

THE WEAKLY REMEMBERS....

THE EXHILARATION OF THE SEMINARY EXPERIENCE

The Editor and his bride were joined in marriage on the 5th of September 1954. It was a hot, muggy Sunday afternoon and the performance was to a full house in the first Baptist Church of Evans City, PA. A short reception followed at the bride's home and soon the weather became hotter as the Editor and bride learned someone had covered the motor of the editor's car with limburger cheese...it could be smelled thereon as much as two years later. Nevertheless, the following Sunday after a short honeymoon, the couple left western Pennsylvania and travelled to Philadelphia where the editor was enrolled for classes at Faith Seminary.

It is amazing how little we knew about life in general and our total family assets consisted of about fifty dollars and an ironing board with some wedding gifts scattered about our personal possessions. Our guardian angel was close to us and we found an apartment from which another seminary student was moving...one where we needed no escrow payment and had enough battered furniture that we were able to live on it for a year or so. We soon had everything in place, thanks to the Providence of our good God. But the exhilaration of Seminary life (hard to comprehend it today) was awesome.

In those days everyone was treated like a celebrity at Faith. The Registrar was one Dr. Peter Stam who greeted me with a hand shake and a masculine embrace enhanced by 400 words of welcome, each more meaningful than the first. He inquired of my professions and when I told him I had worked as a tree surgeon he reacted as if one of the great medical minds of all time had enrolled in the school. There was a genuineness to all of this that made one feel truly welcome and the hospitality was enormous. (We may have lost a bit of this at Biblical but there were not many people like Dr. Stam at any time.)