The Semi (04-01-1996)

Fuller Theological Seminary

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No, I’m too busy,” I said firmly and without hesitation, when Laura Simmons asked me to write about Easter for the SEMI.

I put down the phone admiring my assertiveness. Then I began to wonder why “Easter” provoked no response in me at all. I tried to recall what Easter meant to me as a child, growing up in a Christian home, where it seems I had known the Easter story from birth. Easter meant sneaking a pair of last year’s ankle socks from the chest and putting them on before my mother told me it was too cold, and I had to put on the long black wool stockings we wore in the winter in England. Oh—and Easter eggs, not painted real ones, but delicious chocolate ones. And singing hymns with lots of Alleluias...

“The little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes...” Now why did that line from a Christmas carol come into my head just before Easter? It made me think of Mary before the cross. As she watched her son dying, did she remember him as that little baby? As that small child, being so good as they fled to Egypt?

Did Jesus appear to his mother after he rose from the dead? We aren’t told about it if he did, although Ephraem the Syrian (306-373) wrote that the Mary who thought Jesus was the gardener was his mother, not Mary Magdalene. If Jesus did not appear to his mother, could he really have loved her? If he appeared to others before he did to her, did she think she mattered less to him than the others did? Could she have been jealous of Mary Magdalene?

What about Cleopas and his companion whose name and even sex we do not know? Did they think that Jesus’ appearing to them would give them a certain standing with the twelve, now eleven? Were they disappointed, after trudging back to Jerusalem on still-empty stomachs, that they weren’t first with the news of seeing the risen Lord?

How were the relationships between Thomas and the others during that long week before Thomas saw for himself what the others had seen? Did they try to argue him into believing? Did Thomas feel inferior to them, estranged from them?

What do these jumbled thoughts mean? These were ordinary people caught up in extraordinary events. Maybe they did act in ways the Gospels don’t tell us.

I think that is the reason why I didn’t want to write about Easter. I am an ordinary person, and I don’t have great spiritual experiences. I have nothing new or exciting to tell about Easter. There is always a part of me that has to struggle with my self-absorption, my sinfulness, my hang-ups. I recall, however, that it was while I was a sinner that Christ loved me enough to die for me. So Sunday by Sunday before I take the bread and wine I can say with conviction, along with my Christian sisters and brothers:

Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.

So, as you’ve guessed, I picked up the phone and said to Laura, “O.K., I’ll do it. But it may not make much sense.”

A happy and blessed Easter to you all.
This school year has been one of the first in recent history when several Fuller events have centered around one theme. Last year, the Worship Life Committee decided to have ‘reconciliation’ be the theme for all Wednesday chapels this year. Both the Film Festival and the Day of Prayer planning committees picked up on the theme. Although reconciliation has been a campus theme all year, issues of race and reconciliation have come to the fore in several of our more recent seminary-wide discussions. People have called and written to the SEMI about them. Some of the most lively discussion of the year on the Board of Declaration has centered around these areas. Have we learned anything from all that talk and excitement?

On the most basic level, we are learning that reconciliation is just plain hard work. It takes a willingness to talk and a willingness to listen. It takes time. It takes an openness to pain: ours and others’. It takes the courage to face someone’s anger, even to take it on ourselves. It takes the sensitivity to hear what’s behind someone’s words and to know how to respond to the emotion or confusion we find there.

What happens when we talk about sensitive issues and we are misunderstood? We are afraid of confrontation. We are afraid of being misunderstood. We are afraid of being ‘wrong’ and offending. We are afraid of betraying our ignorance. We do not feel safe when someone else is angry and seems to have generations of anger inspiring him or her. Sometimes we think something is just ‘politically correct,’ and we resent having to deal with it. We think reconciliation must happen overnight, and we are afraid we can’t rise to that challenge. What that fear does, though, is reduce us to silence. We are afraid of our feelings and others’ experiences and responses, so we don’t talk to one another.

In our discussions as a staff, we at the SEMI and in the Office of Student Services have realized that even we are at very different places with regard to reconciliation. However, we do not want that fact to make us stop talking. We must not merely say, “Can’t we all just get along?” and leave it at that. We can’t just gloss over our differences and misunderstandings, either. It is too easy to refuse to attempt reconciliation because it is hard work. Just because it is hard work or it takes time (something none of us has enough to spare) is no excuse to avoid the struggle. We as a campus will never move closer to reconciliation with our brothers and sisters who are different than we are until we grapple with our assumptions, our fear.

