

1992

Luther Seminary Midwinter Convocation, 1993

Luther Seminary

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The Program
for the 55th annual

**Mid-Winter
Convocation**

"The Reformation in America"

Jan. 6-8, 1993

**Luther Northwestern
Theological Seminary**
2481 Como Ave., St. Paul, Minn.

General Information

Registration and Costs

Mid-Winter Convocation, '93, has returned to a procedure offering a pre-registration discount.

Cost for registrations at the door is \$50.00 for the full convocation. Partial registrations at the door are \$25.00 for Wednesday, Jan. 6; \$25.00 for Thursday, Jan. 7; and \$15.00 for Friday, Jan. 8.

Registrants' spouses, retired clergy, Luther Northwestern students, emeriti, faculty and staff are exempt from registration fees, but are required to register as convocation participants.

Audio cassette tapes of the convocation lectures are available for \$10.00 per set, payable in advance with registration. The tapes will be mailed as soon as they are ready.

All participants must have convocation name tags to be admitted to any of the major events. Nametags and programs are available at the registration table when registration is complete.

Conference Banquet

The banquet in the fine dining facilities of the Lutheran Brotherhood building in Minneapolis features Sheldon A. Tostengard, professor of pastoral theology and ministry, homiletics, as the main speaker.

Tostengard's address is entitled, "The Allure of Saving the Church."

The banquet also marks the second annual presentation of "Faithfulness in Ministry Crosses" to alumni nominated by their peers and selected by a committee of the Alumni Council. The two recipients are being recognized for their ministries in rural/small town and specialized settings.

Tickets for the banquet are \$11.00 per person, including two-way bus transportation between Luther Northwestern and the Lutheran Brotherhood building. Banquet tickets without bus transportation included are \$10.00 per person.

Special Parking

All Mid-Winter Convocation registrants are urged to use the special parking facilities available in the parking lot of the new Lutheran Social Service building and the athletic field at the corner of Como and Hendon. Vans will shuttle participants who do not wish to walk up the hill to and from the Campus Center.

Overflow parking will be available if necessary (with shuttle service) on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in the area where the midway is usually located.

Bookstore

Conference registrants will find a discount coupon in their registration packets for use in the Luther Northwestern Bookstore on the lower level of the Campus Center. Use the stairway near the entrance to the cafeteria, or the elevator behind the cafeteria. Signs near the cafeteria entrance direct you to the elevator.

The bookstore's regular hours are 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Exhibitors

Visit exhibitor's booths in the Campus Center Commons just outside the main doors to Chapel of the Incarnation anytime throughout the convocation.

In Appreciation

Volunteers who are serving as guides, hostesses and hosts are Luther Northwestern students and members of the Luther Northwestern Seminary Friends. Friends is a group of about 500 members and 300 congregational representatives who act as liaison between the seminary and congregations in the Twin Cities area.

1993 Mid-Winter Convocation Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 6

11:00-1:00 REGISTRATION, *Campus Center*

1:00 OPENING WORSHIP AND EUCHARIST

Text: Isaiah 60:1-6 Preacher: **Martin Marty**

Liturgist: Robert Brusic, Seminary pastor
Chapel of the Incarnation

Note: Overflow facilities with TV monitors are located in the Faculty/Staff Board Room, upstairs on the north side of the Campus Center Commons. Communion is available at a station in the Board Room.

1:55 WELCOME

James A. Jensen,
Vice President for Seminary Relations and Executive
Director of the Luther Northwestern Foundation

2:00 PRESIDENT'S FORUM

David L. Tiede, President
"The Leader as Disciple"

2:45 BEVERAGE BREAK

3:15 LECTURE

Eric Gritsch
"Strangers and Exiles of the Reformation:
Old World Left Wing/Radical Reformers"
INTRODUCER: **James Nestingen**,
Professor of Church History

4:15 BEVERAGE BREAK

4:30 WORKSHOPS

Dennis Everson, director of contextual education,
"A Sacred Trust -- The Dynamics of Personal
Interactions," *Northwestern Hall Classroom C*

Richard Nysse, associate professor of Old
Testament, "The Old Testament and Economics"
Northwestern Hall Classroom E

Melvin Kimble, professor of pastoral theology
and ministry, pastoral care,
"Aging and the Search for Meaning"
Northwestern Hall Classroom A

Diane Jacobson, associate professor of
Old Testament,
"Creation and Job: Who Are We in This World?"
Northwestern Hall Classroom B

Michael Rogness, associate professor of
pastoral theology and ministry, homiletics,
"Why Are People Bored by Good Preaching?"
Northwestern Hall Auditorium

Alan Klaas and Cheryl Brown, representatives of
Aid Association for Lutherans, "The Church Mem-
bership Initiative," an examination of the 20-year
trend of declining membership in Lutheran church
bodies. Church leaders and research organizations
have explored what is causing this membership
drop of 500,000 Lutherans since 1970, and what can
be done to stop it. The group's findings will be
presented at this session.
Chapel of the Cross in Northwestern Hall

Evening

Class Reunions are listed below by year and conveners.
Specific information regarding time and place of the reun-
ions is being sent separately to every member of each class.

