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Lutheran Human Relations Association of America

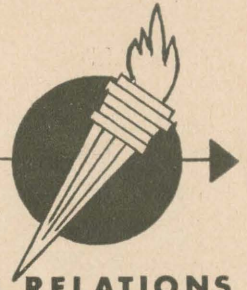
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THE VANGUARD



... THE CHURCH IN HUMAN RELATIONS

Volume 1, No. 2

March, April, 1954

KAY GRACE - Walther Leaguer

Mrs. Kate L. Grace is supervisor of the mailing and shipping department of the Walther League at the Lutheran Youth Building, Chicago. She holds a B. S. degree in education from Alabama State Teachers College and has taught in both elementary and high schools, public and parochial.

Her first service to the church was as teacher in the Lutheran Day School and the Alabama Lutheran Academy of the Alabama mission field. Later on Mrs. Grace taught in public schools where her subjects ranged from physical education to geometry.

During World War II she came to Chicago to accept a Civil Service position with the Commodity Credit Corporation. In 1947 she accepted her present position with the Walther League.

Mrs. Grace, more familiarly known as Kay, comes from a line of Presbyterian and Baptist clergy. Her father was a Baptist minister. Kay was left an orphan at the age of 9.

For Kay the transition from her Presbyterian and Baptist background was an easy and a happy one. While at Alabama State Teachers College she first heard about the interest of Lutherans in education in Alabama. Today she is actively engaged in youth work among the young people of her church, St. Philip's Lutheran Church, Chicago. She serves as counselor both to the junior and senior Walther League groups.

Kay likes to talk about her work and her associations at the Walther League. "Here I feel the Lutheran church has really given me a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with Lutheran Christians from all walks of



Kay Grace, pictured with W. F. Weiherman of the Walther League staff.

life from all over the world," she says. "It's a rare privilege to participate in and actually to see Christianity practised among all races. This is as it should be. I'm most grateful for this blessing. I'm also convinced that the Walther League both through its program and in the pages of the Walther League Messenger and the Workers Quarterly is a leading force in improving human relations."

Kay has been secretary of the Chicago Lutheran Society for Better Human Relations for the last four years. She has also been active in the Human Relations Institutes conducted in Chicago and at Valparaiso University. — Alfred P. Klausler

Our Advisory Board

An organization, no matter its kind, is neutral. It is at most a paper institution and comes to life only by the implementation of human personalities with human desires, goals, feelings, and attitudes. The Lutheran Human Relations Association of America has come to life in people

who think, and hope to act, in terms of Christ-centered Love.

It was with such thoughts in mind that the executive committee chose its advisory members. These people have spent years in human relations, based on Christian love, as college presidents, pastors, writers, scholars, and social workers. The list reads like a **Who's Who** of Lutheran Christendom in America: Dr. O. P. Kretzmann, Dr. Thomas Coates, Dr. Arthur Carl Piepkorn, Dr. Alfred M. Rehwinkel, Dr. Otto Theiss, Dr. H. F. Wind, the Rev. Leslie Frerking, the Rev. Clemonce Sabourin, the Rev. Paul Streufert, the Rev. Reuben Spannaus, Prof. Theodore Kuehnert, the Rev. Alfred P. Klausler, Paul Friedrich, John C. Ballard, and Dr. M. N. Carter.

The Church owes a great deal to these men. The Human Relations Association thanks them for their kindnesses and expressions of support and encouragement.

With The Writers

The Rev. Alfred P. Klausler, editor of **The Walther League Messenger**, wrote a fine case study of racial tensions in a section of metropolitan Chicago for the January 6 (1954) issue of **The Christian Century**, a well-known Protestant journal.

In the spring of 1952, Central State College of Wilberforce, Ohio, initiated the publication of **The Journal of Human Relations**. Its "Editorial Foreword" says among many other fine things that "This publication will endeavor to give voice to scientific findings and reasoned opinions as well as to practical programs integrally related to the betterment of human living. . ."

The **Journal** is published three times a year at a cost of three dollars a year.



Martin Scharlemann, Professor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

One Lord . . . One Baptism

The Scriptures know no such principle as "equal but separate". In fact, it always describes the work of the Church as consisting of gathering up and bringing together what is by nature dispersed.

Sin separates men from God and each other. This is man's greatest hurt. Both prophet and evangelist, therefore, describe the redemption as an act of healing, whereby men are brought from their individual wanderings under the single Lordship of Christ.