We need a safe place in which to admit that we’re ‘not there yet,’ a place where we can speak honestly and not be judged, where we can hear someone else’s honesty and respect them for it. This spring the SEMI will feature a series of testimonies about reconciliation. Some will be stories of unresolved pain. Some will be stories with happy endings. Some will be stories of misguided attempts at reconciliation and understanding. Some will be success stories. We want to open up discussion, to create a place where it’s okay not to be resolved yet, but where we are still willing to talk to one another.

One of the disadvantages of the printed medium is that feedback is limited. Rather than stir up emotions in you and leave you to deal with them by yourself, we want to offer a forum for discussion. The SEMI staff will sponsor weekly brown-bag-lunch discussions where we as a community have the chance to ‘process’ the feelings and issues raised in the previous week’s SEMI. Beginning on Tuesday, April 9, you are invited to join us during the common lunch period (12:15-1:00, usually in the Faculty Commons) for safe and open dialogue on reconciliation. Bring a listening ear, your lunch, and your questions and concerns.
WOW! This is the best way to describe my initial reaction to Logos 2.0 from Logos Research Systems. More than a mere Bible program, Logos 2.0 is an electronic publishing standard which has, in its current incarnation, a focus on biblical studies. The program is on a CD-ROM for Windows format (sorry again, Mac users—but keep watching!). System requirements: C: 386; S: Win3.1; R: 4MB; H: 4MB

Logos 2.0 comes in four levels, ranging from the first, with three English Bibles, a dictionary, and several other study tools; to the fourth, with seven English Bibles, Greek, Hebrew and Latin, numerous lexical aids, dictionaries, commentaries, and other study helps. One of the best features of the CD is that you can search all of the texts at the same time, or grouped together however you like. So you can find dictionary articles, commentary articles, lexicon entries, and Bible verses, all referring to the same term or terms, and all in one search. The search can take a while, depending on how complex. Also, learning to do elaborate searches takes a while, but this is to be expected with the numerous features of the program.

The program works quite well with your other Windows programs, such as a word processor. It comes with macros to use in Microsoft Word, so that you can easily copy text into your document. It even has a feature to copy the reference information so that you won’t accidentally plagiarize somebody’s work! You can also print entire articles (such as from a dictionary or commentary) with a couple of mouse clicks.

The original language texts are very nice. They come with complete parsing information which is quickly accessible, and the texts may even be searched based on the parsing. Up to four Greek NT texts are available, including two different Textus Receptus editions, the Majority textform, and the NA26. Unfortunately, there is no way to determine between variant readings which is better, so the inclusion of the Textus Receptus editions (at least) seems somewhat pointless to me. It has the Rahlf's edition of the LXX and standard BHS Hebrew. Lexicons include BAGD, Liddell-Scott, Louw-Nida, as well as “Little Kittel” (the one-volume abridgement of Kittel's TDNT). One glaring omission is that of a Hebrew lexicon. The only way to access the BDB on this CD is through Strong's numbers, which means that you need to know how a word is translated in the KJV to find out how to translate it. Frankly, this omission is quite severe to me (being a pretty avid student of Hebrew), but if you aren’t like me (may it never be!), the level four CD is without par for Greek Lexical tools among everything I’ve seen.

One other (minor) deficiency in the selection of texts is the Atlas. It’s so thin as to be almost useless, except for locating a few cities. Other than this, the selection of texts currently available is great. Another great feature is the ability to access additional texts on the CD with only a phone call. Each of the four levels contains many texts on the CD beyond what it originally comes with which can be “purchased” by calling Logos, giving them a Credit Card number, and getting an access key. So you could, in theory, purchase level one, and eventually upgrade it to the same as level four, or better. That way, you can come up with your own configuration of texts and maybe save some money. The CD also comes with an instructional video to get you started on the basics, if you’re intimidated by such an advanced program.

Prices range from $120 to $600. To order Logos 2.0 you can call or write: Logos Research Systems, 2117 200th Ave. West, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-4049; 1-800-87-LOGOS. Or on the web, at http://islander.whidbey.net/~logos.
Letting Love Abound

The Three Inches

“He’s grown 3 inches in 5 months!” The doctor was talking about my three-year-old friend J. J. His mom now had a reason to understand why he was needing size 10-12 clothes! She hadn’t noticed how radical the change was, since she was nurturing him on a daily basis. She just fed him, gave him lots of hugs and kisses, nursed his bumps and bruises, and caringly watched over his environment of school and friends.

