

Augustana Theological Seminary

Rock Island, Illinois

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 6, 1958

Mr. Walter H. Capps
3405 N. E. Siskiyou Street
Portland 13, Oregon

Dear Mr. Capps:

I was very happy to receive your letter of explanation as to your intentions during the coming year. You state that you would enroll in Augustana Seminary if it were not for the merger. I happen to be a member of the committee and it seems to me that no merger will be complete until at least 1964.

Your problem is as to whether or not you wish to be ordained by the Augustana Lutheran Church or by the United Lutheran Church. Our constitution requires that if you wish to be ordained in the Augustana Lutheran Church and come into the new Church as a pastor of the Augustana Lutheran Church, it would be necessary for you to attend Augustana Seminary. These provisions of the constitution will be in operation until such time as Augustana ceases to exist. Naturally I would hope that you would decide to be ordained by the Augustana Lutheran Church and come into the new Church as a pastor of the Augustana Lutheran Church. Should you wish to do so I would be happy to continue your pre-enrollment another year on the basis of your plans with the understanding that it is still your intention to complete your theological education at Augustana Seminary and be ordained as an Augustana Synod pastor.

If, on the other hand, you decide to continue and be ordained in the United Lutheran Church, you should cancel your pre-enrollment as a candidate for the ministry in the Augustana Lutheran Church.

May I suggest that you talk this matter over with Pastor Swen Swenson and go through the contents of this letter with him as he can be of considerable help in explaining our polity at this point. We would naturally hope that you will come to Augustana Seminary at least a year from this fall.

Sincerely,

Karl E. Mattson
Karl E. Mattson
President

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