

copy

April 28, 1991

The Rev. Bryan M. Gerlach  
7782 Uplands Way  
Citrus Heights, California 95610

Dear Bryan,

All the excitement of the April 14 and April 21 weekends has come to an end, and the time has come for my life to take a breather. It certainly was an exciting couple of weeks! The organ dedication was so memorable because it ushered in what will surely be a new era at the Sem; the festival concert was pure celebration. Each event had its own strength and carries its own memory. Someone once described a St. Olaf Christmas Festival as "an orgy of music and food." We didn't have much food, but, for two weeks, we surely had an orgy of music!

We crammed close to 2000 people in the auditorium on the 21st and the Mequon police estimated that over 300 cars never got onto the Sem grounds! The singers and instrumentalists came prepared and the music was quite grand. I am enclosing a program, although there were only several left.

You were an important part of that glorious April, of course, and I want to send along not only the Seminary's official thanks but my personal thanks as well. I deeply appreciate the effort you made and the help you offered to make the dedication event something which was memorable and praiseworthy. You have a fine gift, Bryan, not only in your fingers, but especially in your mind, and I am confident the Lord will find

many uses for your abilities and insights as the years pass.

I was pleased to hear that you will be on board for the Hymnal Introduction Program. As Kurt finds it more and more difficult to keep up, it is essential that we have good men on that committee. I am confident that you will serve with distinction--and for the good of the members of our congregations.

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I am sending along some instrumental music you left here. As far as our getting together to discuss chant, I am only too happy to learn. Let me know of a specific date and we will try to schedule some time. Perhaps you can advise me of something I might read to help in this area.

Gawrisch wants to publish the dedication sermon in the WLQ. Perhaps that is a better place for it than in Focus; my dad said he had to read it twice before it made sense on paper!. Since it will not appear until the fall issue, I am enclosing a copy.

Finally, you will find enclosed a check which includes your expenses and an honorarium. Please receive the latter with the sincere thanks of the Seminary. I made a quick copy of the serbvice tape for your dad, but I want to do some editing before I make you a good copy. I will do that work in the week ahead, and hopefully you will receive a copy soon after that.

May the Lord continue to pour out his blessings on your, your family and your ministry.

Cordially in Christ,

James P. Tiefel