As she recounted the story, there was obvious pride in the maternal voice that her baby was indeed flourishing and progressing. I sensed no anxiety from her that he was not performing at the level his physical size might suggest, but rather a deep satisfaction with his age-appropriate development - while remaining eager for his continued maturity.

For the last 5 to 6 months, Fuller has focused on “reconciliation.” We’ve experienced the theme through films, a fall Day of Prayer, SEMI articles, and Lenten Devotionals, to mention a few. Sometimes the growth process has been uncomfortable, startling, and public. Sometimes the development has been subtle, incremental, and private. Either way, I wonder, “Where have we grown our 3 inches?”

What are the 3 inches that help us know we are faithful to Jesus? At this spring’s all-seminary Day of Prayer on May 2, we’ll have the opportunity to celebrate our 3 inches, while remembering the bumps and bruises. These 3 inches extend the Building of the Bond of Peace (see Eph. 4:3). Through the unity of this bond of peace, we can grow beyond the 3 inches - into a fully-mature, fully-functioning, and fully-loving body... That is, the body of Christ.

Bring your 3 inches and join us.

...for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.
Ephesians 4: 12b-13

Katie Price Foster
Assistant Director, OCC
Day of Prayer Planning Team

Spring Opportunities

✦ Where are our 3 inches? - The OCC would like to collect brief stories of how you’ve seen us (the Fuller community) grow, individually and corporately, toward reconciliation this year. If you have a story to share which might be appropriate to be shared in the SEMI or on the Day of Prayer to encourage the community, please call the OCC, stop by the office, or drop us a note to Box OCC. Watch for the Bridge of Dreams.

✦ Environmental Issues - Our office has been given a large quantity of Green Cross magazines to be given away to the Fuller Community. The special focus is on Christian Responsibility for Animals. If you would like one of these magazines (no cost, of course) please call us and give us your box number.

Upcoming Events

✦ Spiritual Autobiography - Dr. Richard Peace will be leading a retreat focused on journaling your journey and how it can enrich your life with God. It will be on May 4, from 9:00am-4:00pm, so mark your calendars now!

✦ The Couples Garden - Does your marriage relationship seem to be stagnant or often more frustrating than rewarding? Or are you just wanting to go deeper with your spouse? Fuller offers the Couples Garden to all students, spouses, and faculty to bring more satisfaction into your relationship. You will spend 45 minutes learning about better communication skills and how to better love each other, then you will go on a date and put these things into practice. April 13 will be the first Couple’s Garden for this quarter. Call the OCC to sign up.

✦ Further Out - Are you interested in a couples spiritual formation and marriage enrichment group? This is a new opportunity to focus more on spiritual growth and building relationships with other couples in a small group setting. If you are interested, contact the OCC at 584-5322.

The Office of Christian Community may be reached at (818) 584-5322, or FTS Box 243, and is located on the second floor of the Catalyst building.
From the ASC President

It is that time of year again for the ASC to begin the process of hosting the elections for next year's All Seminary Council. I encourage ALL students to prayerfully consider running for an office in student government while attending Fuller. It has been my experience that there are a number of types of extracurricular education which occur at Fuller. One type is what we receive in the groups in which we participate, and another is what we may learn in student government. I have found being involved in student government the past 3 years to be a profoundly empowering, enlightening and challenging experience. I have been blessed by the intimate and deeply meaningful relationships I have enjoyed with students, staff, faculty, administrators, and trustees. It has been a time of growth. When advocating for students I sometimes find myself afraid to confront or challenge others in authority, even when trying to do so in love. The wide range of responses I have received for taking such risks has been immensely important to my personal and professional development. To be able to disagree strongly with others I respect and to become closer as a result has been an incredible experience. None of this would have occurred the way it has if I had not participated in the ASC.

There are costs in running for office or joining a committee or cabinet. Most positions do offer some financial compensation. As any ASC member will tell you, though, student government can seem like a volunteer position, given all the energy and time that goes into serving the student body. It seems to me that the real payoff is in seeing the impact one can have in actually improving student life, education, and development at Fuller, both for the present and future. Equally important have been the fulfilling relationships I have built, both with other members of the ASC and individuals throughout the Fuller community--I know these will last a lifetime. This has truly been a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

The following is a list of positions which will be up for election this spring:

- ASC President
- ASC Vice-President
- TGU President
- TGU Vice-President
- SWM President
- SWM Vice-President
- PGU President (MFT)
- PGU President (Clinical)
- Women's Concerns Chair
- International Concerns Chair
- Multi-cultural Concerns Chair
- Arts Concerns Chair
- Peace and Justice Concerns Chair
- Missions Concerns Chair

Again, I encourage ALL students to stop by the ASC and ask about this year's elections.

