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The text for my words is written in the first epistle of St. Peter in the 9th verse of the second chapter.

This little text tries to build up a guy's ego in a small way. To me it's a "sola scriptura" kind of an experience, sometimes.

What does Hanna mean to me? What do I have to contribute to it?

I don't think Hanna is an institution with a consumer mentality. It does not ransack the country or the state for shiny products, sprinkle some tinsel on them and send them out to sprinkle ~~some~~ <sup>the tinsel</sup> tinsel on others. At Hanna I have found a deep commitment that takes the new students that arrive as they are. Hanna does not take only those students who will succeed. She also takes those, who are a great risk, and has the trust to invest in their very existence. When she does this she realizes<sup>1</sup> that she might fail-- and all the painstaking labor with and for an individual in training might be lost.

But in this kind of a movement, because this whole country is in a crisis and at (wherein her institutions are being shaken) a cross roads!--I find the feeling of a steadfastness. The men who are the teachers at this school are willing to standby - where lesser men would fold up. I have watched them standby while someone comes

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out of horrible self-obsessions into  
a new light filled with the warmth and glow  
of the concern of other people and enabling  
a concern for others. Hanna gives of her Lord  
and Savior somehow in with under and thru  
the structure of her curriculum.

Deep deep inside me there is a commitment t  
that bids me proceed on this pilgrimage, this  
outward journey to a new life --and to help  
others along the way--those who have not  
stumbled over the same obstructions so many  
times before and have not yet found the way  
thru such a hang-up to a greater growth and  
maturity beyond. So arm in arm on our way  
we support <sup>one another</sup> ourselves in this struggle to-  
gether as we follow after our Lord and Savior  
Jesus Christ.

I cant say that this struggle started for me  
at Hanna. That would not be true. But when  
there was no hope for a future, and no directio  
for a man to turn, this school stoodby with  
faithful trust and even respect. In each  
experience of acceptance, I found myself a  
little startled, alittle surprized by the  
r ecognition of an acceptance which I could  
not often muster for myself.

So the verse I read you, is a verse my  
father gave me for my confirmation. I'd like  
to change that word alittle to "affirmation".

3.

Within this verse I find a few words that affirm myself and my existence. And they make me able to affirm and celebrate your existence before me. Celebrating together the mighty acts of God.

Whats more, Hanua has done much to take this old and hardened Lutheran and remove the monster from his sky--and try to show him again and again something of the love of God by introducing me to his son-- Christ Jesus. Somehow God lives us and thats important.

Because, you know, there's a start, a beginning...and a future opens up in an affirmation, a greatbig "YES" a resounding AMEN. So together we celebrate our existence here, giving each other a greatbig OK.... knowing full well that in doing so we declare the wonderful acts of God who *calling us out of the darkness into his own light.* is at work for our salvation. This is our proclamation. Amen.

Vile Krey

Dec. 7, 1976

*Text.*

I Peter 1:9. But you are a chosen race,  
the King's priests, the holy nation,  
God's own people, chosen to proclaim the  
wonderful acts of God, who called you from  
the darkness into his own marvelous  
light.

It is rather appropriate and fitting to establish the Morris Knauss  
evening  
Memorial Scholarship Fund this <sup>the</sup> birthday party celebrating the existence of  
Hanna School of Theology.

For the greater part of this term our hearts were with Merry as he  
lay dying at ~~the~~ Mercy Hospital. Until his strength failed him, Merry continued  
his classes and doggedly tried to develop his skill in counseling among the  
staff and patients in the hospital. A few days before he died he asked me to  
evaluate the clinical program I had just completed. The little time he had was  
for others.

the feeling of  
Considering my last visit with him, the precious and delicate  
nature of life was again renewed in me. And the thoughts struck me: "When you  
come to the end of a sentence, there is a period. Suddenly you wonder what it is  
your whole life said."

Merry's <sup>life</sup> made a pretty wonderful affirmation of those involved with train-  
ing the professional ministry. The life-blood of his statement underscores any  
fund that would aid needy candidates to continue his ministry, while he himself  
has joined the fellowship of the saints.

Peter Krey      Dec. 7, 1970