## **Consensus**

Volume 1 | Issue 1 Article 1

1-1-1975

## By Way of Introduction

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## Recommended Citation

Threinen, Norman J. (1975) "By Way of Introduction," Consensus: Vol. 1 : Iss. 1 , Article 1. Available at: http://scholars.wlu.ca/consensus/vol1/iss1/1

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## By Way of Introduction

In November, 1974 the Division of Theological Studies of the Lutheran Council in Canada authorized the publication of a quarterly on a year's trial period. Thus CONSENSUS - A CANADIAN LUTHERAN JOURNAL OF THEOLOGY was conceived under the Division's constitutional mandate to publish. With this issue it is born.

A word about the title - the word CONSENSUS in the title does not imply that everything in the Journal will receive the unanimous approval of every Lutheran in Canada. One of the purposes of the Journal is to enable Lutherans to struggle with the implications of the Gospel for the mission of our church in Canada. In such a struggle there is value in dialogue between varying points of view and differing emphases which come out of a common commitment to the Scriptures and loyalty to the Lutheran Confessions.

A purpose of the Journal is to be a vehicle for sharing with Lutheran pastors and lay persons documentary results of the official merger negotiations. Since the church has more lay persons than pastors, we dare to believe that the predominant readership of the Journal will be informed lay persons. One big problem will be getting the names and addresses of interested lay persons. Your help is needed to develop the network of communication which this Journal is to serve. If you think this Journal has possibilities, spread the word. Encourage others to request CONSENSUS.

A final word - we are entering a new venture. We covet your encouragement, your positive suggestions and your constructive criticism. Let us hear from you.