Ken. This was our introduction to math, Mattel style. One plus one plus accessories equals bankruptcy.

Their clothes cost more than mine (but I don't wear designer originals). The diabolical thing about the whole business is that the dolls arrive semi-nude, homeless and (gasp) without transportation (Barbie hails from California, remember). Worst of all, in our excitement we told my folks that we would soon be having an addition to the family. If anyone knows a gentle way to explain to excited grandparents that their new little "bundle" is plastic, blonde and has a Malibu tan and a new Ferrari, please call me - QUICKLY!!!

THE SEMINARIAN
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FIRST
CLASS