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Foreword

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DEDICATION

to

Delton John Glebe, BA, BD, MA, ThD, DD

on the occasion of his
80th Birthday
and the 47th year
of his ministry

in

Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

Foreword

In January 1999 Dr. Delton J. Glebe marked his 80th birthday. We have abundant reason to celebrate this event with him. His life is intimately connected to the life of the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary (WLS) in its identity formation as a creative and truly contemporary learning community in theological education. After almost ten years of parish ministry and seminary teaching Dr. Glebe joined the faculty at the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary in 1960. Ten years later he became the Principal-Dean, a position he held till 1984. Currently he is still actively teaching in the area of Practical Theology, in the department where he developed Pastoral Care and Counselling courses into the kind of graduate degree programs which continue to draw students from North America and other parts of the world. It fits with this *Consensus* Number devoted to the theme of Pastoral Care that we bring tribute to him.

Delton Glebe has nurtured the WLS Counselling Programs and the Kitchener Interfaith Pastoral Counselling Centre (IPCC) into a joint, fully accredited program in Pastoral Counselling and Family Therapy. The Seminary has a long history, going back to the early 1970s, of collaborating with Interfaith in forging an integration of academic courses with clinical practice. Presently degree programs in pastoral counselling, both at the masters and doctoral level, combine the unique resources of the two institutions. Delton Glebe is the original visionary in partnering Seminary and Interfaith and in developing the Seminary's inter-disciplinary pastoral care and counselling programs.

Delton Glebe's role in bridging the academic and professional community is symbolized in his long-term position as Chair of the Professional Advisory Committee of the Interfaith Centre. The contributors of articles in this issue of *Consensus* have this same peculiarity in common: each has a significant connection to both WLS and IPCC. The common theme in each essay is about connections. Delton Glebe's reflection centres on his conviction that all of life is connected and that Pastoral Care is situated in the "meeting places".

His essay presents a theological reflection on his experience in an ecclesiastical Court of Adjudication. He shows that Pastoral Care interacts not only with individuals but also with the systems and institutions of our culture. Tom St. James O'Connor, a graduate of the conjoint WLS-Interfaith internship program, combines a WLS teaching position with being the Co-Director of Chaplaincy at Chedoke-McMaster Hospitals. His essay addresses the critical question of how pastoral counselling is and is not connected to the congregation. Evelyn Marcon, also a graduate of the conjoint internship program, is the Director of Student Services and Coordinator in Multicultural Counselling Services at Interfaith, and adjunct WLS faculty. Her article visualizes ritual and narrative as healing-symbols in both religious and therapeutic communities. Elizabeth Huss is the Clinical Director at Interfaith, adjunct WLS faculty, and Practicum Instructor for the School of Social Work at Wilfrid Laurier University. She reflects on clinical education as the meeting place of diversity in perspectives, values, and identities. Peter VanKatwyk, Director of Pastoral Counselling Programs at both WLS and Interfaith, follows the hermeneutics of theological reflection to connect personal experience, theology, and psychology in a dialogue on the meaning of pastoral care.

Pastoral Care practices and studies theology at the crossroads of life. Not a theological discipline of clear boundaries, pastoral care locates itself in the manifold expressions of ministry and healing. Grounded in biblical traditions of caring and shaped by the faith experience, pastoral care, specifically in the latter half of this century, has also been profoundly informed by the social sciences. The connection to psychology and psychotherapy is especially prominent in the practice of pastoral counselling with its requirements of clinical competence and professional certification. Threads of connection weave the canvas of a new age of pluralism and global consciousness in pastoral education. Social scientists, theologians, mental health professionals, pastoral care practitioners and pastoral counsellors, inhabit different worlds and converse in different languages. This issue focuses on the Seminary-Interfaith connection as one specific example of theological education as a meeting ground for mixed discourse and, who knows, mutual transformation.

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