

Today's successful programming is a tribute to Art's foundational efforts.

I was privileged to have Art as friend and colleague at Moravian Theological Seminary for twenty-seven years. Soon after my arrival in 1968, I audited Art's course in the Theology of Zinzendorf and enjoyed an early exposure to Art, his teaching style, and his enthusiasm for the subject which has been central to his subsequent scholarly work. As time passed I came to appreciate Art's many talents and the gifts he gave to the Seminary community. We shared experiences in Europe, in Antigua, and in many long conversations in Bahnson. He was truly very instrumental in shaping the ethos of the Seminary during all the years of his service as a faculty member. I can attest to that as can the many students who have come to know him over the years.

The Rev. Dr. David Schattschneider is the Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology of Moravian Theological Seminary.

Maggie Wellert Sister Bay, Wisconsin

David Schattschneider speculated that I may have been the longest lasting student ever at Moravian Theological Seminary, having taken my first course in the spring semester of 1989 and graduating with a second degree in

May of 2001 — at least one course in each of three decades! And in many of those semesters, I made sure to sign up for whatever it was that Art Freeman was teaching.

Never one to do things the easy way, I matriculated in the spring semester, which meant that nearly every course had a fall pre-requisite, except for the New Testament course Professor Art Freeman was teaching. So, I signed up for that one! It filled a requirement and would let me start on my tentative journey, entering graduate school several decades after college.

After the first lecture, I walked gingerly to the podium, and shyly (really!) said, "I think I shouldn't be in this class. I think this is a bit over my head." The Professor gently asked, "What is your church background?" That was an easy one: "I grew up in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod." "Well," he replied, "that means you have a good biblical background. Go to the library and get this history book — it's a survey of the times between the Old Testament and the New. You'll be fine." And I was.

Until I got to the first assignment. Our text was a very fat book that had a long German name that I never did learn how to pronounce! Each student was assigned one chapter in the unpronounceable book: read it and make a presentation to the entire class. I read my chapter...and read my chapter...and read my chapter...nothing. Finally, I outlined the entire chapter, said lots of prayers, practically memorized the entire thing, and stood behind the podium to make my first presentation at

MTS. It actually went well...I even managed to answer questions!

That Thursday afternoon was the last day of classes before spring break. So, everyone, myself included, was bolting as soon as class was finished. On to free time! When we gathered again, ten days later, on our first Tuesday afternoon class, as Art entered the room, he walked right to my seat, stood in front of me, smiled, and said something to the effect of, "Your presentation at our last class was excellent. That was very difficult material and you made it accessible for everyone. Thank you." Wow!

It was Art's hospitality and graciousness that enabled a nervous, timid, forty-something to enter graduate school and love it so much that she never wanted to leave. I decided right then that since Art was obviously a little long in the tooth, and that I was doing this school thing part-time, that no matter what Art was teaching in a given semester, I was signing up. Whatever it was, it would fill some requirement! And I did exactly that until he retired. Art is a masterful teacher, and you received an unpublished book with every syllabus! And when Art shared materials prepared for adult study, he gave you permission to duplicate.

What did I learn in all those classes?

I learned that the heart and soul of Moravian identity is living from your relationship with the Savior.

I learned that one doesn't merely teach or study the faith, the scriptures, the mothers and fathers of the faith, one lives their teachings.

I learned that theology is the work of the people — that all our God words come together to help us discern how to live this terribly challenging life introduced to us by Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ.

I learned that human compassion, kindness, and love trump all that the world has to offer, even when one is walking a path of intense suffering, even — and especially — when the suffering is that of your beloved.

I learned that an ecumenical spirit is part of Moravian DNA.

I learned about spirituality and blessings and about Shalem Institute.

I learned that I love this stuff...that I love learning...that the reason I love learning is because it connects me to the Lord, to the Lord's people, to the Lord's church.

I learned that I'm good at reading, synthesizing, and interpreting, which helped me learn that I could preach.

I am honored and deeply grateful to serve as a pastor in the Moravian Church. The very notion of being a pastor wasn't even close to being on my radar back in 1989. The grace, the wisdom, the hospitality that Bishop Art Freeman extended a nervous new student, opened doors that led me on a completely new journey, opened my ears to a call that I would otherwise never have heard.

Art helped me imagine a new chapter. This year I was accepted in a Shalem Institute Program, Leading Contemplative Prayer for

Retreats and Small Group. Another imagining, courtesy of Art Freeman!

Thank you, Brother Freeman, for your mentoring Moravian Heart and Spirit. Thank you for making room at your table and sharing of your bounty. Thank you for blessing our lives with your gifts.

The Rev. Maggie Wellert is Pastor of Sister Bay Moravian Church.

Hartmut Beck **Karlsruhe, Germany**

As the author of this article, it is a privilege and a joy to be invited by *The Hinge-ITD* Editor to write a few lines on the life and work of Arthur Freeman, who was the North American Editor of *TMDK/ITD* for many years. I will focus especially on his merits for the publication of this Moravian periodical in the United States for twelve years, and on the beneficial personal friendship which we have shared with one another for more than half a century. This is also an example of the importance of personal mutual knowledge, relationship, confidence and cooperation and its meaning for the structure of Moravian fellowship in which we are joined worldwide with one another across seas and continents on the foundations of a great common ecclesiastical history and a great measure of common theological tradition and conviction.

For the academic year 1949–1950 I was privileged to be the first German foreign guest student after World War II to attend Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem as a boarder in Hamilton Hall (which I always remember very thankfully) with Bernhard Michel (later for many years editor of the monthly *North American Moravian*) as my roommate. Arthur Freeman was, at that time, one of my fellow students whom I would not have forgotten until this day. The quiet, purpose-conscious, and friendly manner in which he steadily worked did not yet betray that only a few years afterwards, with academic degrees from Lawrence University, MTS, and Princeton Theological Seminary, and after eight years of pastoral work establishing a new Moravian congregation, he would be a Professor at MTS for 34 years (1961–1995) and since 1991 a Bishop of our Moravian Church.

Still in the years of his initial pastoral work he continued with studies in the field of New Testament theology and made his dissertation for a Ph.D. at the Princeton Theological Seminary with the subject “The Hermeneutics of Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf”. This laid the tracks for much of his further academic and church work with many lectures, manuscripts and published articles on such and related subjects. All this was crowned by the publication of his book *An Ecumenical Theology of the Heart — The Theology of Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf* (1998, Bethlehem, PA, 346 pages), for which in 2000 (the year of the 300 years jubilee of N. L. von Zinzendorf’s birth), a German-