Jesus came to bring men together so that in one place they may as multitudes "out of every kindred, and tongue, and people and nation" worship God. The descriptions of the worshipping Church as found in **The Revelation** reflect in its perfection what is expected of the followers of the Lord here on earth. Certainly the strangest anomaly on earth is to find men who serve the same Lord being compelled by custom or law to worship in "equal but separate" houses of prayer.

To overcome our separations our Lord instituted one baptism, whereby all who are equal in their sinfulness have their transgressions forgiven and are brought together into one faith.

The problems arising in the area of racial tension and separation must,

by Christians, be viewed in the light of this overwhelming grace of God. We must keep stressing the cohesive purpose and power of our redemption in Christ. No passage speaks more clearly on this subject than Ephesians 4, 4-5 with its seven-fold repetition of the numeral "one". The burden of the whole Epistle is that men shall be one, not only in the sense that they are all creatures of God, but particularly because they can now be children of God, serving one Lord by one baptism.

To say that the legal principle of "equal but separate" facilities does not violate the redemptive intent of God is to indulge in the kind of wishful or evasive thinking which is sometimes born of an unwillingness to draw the full implications of a Bible truth. God's love can overcome our animosities and prejudices when it goes to work **on both sides** of the racial issues confronting particularly the Church as it seeks to serve one Lord, having been reborn by one baptism. — Martin H. Scharlemann



Walter Lang, Pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Winslow, Nebraska.

THE HUMAN RELATIONS EXCHANGE

The Human Relations Exchange, originated in 1948 as **Exegetical Studies in Race Relations**, has combined with **The Vanguard**. This mimeographed periodical, always emphasizing the Scriptural foundations

Reformation and Human Relations

The Rev. Dr. O. A. Geiseman of River Forest, Illinois, delivered the sermon last fall at the Reformation Service of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod at Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis. A part of his address is particularly important for the field of human relations: "The common man of today owes a great deal to Martin Luther because he emphasized the royal priesthood of all Christians. He taught men once again that every human being as a human being has dignity and is to be respected as one who has been created by God and redeemed by Christ. There's no question as to where you and I stand on the race question. We know where we stand because to us it doesn't make any difference whether a person has been born a Jew or a gentile, whether his skin happens to be white or whether it is of another color. 'The just shall live by faith.' That's the answer.

for proper human relations, widened its services after 1948 into a general news bulletin. During the last few years, it has given news of human relations value occurring in the Lutheran Church, especially in the Synodical Conference Lutheran Churches.

The Rev. Walter Lang, now one of the associate editors of **The Vanguard**, provided much of the guidance for **The Exchange**. Already as a seminary student at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, he worked in the field of human relations at the Cardinal Street Mission under the auspices of the student missionary association. In 1937, after his graduation, he worked two years for the Rev. Dr. Andrew Schulze, then pastor of St. Philip's Congregation in St. Louis. He is now pastor of St. Paul's Congregation, Winslow, Nebraska, founded by his grandfather.

Members of the Lutheran Church in the eastern area of Nebraska, where Winslow is located, have displayed considerable interest in human relations activity. The Lutheran Laymen's Leagues of the district have held a number of interracial meetings. Lutheran pastors have presented radio broadcasts emphasizing the subject of race relations over KFGT, a Fremont radio station.

That The Church May Lead

The title of this periodical and the symbolism in the title present the purpose of the periodical and the organization that publishes it. The black circle is the sin-darkened world. The torch is the Gospel of Christ capable of dispelling the darkness. The arrow indicates Christian action whereby the darkness is dispelled by the light. In this instance the area of activity is human relations.

The Lutheran Human Relations Association of America, whose mouthpiece THE VANGUARD is, does not presume that the Church is in the vanguard in establishing the pattern of human relations that is needed. "The Church in the Vanguard in Human Relations" is the goal toward which to strive rather than a description of the status quo.

It is our intention to show with all frankness how the Church has failed to do its full duty in this respect—a fact known to the world and to some church people too. We hope also to show how the light of the Gospel of Christ can dispel the darkness of racism. And we intend to stimulate Christian action to the end that a pattern of human relations be established worthy of the beautiful name Christian.

The Lutheran Human Relations Association of America is a group of people who want to take seriously the word of their Lord: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." Our every endeavor in behalf of human relations is to be in the interest of the kingdom of God. People are to go to heaven. When an unchristian pattern prevails and people because of their racial grouping or national origin are denied full fellowship in the Church, this is detrimental to the Kingdom of God; it keeps people from free access to the open heaven. When Christian people in a democracy such as ours do not object to discrimination against people of another color they are not letting their light shine. Their works are not of the kind that will cause others to glorify the Father in heaven.

