



Covenant Seminary Newsletter

VOL. I. NO. 3.

AUTUMN, 1969

Seminary Begins Fourteenth Year

An entering class of 38 brought total enrollment for the fall term to a record of 108 as Covenant Seminary began its fourteenth year with a service of Convocation at the Covenant Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening, August 31. The new students, who came from nineteen different states and seven foreign countries, were introduced briefly to the congregation at the close of the service.

Dr. Robert Reymond, who has served as a visiting professor for the past year, was installed as a member of the faculty and brought a stirring message on "The Man of God in Our Secular World." He used II Timothy 3 as the scriptural basis for his sermon which contained not only a challenge for the new students as they began their seminary training but also rich inspiration for the large congregation of friends which filled the church.

Three children of World Presbyterian Missions missionaries, Wilma Cross, Stanley Armes and Paul Emerson from Chile, Kenya, and Peru respectively, together with nationals from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Syria and China make a total of seven students from foreign lands in the entering class. There are eleven foreign countries represented in the present student body.



Yousef Sabounji, Syria; Peter Lai, Hong Kong; Robert D. K. Lee, China. Three of the foreign students in the entering class.

Covenant Seminary has a number of students who, while not foreign nationals, have come to Covenant as a result of the ministry of the L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland. Richard Watt, one of the new students from New York state, was expecting to enter a liberal

seminary in the East until he spent some time at L'Abri and came to realize the importance of a sound, Biblical training for the ministry.

Several members of the entering class are from churches pastored by alumni of Covenant Seminary. David Bransby learned of Covenant Seminary from his pastor, George Miladin, in Woodland Hills, California, and gave up a flourishing business in landscape development to come to seminary and prepare for the ministry. He and his wife and son will live on campus and provide very valuable assistance in the maintenance of the grounds. Stephen Kaufmann and William Acker come from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Huntsville, Alabama, pastored by alumnus Paul Alexander. Thomas Kennedy, new dining room steward, is from McLean, Virginia, where his pastor is alumnus Stephen Smallman.

Eleven of the members of the entering class are graduates of Covenant College. This is the largest single group to have come to the seminary from the denominational college at Lookout Mountain. Eight women students are presently enrolled in the seminary, of whom five are in the entering class.



Dr. John Sanderson discusses Covenant College's soccer season with five of the college alumni who are members of this year's entering class: Bill Mablow, Stanley Armes, Render Caines, Dr. Sanderson, his daughter Judith, and Tom Kennedy.

Board Adopts "Program Seventy-Five"

Fourteen members of the Board of Trustees came to the campus for the annual fall meeting, September 19 and 20. Arthur C. Stoll, President of Armin Tool Company of Elgin, Illinois, and elder in the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church of Elgin, was elected chairman of the board for the coming year. Dr. Hugh Johnson of St. Louis, who has served several

years as chairman, was elected vice-chairman. The Rev. Tom Jones of Lookout Mountain is the new treasurer, and Dr. Harold Van Kley of St. Louis was re-elected as secretary of the board. Members of the Executive Committee elected were: The Rev. Charles B. Holliday, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Dr. T. Stanley Soltau, Memphis, Tennessee; Mr. George Linder, St. Louis, and the Rev. Allan Baldwin, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Members of the board invited the faculty to be their guests for a time of fellowship on Friday evening. During the course of this evening together, the men heard Dr. Hugh Johnson present a ringing challenge for the seminary to take forward steps and to establish definite goals for the development of the institution. He called his proposal "Program Seventy-Five" since it embodies projects to be completed by 1975, the 20th anniversary year of the seminary; and it was later enthusiastically adopted by the board as a general outline to be followed for progressive development of Covenant Seminary. The program includes such important matters as improving the faculty salary scale, securing additions to the faculty in several fields including Church History and Christian Education, and recruiting efforts with an established goal of a 15% increase in enrollment for each year up to 1975. In certain respects the most challenging of the goals to be realized no later than 1975 is the building of a Library-Learning Center on the campus at a cost of no less than \$250,000. Although a capital funds drive for this purpose will not be entered into this year, the board did establish a goal of \$12,000 toward this project for the school year of 1969-70.

Suggestions have come to the board at various times that for the sake of cutting costs it might be wise for the school to sell its valuable property in St. Louis and move to another location. The board has given the various possibilities careful consideration and investigation, and it has been decided that there is not sufficient reason for considering relocation.



David Bransby mows the 22-acre campus.

Friends Of The Library Present Annual Concert

Eloise Polk, internationally acclaimed concert pianist delighted a large audience at The Covenant Presbyterian Church on Tuesday evening, September 30, with her third annual benefit concert sponsored by the Friends of the Covenant Seminary Library.

The program which Miss Polk presented featured compositions of Bach, Beethoven, Schubert and Mozart which gave her ample ability to display not only her amazing technical skill but her sensitive musicianship as well. The enthusiastic response of the audience bore witness to the high quality of her artistic achievement. Following the concert at the church a reception was held in honor of the artist at Edwards Hall on the seminary campus, and many members of the audience took advantage of this opportunity to meet her.



Eloise Polk

Miss Polk is the daughter of Mrs. Oscar Johnson, Chairman of the Friends of the Library organization, and has graciously given her talent each year for the building of the seminary library collection, which is the basic purpose of the Friends. While no admission has been charged for her concerts, gifts which were received from members of the audience last year totalled nearly \$1,100. The library has been able to add several hundred volumes with these funds and with membership fees and other contributions by members of the Friends of the Covenant Seminary Library. This organization provided \$2,282.57 which was spent by the library during the last fiscal year. Annual membership is five dollars and members live as far away as Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and Seattle, Washington.