1947 -- Roy Harrisville, Loren Spaulding

1952 -- Dick Vangerud, Gordon Solomonson

1957 -- Ted Vinger, Eldon Underdahl

1962 -- Paul Almquist, Marvin Sandness

1967 -- Clark Morphew, Tom Duke

1972 -- Lloyd Mart, Harry Mueller

1977 -- Lou Flessner, Irv Arnquist

1982 -- Kristine Carlson-Wee, Patricia Hawley

1987 -- Debra and Daniel Warnes, Robert Hall

Thursday, Jan. 7

- 9:00 LECTURE
Eric Gritsch "Shapers and Shakers of New World Religion: The American Legacy of the Radical Reformation"
INTRODUCER: Jane Strohl, associate professor of church history, *Chapel of the Incarnation*
- 10:00 WORSHIP
Preacher: April Larson,
Bishop, La Crosse Area Synod
Text: Ephesians 3:2-12
- 10:30 BEVERAGE BREAK
- 11:00 LECTURE/HYMN SING
Gracia Grindal, professor of pastoral theology and ministry, communications, and
Paul Westermeyer, professor of pastoral theology and ministry, church music
"Reformation in America: Strands of Hymnody -- Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"
- 11:45 and 12:30 LUNCH, *Cafeteria*
- 1:15 LECTURE
Martin Marty, "The Ecological Niches, Nooks, and Crannies of the Past: The Vistas of Tomorrow"
INTRODUCER: Carl Volz, professor of church history
- 2:30 BISHOP'S FORUM
April Larson, Bishop, La Crosse Area Synod
- 3:45 BEVERAGE BREAK
- 4:00 WORKSHOPS
Richard Nysse, associate professor of Old Testament, "God and War"
Chapel of the Incarnation in the Campus Center
Melvin Kimble, professor of pastoral theology and ministry, pastoral care,
"Aging and the Search for Meaning"
Northwestern Hall Classroom C
Marc Kolden, professor of systematic theology,
"The Doctrine of Vocation and Confirmation Ministry"
Faculty/Staff Board Room, upstairs in the Campus Center
Michael Rogness, associate professor of pastoral theology and ministry, homiletics,

"Why Are People Bored by Good Preaching?"
Northwestern Hall Auditorium

Andrew Hsiao, president,
Lutheran Theological Seminary, Hong Kong,
"The Church in Hong Kong after 1997"
Northwestern Hall Classroom E

Alan Klaas and Cheryl Brown, representatives of Aid Association for Lutherans,
"The Church Membership Initiative"
Chapel of the Cross in Northwestern Hall

5:30 Buses leave Campus Center for banquet in Lutheran Brotherhood Building, Minneapolis

5:45 RECEPTION
MUSIC: Tohu Vabohu:
The Original Seminary Dixieland Jazz Band
Lutheran Brotherhood Building, Minneapolis

7:00 BANQUET, *Lutheran Brotherhood Building*
Recognition of
"Faithfulness in Ministry Cross" recipients
MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Donald H. Juel,
professor of New Testament
Annual meeting of Alumni/ae Association
SPEAKER: Sheldon A. Tostengard, professor of pastoral theology and ministry, homiletics,
"The Allure of Saving the Church"

Friday, Jan. 8

- 9:00 LECTURE
Martin Marty,
"The Vocation(s) of Lutherans and Lutheranism"
INTRODUCER: Walter Sundberg,
associate professor of church history
- 10:00 CLOSING WORSHIP
Preacher: Eric Gritsch
Text: Matthew 2:1-12
- 11:15 LUNCH, on your own. *Cafeteria*

Notes:

Please fill out the convocation evaluation form in your packet and put it in the box at the registration table before leaving.

Also, please return your name badge holders to the registration table at the end of the conference so that they can be used for future events at Luther Northwestern.

Major Lecturers

Two noted scholars in church history are the major program participants for the 55th annual Mid-Winter Convocation. The conference theme is "The Reformation in America." Lecturers are Eric Gritsch and Martin Marty.

Eric Gritsch, Maryland Synod professor of church history at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg since 1961, is delivering two lectures and preaching one sermon during the Mid-Winter Convocation.

His lectures are entitled: "Strangers and Exiles of the Reformation: Old World Left Wing/Radical Reformers" and "Shapers and Shakers of New World Religion: The American Legacy of the Radical Reformation."

Gritsch was born in Austria in 1931 and experienced first-hand both the reign of Hitler and the Russian army occupation. He has been a U.S. citizen since 1960.

