



Stew Carlson's

Photo Poll Outtakes from the 2006-07 *Concord*

While gathering quotes from members of the Luther Seminary community for our October 2006 photo poll, we at the *Concord* stumbled upon M.Div. senior Stew Carlson. Given Carlson's ability to continually crank out a memorable quote, the *Concord* made him a fixture of the photo poll throughout the year. Eventually, Carlson could not contain himself to providing only one witty response to the monthly question, and he began submitting multiple answers. Below are many of those answers, most of which never made it to print. As always, we remind you that the views of Stew Carlson do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Concord* or Luther Seminary.

December 2006

What *shouldn't* you do during the process?

1. Don't refer to the historic episcopate in the same sentence as the Tooth Fairy, Santa Claus, and the Easter Bunny.
2. Don't appear on a Fox special titled "If I did it..."
3. Don't be personable or theologically articulate.
4. Don't keep emphasizing *Father* God.
5. Don't describe CPE as a waste of time.
6. Don't accuse them of swift-boating you.
7. Don't describe your handgun collection.
8. Don't give them a link to incriminating photos on your MySpace.
9. Don't tell them George W. Bush is "three shades too liberal for you."

February 2007

What are you giving him/her for Valentine's Day?

1. A promise not to appear on *American Idol* and make a fool of myself serenading her.
2. Some ambition so her friends stop calling me K-Fed.
3. Not sure, but a mop and bucket after last year's unpleasantness might help.
4. A personal ad so she can find someone better.
5. I was going to get six pack abs, but once I found out that required healthy eating and exercise, I decided to get her flowers.
6. Tickets to the Monster Truck Rally on February 17 at the Metrodome.
7. A promise to have more creative excuses to get out of doing what she wants to do.
8. A giant picture of myself sitting on the couch watching television.

March 2007

How did you spend the snow days on March 1 and 2?

1. Gave gender definition to other people's snowmen.
2. Smoked cigarettes with the Hans Nielsen Hauge bust in the Library to stick it to the Pietists in the Minnesota state Legislature.
3. Ate a bunch of chili cheese fries, then fell asleep on the couch watching *Cops* — so it wasn't really different than any other Thursday.
4. Shut the mailroom down early so I could watch YouTube in peace.
5. Had a snowball fight on the Bøckman Hall roof.
6. I could say, but I wouldn't want to implicate anyone in violation of *Vision and Expectations*.
7. Tried to figure out how to prove I wasn't the father of Anna Nicole's baby.

April 2007

Where do you draw the line?

1. Isn't Luther Seminary lecturing someone on boundaries about the same as Lindsey Lohan lecturing someone on responsible living?
2. Anytime a candidacy committee is involved.
3. When Matt Mezevich and I walk around with our shirts off.
4. Knowing what type of underwear faculty members wear.
5. Hearing any description of a Friday night with a spouse that involves Tabasco sauce and an Egg Beater.
6. When I am invited to a pool party and told to wear a Saran Wrap bathing suit.
7. Aren't theological boundaries crossed when we begin class by praying to the four winds and then recite chakras?

May 2007

What will you say when Jesus comes?

1. "Here are directions to Chicago ... and boy, do you look pissed!"
2. "Boy, Jesus, you're really stomping the heck out of the miter!"
3. "I'll make the Jag Bombs."
4. "Don't you need to take a missions class to do effective ministry in the 21st century?"
5. "You can smite this seminary, but save Stub Hall!"
6. "Wanna go to Manning's for a burger, smoke and a beer?"
7. "I sure hope before traveling you know all expressions of culture are equally valid."
8. "Did you come back for Britney's comeback shows at the House of Blues?"
9. "Don't you have to submit to the authority of bishops?"
10. "The Bible? I'm a seminary student ... never heard of it. I read Pop Psych books instead."
11. "Hey! Who's in charge here? You, Bliese or Lull?"
12. "Is it fair to say you have infinity votes as to who wins *American Idol*?"
13. "Who is that Sanjaya look-alike?"
14. "Long hair, quotes scripture, hangs with ruffians *and* authentic? You'll never make it through the ELCA's candidacy process."