One member from Portland, Oregon, provided a gift of more than \$500 in order that we might complete the Loeb Classics collection in the library. This valuable research tool is in constant use by the students.

Seminarians Complete Clinical Training

Covenant Seminary students who have completed the course in Clinical Pastoral Education at the Missouri Baptist Hospital have been enthusiastic in their appreciation of this feature of the curriculum offered by the seminary. The course, instituted several years ago by the Rev. James E. Lockhart, Chaplain of the Missouri Baptist Hospital, has provided a number of Covenant Seminary students with an excellent opportunity to learn the special techniques of hospital ministry. The students have classes with Chaplain Lockhart, and then make practical application of what they have learned in visitation throughout the hospital. Some of the patients have sought out the students for further spiritual counseling after being dismissed from the hospital.

Three men completed the course this summer: James Hall, Steve Turner, and Paul Van Horn. Each felt richly rewarded for having taken the course. Jim Hall said, "It was tremendous. I surely learned a lot." Certificates were presented to the three men at a breakfast on July 31.



Chaplain Lockhart presents certificates to Jim Hall, Steve Turner, and Paul Van Horn at completion of course at Missouri Baptist Hospital.

Alumni Chaplains Return To Vietnam

Three of the Covenant Seminary alumni now serving as chaplains in the military services have been ordered back to Vietnam for a second tour of duty there. Chaplain Tom Sidebotham, serving in the Navy, was recently called from his post at the Naval Hospital on Long Island to return to Vietnam. During his first tour there he had ship duty in Vietnam waters. This time he has a shore base. His wife and children are living in Sarasota, Florida. Army Chaplain David Peterson, after spending eighteen months at Ft. Camp-

bell, Kentucky, received orders to return to Vietnam for a second tour. He left his wife and children in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Chaplain Robert Fiol, assigned to the Marines for his second tour in Vietnam, is with the 3rd Marine Division, one of the units that President Nixon has indicated will soon be pulled out of the combat area.

The problem of the Bible teaching on war and the Christians relationship to war with particular reference to the present conflict in Vietnam was the subject of a special long chapel on Monday, October 13, followed by an open forum discussion for all students and faculty in the afternoon of the same day.

Dykema Installed In Florida

At an impressive service on August 22, Dale Dykema of the class of '69 was ordained and installed as pastor of the Westminster Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. He became the second minister of this congregation which was organized under the leadership of Dr. Carroll Stegall who served as its pastor until July 1 of this year.

Two Covenant Seminary faculty members participated in the ordination service. Dr. Elmer Smick preached the sermon, and Dr. Robert Rayburn gave the charge to the congregation. Other ministers participating were members of the Florida Presbytery.

Members of the congregation held a reception for the new pastor and his wife and the visiting ministers following the service. The church has purchased a beautiful new manse for the Dykemas who already feel very much at home in Florida.



Dale and Jane Dykema, with Kelly and Brandon, in front of their new church in Florida.

Meet The Librarians

Covenant Seminary is fortunate in having its library in the charge of two well-qualified men who not only love books but know a great deal about them. The Librarian, David Jones, who not only by virtue of his position as librarian, but also as an Assistant Professor in the Systematic Theology Department, is a full member of the faculty. He is also an ordained minister in the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Mr. Jones graduated from Bryan College, took part of his seminary training at Covenant, and graduated from Westminster Seminary with both a B.D. and Th.M. degree. He has concluded his classwork for his doctoral studies at Concordia Theological Seminary, and is at present writing his doctoral dissertation.

Mr. Joseph Hall, Assistant Librarian, is a graduate of Calvin College and took his Master of Arts degree in Library Science at Michigan University. He



Librarians David Jones and Joseph Hall.

was head of the Serials Department (periodicals, journals, newspapers, etc.) at the library of the University of Iowa, Iowa City, before coming to Covenant Seminary as assistant librarian. Having had one year of theological study at Westminster Seminary, Mr. Hall is now completing his seminary training and

is a senior at Covenant this year.

The library has enjoyed considerable strengthening as the result of the faithful labors of these two men. At a recent auction some of the duplicate volumes which were not considered necessary for the library were sold to students, and sufficient funds were raised to purchase a number of very important new additions.

Alumni Briefs . . .

Robert Wildeman of the class of '69 has been called to pastor the new mission church in Vincennes, Indiana. Charles Gwin of the same class is to be ordained and installed in the Cutler (Illinois) RP Church.

DeWitt Watson ('68) has been called to the Sparta, Illinois pastorate after serving in Wheat Ridge, Colorado.

Eulice Thomas ('67) has recently been called to pastor the RP Church in Durham, North Carolina.

David Fleece ('66), former pastor of that congregation, is now pastor of a new RP congregation in Richmond, Virginia.

Udo Middelman ('67) and his wife Debbie, will accompany Dr. and Mrs. Schaeffer to Lookout Mountain, Tennessee, for the time that Dr. and Mrs. Schaeffer will spend on the campus of Covenant College, October 28 - November 3.

In Loving Memory

During the months of July, August, and September gifts to Covenant Seminary have been received in memory of the following:

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| Mr. Warren Bruce | Mr. Charles Joiner |
| Mr. Karl C. Doerr | Mr. Herman Kunz |
| Mr. Held | Mr. Joseph McCowan |
| | Mrs. Frank Wood |

COVENANT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

12330 CONWAY ROAD
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63141

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