

EDITORIAL NOTES

This issue of the The Campus Minister almost wasn't, or at best we wondered whether it would become a reality. As you know from other correspondence from ASBCM, we have come upon hard times -- financial hard times, that is.

The economic bind has caused us to seek another format for the Journal. We simply did not have enough money to do it in its regular style; hence, the present format.

We appreciate the contributions of those who wrote for this issue of the Journal. Our writers bring both expertise and familiarity to those of us who have interest in the college student.

In our first article, Dr. Frank Stagg of New Testament at Southern Seminary, presents a challenging view of "Christians and War." Stagg does a survey of the competing views of war presented in Judaism and the New Testament. He maintains that "where Christ is Lord, war is not an option." Early Christians, in spite of persecution, did not strike back. It was Constantine's 'legalization' of Christianity and Eusebius' double standard of laity and clergy that opened the way for a Christian involvement in and defense of war. Some contemporary groups, especially Roman Catholics, are reassessing the view of a "just" war. Stagg challenges us to recognize that the peace of Christ is still an option, if we make Christ Lord.

Molly Marshall-Green, Assistant Professor of Theology at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, presents an article titled "Beyond Cliches: Helping Students Walk Hard Pathways." In her article, Marshall-Green challenges and encourages campus ministers to be responsive to hurting students on campus. She makes five suggestions: (1) we should help students express what they are feeling; (2) we should not be too quick to give suggestions; (3) we should let Christ and others help us carry the emotional load of counseling; (4) we can tell our own faith-struggles to help the student; and (5) we must help the student find some faith and answers.

Dr. Barry Stricker, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the Golden Gate Theological Seminary, challenges us to face the future with full confidence in the God who has directed our past. You will enjoy and appreciate the personal way in which Stricker reminds us how we can minister through remembering. His unique and fresh approach to a constant need will keep you from saying, "The bed was on fire when I laid down...!"

Arliss Dickerson, Director of Student Ministries at Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, was kind enough to let me 'lift' his article "Why Do Students Drop Out?" from his Nine Shaping Principles of an Effective Collegiate Ministry. If you find this article of value, you can purchase the book from Arliss.

Rick Spencer, University of Texas at Austin and Charles Scalise of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, contributed book reviews. Our thanks to them.

--Glenn McCoy