He earned the S.T.M., the M.A., and the Ph.D. degrees from Yale. He was a Fulbright-Smith-Mundt Scholar in 1954-56.

Gritsch is also the director of the Institute for Luther Studies at Gettysburg and has been a participant in the U.S. Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue since 1971.

His books include *Martin -- God's Court Jester*, *Lutheranism* (with Robert Jenson), *Born Againism*, *Thomas Muentzer -- A Tragedy of Errors*.

Martin Marty, Fairfax M. Cone Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Modern Christianity at the University of Chicago, is delivering two lectures and preaching one sermon.

The lectures are: "The Ecological Niches, Nooks, and Crannies of the Past: The Vistas of Tomorrow" and "The Vocation(s) of Lutherans and Lutheranism."

Marty has taught since 1963 at the University of Chicago Divinity School, the history department, and the Committee on the History of Culture.

He is senior editor of the weekly *The Christian Century* and senior scholar-in-residence at, and past president of, the Park Ridge Center for the Study of Health, Faith and Ethics.

Marty is past president of the American Academy of Religion (1988), the American Society of Church History (1971) and the American Catholic Historical Association (1981). He is an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an elected member of both the Society of American Historians and the American Antiquarian Society.

The author of 40 books, he won the National Book Award in 1972 for *Righteous Empire*. His *Modern American Religion, Volume 2, the Noise of Conflict: 1919-1941* and his (co-edited with R. Scott Appleby) *Fundamentalisms Observed* were both published in 1991 by The University of Chicago Press.



**The
Luther Northwestern
Theological Seminary
Mid-Winter Convocation
Banquet**

7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 7, 1993
Lutheran Brotherhood Dining Room,
Minneapolis

The Program

Music Tohu Vabohu:
The Original Seminary Dixieland Jazz Band

Master of Ceremonies Donald H. Juel, '68
Professor of New Testament

Invocation Kent L. Johnson, '61
*Professor of Pastoral Theology and Ministry,
Christian Education*

The Banquet

Tossed Italian Salad
Chicken Parmesan
Fettuccine Noodles
Buttered Corn
Fresh Baked Soft Bread Sticks
Spumoni Ice Cream
Coffee, Hot or Iced Tea, or Milk

Annual Meeting
Luther Northwestern Alumni/ae Association
Julie A. Ebbesen, '86, *President*

Presentation:
Second Faithfulness in Ministry Cross Recipients

Group Singing accompanied by Tohu Vabohu

The Address "The Allure of Saving the Church"
Sheldon A. Tostengard, '61,
*Professor of Pastoral Theology and Ministry,
Homiletics*

Closing Remarks and Benediction
David L. Tiede, '66, *President*

The Faithfulness in Ministry Cross

The Faithfulness in Ministry Cross was established in 1991 by the Luther Northwestern Alumni/ae Council to "identify, recognize, celebrate, and give thanks for alumni, both clergy and lay, who have lived lives of faithfulness in ministry."

The recognition is a miniature replica of the large Celtic cross shipped from Norway and placed in front of the entrance of Bockman Hall in 1956. A gift from the Young People's Society of Nordfjord, Norway, the cross is a replica of what is thought to be the first Christian symbol in Scandinavia, dating from 1000 A.D.

The cross is placed in a specially designed, enclosed cherry wood shadow box with an appropriate inscription inside the left door.

The cross is pictured on the program cover. The Greek inscription on the left arm stands for "Jesus: the Beginning, the End," and the Latin inscription on the right means: "The Word of God remains forever." The Greek symbols at the top are translated, "Christ the light." The circle in the center and the half circles where the arms of the cross join are symbolic of the wounds of Christ.

The two persons honored at the banquet tonight become the second group to receive the annual recognition which is limited to no more than one alumn in each of three categories: 1) parish ministry: urban/suburban; 2) parish ministry: rural/small town; 3) specialized ministry (including education).

Candidates for the Faithfulness in Ministry Cross must: be alumni of Luther Northwestern or its antecedent schools; have demonstrated exemplary faithfulness and service in ministry; and be nominated by fellow alumni or other colleagues. No member of the Luther Northwestern faculty or staff is eligible for the recognition.

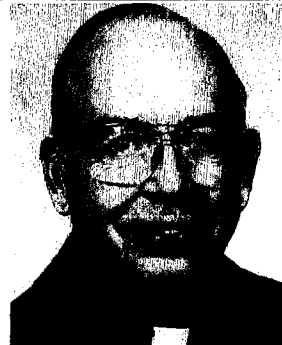
Tonight's honorees are being recognized for their rural and specialized ministries.

The Alumni/ae Council welcomes nominations of candidates for the Faithfulness in Ministry Cross any time. A nomination form is included in the packet received when you completed your registration for the Mid-Winter Convocation. Mail your nominations to the Office of Public Relations at Luther Northwestern or leave it at the registration desk before leaving the seminary at the end of the convocation.

