sitting in silence, there is probably someone around campus who can share your burdens and joys with you. Help others find their niche as well. When you hear of someone with a particular talent or passion, take the role of matchmaker. Down the road, you may be grateful when someone helps you get connected too.

The bond we have in Christ truly is a gift. In a short while, we will no longer be physically among this community. While we have the chance, I encourage each of you to find a way to get involved. The ladies around you are ready to lift you up in prayer and be there for you when you’re tired, frustrated, or confused. Embrace your sisters and find strength in their encouragement. Be a blessing when someone else is in need. Offer an ear to listen, a laugh to share, or a shoulder to cry on. Enjoy your time with one another, and savor every moment.

Since returning from my husband’s vicarage, I don’t feel as if I’ve stopped moving. From unpacking to beginning a new job, I feel like I’m in perpetual motion. Knowing a little about physics, I realize perpetual motion is impossible. I haven’t really been moving since July 30. I’ve slept some, had moments of rejuvenation, reunited with old friends and made some new ones.

Our lives of transition from moving to St. Louis, settling in, and then preparing to leave again may seem to happen in the blink of an eye. But, stop to consider how much can really happen in the time you’re here. When it’s over, our paths will part. For this brief moment in our seemingly perpetually moving lives, can we pause to embrace the uniqueness of this Christian community?

I’m not saying our lives while at Concordia Seminary are stress-free, and I’m certainly not expecting our lives outside this place to be filled with anguish either. But while we’re here, we have a chance, however brief, to make real and lasting friendships with fellow sisters in Christ. Those who can be there for us in times of need, both now and along our future voyages. Classroom courses prepare students for ministry, but there are opportunities to be challenged spiritually outside the classroom too. From Bible studies to book clubs, coffee with friends, or a walk in the park, occasions present themselves every day. We all have a precious opportunity to grow as sisters in Christ in a real and personal way.

As my time on campus draws to an end, I’m reminded of how valuable the time is that I have with you. I encourage you to embrace the Christian community of campus fellowship. Whether you’re interested in scrapbooking, biking, or just

Welcome to a New Year!

On behalf of the Seminary Women’s Association, I would like to welcome all who are reading this to a new year of life at the seminary. Whether you are staff, student, spouse, or significant other, I hope you find this newsletter to be encouraging and informative.

I have gotten some great feedback about things you’d like to see on these pages this year. “Cooking Corner” returns from last year’s edition. It may give you some new ideas on how to use the donated items and seminary produce that we’ve been given.

In celebration of 30 years of SWA newsletters, and to honor the hard work of those who have gone before me, I will be reprinting an article in each issue that first appeared in decades gone by.

If you have ideas for future newsletters, please share them!

Blessings on your year!

~Darci Miller
Cooking Corner

**Italian Panzanella Salad** (Courtesy of Pampered Chef)

**Bread:**
- 2 T olive oil
- 8 cups bread cubes
- 2 minced garlic cloves

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Toss bread cubes with oil and garlic.
Spread onto a large cookie sheet. Bake 12 minutes or until golden brown.

**Salad:**
- 8 cups torn romaine lettuce
- 1 can sliced mushrooms
- 1 jar roasted sweet red peppers, drained and diced
- 1 cup diced salami or ham
- 1 can olives
- 1/4 cup sliced red onion
- 1 medium sliced zucchini
- 1 cup Italian vinaigrette
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese

Toss all together with bread cubes. Serve immediately.
The days of summer are fading fast and fall is rushing in. With it comes newly sharpened pencils, text books and boxes that need to be unpacked. There is a certain level of stress about campus; parents trying to get their kids adjusted and prepared for school, spouses trying to make their apartments feel like home for a year or two and students trying to get everything they will need for the upcoming year.

It is so easy to get lost in the excitement of things, to focus on who has who for what class. Who is living on or off campus this year? Who just got married or added a new member to their family? It is so easy to focus on the text book aspect of the seminary, the competition between teams for sports and the amount of work that comes with a school year. Often we may overlook the bigger picture of why we are here and who we should be focusing on.

We live in a non-stop 24/7 world, a world that does not like to rest but to keep going until it can’t go any further. But we as Christians need to take time out of our busy schedule and dedicate it to God. Psalm 46:10 tells us to be still and focus on God. The rest of the verse talks about how God will be exalted among all the nations, all the earth. Shouldn’t we join in? Shouldn’t we praise God along with the rest of His creation? Shouldn’t we take the time to listen to His words of instruction?

I challenge you to take at least 15 minutes out of your day and dedicate it to God, to read the Bible, to pray, to listen. When we are still we will know that He is God.

Flashback: The Pastor’s Wife In the Parish

She could have fallen in love with a plumber. Or a lawyer. Or anyone else. But she didn’t. She fell in love with a guy whom God has moved to prepare for the public ministry in the church. She’s going to be a pastor’s wife.

She knows that her primary vocation is to be a wife and mother (if God wills that). She understands that she is not an unofficial “assistant pastor.”

But she wants a share in the action! Why not? The ministry and the church provide the “gusto” for her life. And a good life it is. Still, she wonders about its challenges and its limits.

Her first vocation is to take care of the pastor. She knows that. Is the clerical shirt clean and ready? Is the surplice presentable? Do the PKs set an example of discipline in the worship service for the children of the parish?

But the “Queen of the Parsonage” wants and needs more! And she deserves more.

My suggestion is simple: “Specialize, dear girl, specialize.” To thine own self be true.

Are you “artsy-craftsy”? Then get involved in the Altar Guild. You don’t have to be president or chairman. I recommend that you refuse such a position in anything in the parish. But if you have skills and interest in vestments, paraments, banners, etc., put them to use! God alone knows how many of our churches look good because of the subtle, unseen hand of “Frau Pastor.”

Perhaps that is not your “bag.” You’re musical. Make that your mission. Gently, gently, sister! Set some goals. Are the preludes awful and not awesome? Does the choir “render lard?” Your specific suggestions can upgrade the music and none will be the wiser that you are responsible.

On education? Your kids will be exposed to the Christian education processes of the parish. You have a vested interest! Feed your ideas to the pastor. He needs you. And if he doesn’t use your ideas, be content. You got your point across.

In short (which is an impossibility for me), enjoy the position of “pastor’s wife.” You have a unique position. Our dear laity bestow upon you a position which the “official church” cannot define. Move in. Do not worry about official titles. “Pastor’s wife” is enough. However, see your parish as a larger family to serve. Do not be “bossy.” Do not be “mousey.”

Someday someone may suggest we erect a statue of Katherina Luther next to Martin’s on the seminary grounds. Meanwhile, all pastors should remember that Blessed Martin called that dear lady “Kitty, my rib.”

This article was written in November 1979 for the “Sem Wives Newsletter” by Richard J. Schultz. How have perceptions changed over the last 30 years?
### 2010-2011 SWA Board

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### Equipped & Ready

**Seminary Women’s Retreat**  
Camp Wartburg, Waterloo, IL

- **Inspirational Speaker**
- **Devotions**
- **Relaxation**
- **Fellowship**
- **Door Prizes**
- **Personal Time**
- **Friendships**

**Save the Date:**  
Oct. 1 & 2  
2010

**Registration Deadline:**  
September 24