With love and joy,

Gino Vaccaro
ASC President

ON APRIL 13TH, THE EVENT OF THE YEAR (BESIDES THE BOSH BASH) IS COMING!

FULLER FOLLIES '96

APRIL 13, 7 PM - 9PM
TRAVIS AUDITORIUM
ADMISSION $2.00

But we need your help!
Sign up your act by April 1st.
Call Jim and leave a message at 818-792-3364.
(This means faculty as well.)
10 acts are needed to have the show.
Also, we are in desperate need of a House Band or a D.J..
Any suggestions? Call Today!

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Community News

Sheri Harthoorn, a Fuller student and staff member, was diagnosed recently with a serious cancer. You probably have seen the periodic updates on her condition circulated on the VAX and posted on the Board of Declaration. Sheri has written a brief note to us:

Dear Fuller Community,

I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for the many and various demonstrations of your love and care for me during this last trying month and a half of my life. I have felt the support of prayers offered on my behalf, the care of the hundreds of cards sent, the fellowship and comfort of those who have visited me in the hospital and at home, and the provision of God through your generous gifts. Thank you so much. Your prayers and presence continue to be so important to me as I start my treatment.

Sheri Harthoorn

Updates on Sheri’s progress continue to be posted on the Board of Declaration.

CHAPEL news

All-Seminary Chapel

On Wednesday, April 4, our speaker is Dr. Richard Mouw, president of the seminary. We gather for the Wednesday Chapel at 10 am at the First Congregational Church. There will be a brief time of fellowship following chapel.

On Thursday, March 7, Dr. Bill Pannell, dean of chapel, will be sharing a message after a time of praise and worship led by the Chapel Worship Team. The Thursday All-Seminary Chapel meets in Travis Auditorium at 10 am.

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PILGRIMAGE SMALL GROUPS WORKSHOP

Are you interested in small-group ministry? Do you need some help in developing a small-group ministry or in expanding an existing group ministry? Do you need help in choosing, using and adapting materials? Join us for a Saturday session on March 30, 8 am - 4 pm in Payton 101, as we address these and other topics with experts in the field. Sponsored by the Office of Continuing Education. For more information, call 584-5290.

INTER-SEMINARY INSTITUTE

Applications are now available at the Field Education Office for the fourth City of Hope Inter-Seminary Institute, being held July 8 - 19. This year, Dr. David Augsburger will be the theological integrator for this four-faith, five-seminary program. The Institute is a two-week-long, stipend-supported immersion in all aspects of hospital ministry and is open to all School of Theology students with preference given to those with the most credit hours.

A CALL FOR SINGERS!

The Fuller chapel choir presents music each Wednesday as part of the chapel service. Additional voices are needed for the spring quarter, and choral scholarships are available for those who participate. Come to our practice (Weds., 11am-12 pm at the First Congregational Church choir room) or contact Dr. Janet Harms, choir director, at 909-394-9990.

AFRICAN AMERICAN SEMINARIAN ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS

Elections for officers for AASA will be held the week of April 15th. All eligible students who wish to have their names submitted on the ballot should forward a resume along with a statement of the past activities with the AASA and future plans for the AASA. Contact Noella Buchanan through FTS Box 864 before April 12.
**The Children's Kingdom Needs You!**
The Children's Kingdom, a wonderful family day care home, is accepting applications for new directors. If you are interested in operating a family day care home as your own business, ministering to student families while residing in Fuller Housing, please contact Ruth Vuong in the Office of Student Services (584-5437) immediately. Children’s Kingdom is in a four-bedroom house with a beautiful yard in walking distance from campus. Great opportunity for community life. Must have work permit, one year of experience working with children, and willingness to obtain state licensing.

**Free Movies On Campus!**
Mark your calendars for these movies in the CFD Resource Center (465 Ford Pl.):
* Babe*, showing at 3 pm on Friday, March 29, and the *Fugitive*, showing at 3 pm on Friday, April 5.

**Job Opportunity**
Continuing and Extended Education is a market-driven, service-oriented office, where your gifts of service can be put to work! Flexible hours, part-time work available to the right people desiring to labor with others who are dedicated to making a difference. Send your resume to Human Resources marked “a few great folks.”

**Moltmann Materials on Reserve**
Get ready for the Payton Lectures featuring Jürgen Moltmann! Materials by and about Moltmann are on reserve in the library for students interested in preparing for his lectures. You must check these materials out from the reference desk.