The cut-off date for nominations to be considered by next year's selection committee is Aug. 1, although files of candidates are built up throughout the year.

The selection committee consists of two members of the Luther Northwestern faculty, four members of the Alumni/ae Council, and one member of the Luther Northwestern administrative staff.

The Faithfulness in Ministry Cross Recipients, 1992-93



Leroy J. Iseminger, '59

Rural Ministry

Leroy J. Iseminger has served in rural congregations for much of his life, most recently in West Nidaros, S.D. A friend wrote: "He has never known any limits regarding extending himself to people who need help, attention and education. The members of Leroy's congregations who know him best are among the 'least of God's holy family'."

Iseminger's first parishes were Lands, Romsdal and Trinity Lutheran Congregations, Hudson, S.D.

He temporarily took leave of work as a parish pastor to serve on the faculty of Augustana Academy in Canton, S.D., for two years before becoming chaplain at Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge, Ill.

Then Iseminger served Redeemer Lutheran Church in Chicago for four years before the South Dakota prairie called him back. He was pastor of a congregation in Lake Preston, then served as a counselor with the River Park Center in Pierre, before becoming pastor of West Nidaros Lutheran Church in Crooks.

Currently, he is pastor of Saint Dymas of South Dakota, a Lutheran congregation behind prison walls in Sioux Falls.

A colleague wrote: "He has done extensive work with alcoholics and prisoners. Consequently, he is sought out like few pastors I know by people who are hurting."

Known by some as "the poet of the prairies," Iseminger is recognized for his outstanding abilities in communicating the word of God both orally and in writing. He is a passionate preacher, and his ministry is also noted for his compassionate concern for the people in and around the parishes he has served.



Fred J. Wolff, '52

Specialized Ministry

Fred J. Wolff, now retired after 40 years of ministry, has been, according to one colleague, "a creative and energetic pastor" and "a loyal and faithful supporter of the total work of the church."

His ministry began at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Hoisington, Kan., where he was pastor for six years before accepting a call to serve the Lutheran World Federation as a missionary in Latin America.

He returned to the United States after five years to be pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Tekamah, Neb.

Then Wolff returned to the missionary field once again this time as the first ordained missionary to be sent to Peru under the former Lutheran Church in America (LCA).

While there, he organized three congregations in Lima, a children's day care center and a maternity hospital while conducting his ministry in Spanish, German and English.

When he returned again to the United States, he served German-speaking and Spanish-speaking people as pastor of congregations in Nebraska.

Noted as being "extremely effective in telling the story of mission work," Wolff has also been an energetic and successful fund raiser. When he and his wife Elinor visited 164 congregations of the LCA Nebraska Synod during a three-month period, they raised \$57,000 for a \$20,000 project of the Board of World Missions. The "extra" contributions funded a three-year agricultural project for the mission board in Peru.

Nominees for Alumni/ae Council

The following persons have been nominated for three-year terms on the Luther Northwestern Alumni/ae Council:

Susan Carloss, '78, assistant to the bishop,
Western Iowa Synod, Storm Lake, Iowa
Sunthi Chookiatsirichai, '75, Lutheran Brotherhood
representative, Minneapolis (*incumbent*)
Bruce Dissell, '69, pastor, Hibbing, Minn. (*incumbent*)
Harold Hoekstra, '70, pastor, Dearborn Heights, Mich.
(*incumbent*)
Roger S. Johnson, '58, chaplain, Phoenix, Ariz.
Susan Tjornehoj, '83, assistant to the bishop,
Northwestern Minnesota Synod, Moorhead, Minn.

Retiring members of the Alumni/ae Council are:

Mark M. Anderson, '59, chaplain, Minneapolis
Oscar Anderson, '42, retired, Plymouth, Minn.
Nancy Monke, '83, pastor, Wanamingo, Minn.

Continuing members of the Alumni/ae Council are:

Rolf E. Aaseng, '50, retired, St. Louis Park, Minn.
Mark L. Anderson, '72, pastor, Brainerd, Minn.
O. Craig Ause, '60, pastor, Slater, Iowa
William Benbow, '51, retired, Urbandale, Iowa
Lori J. Bonkoski, '85, pastor, Sumner, Wash.
Roger W. Bruns, '79, pastor, Fayetteville, Ark.
Julie A. Ebbesen, '86, pastor, Prairie Village, Kan.
Michael L. Edwins, '68, pastor, Minneapolis
Clifford M. Johnson, '39, retired, Bloomington, Minn.
Linda Lee Nelson, '83, pastor, Glenview, Ill.
Robert Sorenson, '56, pastor, Oak Park, Ill.
Craig Wolfram, '86, pastor, Shawano, Wis.