**Teach English in China**
Don’t forget to turn in your applications by April 1 to teach English in China this summer! For the third summer, Fuller will partially sponsor several students to help Chinese seminarians become more proficient in their use of English. Applications, available from SWM, will not be accepted after April 1.

**Donations Needed**
International Student Services is in need of donated kitchen supplies and linen. We need complete used or new sets of dishes, pots and pans, and linen in good condition. Please notify our office before bringing donations over (584-5395). We want to welcome our new international students, many of whom arrive with nothing for their homes, by providing some useful essentials for their apartments.

**Fuller Phonathon Hiring**
Want a great part-time job? The Office of Development is now accepting applications for the *Spring 1996 Phonathon* to help increase funds for student assistance. Training starts Monday, April 15th and the phonathan will run through Thursday, May 16th. We’ll be calling Monday through Thursday, 5:00 to 9:00 pm & we’d like you to work 2 to 4 nights per week. Go to Human Resources (next to Amy’s) for an application or contact the Office of Dev. at 584-5683.

**Payton Lectures**
Look for the Payton Lectures brochures in your mailboxes. This year’s speaker is Jürgen Moltmann, who will be speaking on “Christianity and Western Values.” The brochure will provide all the details of this exciting event, including a registration form and a certificate entitling you to free registration for the lectureship. Please register early; the *deadline* is *April 8*. (Note: Due to the tremendous response, the Payton lectures will take place in the Forum Room at All Saints Episcopal Church.)

**Want a Great Job?**
Are you an SOT student with administrative, counseling, and people skills? SOT academic advising is accepting applications for advisors for the 1996-97 school year! Go to the *business office* for job description and application (please do not go to the advising office). Deadline is April 8.

**Christmas in April**
“Christmas in April” is a nation-wide effort to organize volunteers who will give their time and skills for one day to make repairs on selected homes for low-income, elderly or disabled homeowners. Whether you are a skilled craftsperson or an unskilled-but-willing worker, we’d love to have you! Call 833-1033 for more info.

**Doctoral Student Directory**
Women and ethnic doctoral candidates and graduates are invited to list their academic credentials in the 1996-97 edition of the *Minority and Women Doctoral Directory*. Listing is free for your first year. The directory is an important tool in increasing minorities’ and women’s representation on university faculties. Application forms available outside the Office of Women’s Concerns, upstairs from the Catalyst.

**Charry Pith, Again!**
“Today the mainline Protestant denominations ... are dominated by the therapeutic climate aimed at physical, emotional, and social well-being. In this climate the burden of proof is on Christian doctrine to demonstrate its benefits.” Ellen Charry speaks on “The Salutarity of Christian Doctrine” *April 10 and 11*. Be there!

**Profiles in Peace**

**Internship Opportunity**
The Rev. Sandy Tice, associate pastor of the Claremont Presbyterian Church, will be on campus Tuesday, *April 16*, from 11-1 pm to interview for two well-paid and supported internships in youth and children’s ministries. Sign up outside the job room in Carnell Hall.
Auto Repair: SMOG CHECKS, tune-ups, oil change, brakes, batteries, etc. Complete service. Grant Auto Service, 1477 E. Washington Blvd., Pasadena. 798-4064. Call for an appointment.


Christians need cars too! SIDCO Auto Brokers serves Christian Colleges, Missions, Staff/Students/Alumni. This is our 10th year serving the Christian community. Fuller Hotline 909-949-2778 or 1-800-429-KARS. “A good name is chosen rather than riches.” - Proverbs 22:1

For Rent: Vacation Get-Away at the Harmony House. 4 bedroom retreat center (sleeps 10-12) in beautiful Lake Arrowhead. $295/weekends, $650/week. Call Dr. Janet Harms 909-394-9990 (Fuller choir director) for brochure and reservations.

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Fast Fundraiser - Raise $500 in 5 days - groups, clubs, motivated individuals. Fast, easy - no financial obligation.

Excel Telecommunications: Dining with Dan’s free seminar for students, faculty, staff. Thursday, April 4th, 6:30 pm. Lee’s Hoagie House, 2269 E. Colorado Blvd. Free complimentary appetizers served.


For Sale: Twin bed-no headboard, paid $250; mountain bike–hardly used, paid $270; white folding table–slightly marked up, 20"x48", paid $30; desk chair, paid $60. Call 818-795-3709 and make an offer.

Organist/Pianist Needed for Community Christian Reformed Church in Fountain Valley. Will provide primary music for Sunday morning services. For more information call Anna at 714-847-1515.

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