And should every person of another racial or national group persist in unbelief and never enter the

The Lutheran Human Relations Association An Invitation To Join

By GEORGE H. LIEBENOW
Director of Public Relations

We invite all people of good will everywhere to participate and to support this program for the promotion of better human relations for the extension of Christ's Kingdom. YOU can take an active part in this necessary and spiritual crusade by sending your membership blank with two or more dollars. For those who real-

ize the immediate urgency of our work we suggest a Sustaining Membership contribution of five dollars or more. For those who are financially able, we recommend substantially larger gifts.

Kingdom of God, the obligation of the Christian to establish a Christian pattern of human relations would remain just as urgent. His Kingdom membership, by which he honors the King, demands it.

A further cogent reason for trying to help the Church get into her God-intended place of leadership is the Church herself. When she lags back, she herself is spiritually sick. She needs help. In the final analysis, the love of Christians for their Church must impel them to help the Church — THAT THE CHURCH MAY LEAD. — Andrew Schulze

ize the immediate urgency of our work we suggest a Sustaining Membership contribution of five dollars or more. For those who are financially able, we recommend substantially larger gifts.

How You Can Help

PASTORS:

We appeal to you especially as the spiritual leaders of our Christians:

1) Order additional copies of THE VANGUARD (for general distribution). Regular subscription \$1.

2) Appoint a Membership Secretary (and send us his name and address).

CONGREGATIONS and ORGANIZATIONS:

At your next meeting enroll as an Organization Member. (\$15)

EVERYONE:

1) Send in your membership below, preferably a Sustaining Membership.

2) Order extra copies for distribution.

3) Talk about our new organization.

4) Help to enlist members.

THE LUTHERAN HUMAN RELATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

.....Please send me GRATIS copies of this issue of THE VANGUARD.

.....I am enclosing \$5.00 or more for a Sustaining Membership for 1954.

.....I am enclosing \$2.00 for my 1954 membership (includes THE VANGUARD).

.....I am enclosing \$1.00 for one year's subscription to THE VANGUARD.

.....I am enclosing \$1.00 for two copies of "The Proceedings" of the Valparaiso University's Institute on Human Relations.

.....We are enclosing \$15.00 for our Organization Membership for 1954.

Name of Organization or Congregation:

Name and address of official:

.....I am enclosing \$..... to have THE VANGUARD sent throughout 1954 to:

Name _____

Address _____

Make all checks out to: The Lutheran Human Relations Association
and mail to: Miss Gertrude Fiehler, Membership Secretary
751 Atalanta Avenue
Webster Groves 19, Missouri

(signature)

THEY SAY**CLEMONCE SABOURIN**

"Yes, I gladly accept appointment to the Advisory Board of the Lutheran Human Relations Association of America. For so great an honor, my sincerest thanks to the members of the Executive Committee."

R. SPANNAUS

"I am very much interested in your new Association and am in full agreement with the objectives which you state in your letter. I feel very honored that you want me to serve as a member of the Advisory Board of the Association."

AUG. R. SUELFLOW

"Only a day ago the infant VANGUARD came to my desk. I was happy when I heard that the magazine was to be published, and still happier when I saw the first issue . . . May I take this opportunity also to encourage you and the entire association in its commendable projects. The name of the paper certainly typifies the work which you are doing."

O. H. THEISS

"I appreciate deeply the honor of being asked to serve on the Advisory Board of the Lutheran Human Relations Association of America. In accepting this distinction, I want, first of all, to express my gratitude to your Executive Committee for its confidence that I might be able to assist the high cause to which this new, nation-wide Association is committed. The fact that I am now in Japan has not in any way lessened

my interest in this cause, but has rather given me a deeper appreciation of the strategic importance of practicing the truths of this Gospel in human relationships at home, if our preaching of this Gospel in a foreign land is not to be hurt and hindered by a bad example in our homeland."

O. A. GEISEMAN

"Permit me to extend to you sincerest congratulations upon the first issue of THE VANGUARD. I hope that God will put His stamp of blessing upon your modest publication and use it effectively for the advancement of better race relationships particularly also within the confines of our own Lutheran Church."

LLL SEMINARS AND HUMAN RELATIONS

After the Rev. Moses Dickinson, pastor of Resurrection Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois, had addressed one of the LLL Seminars in North Dakota on the general topic, "My Missionary Experiences among My Own People", a farmer in the audience quietly handed the pastor a check for 125 dollars, as he said, "for work in your Sunday School."

The Lutheran Laymen's League held ten such seminars in North Dakota at Crystal, Fargo, Langdon, Upham, Fortuna, Minto, Beulah, Kensal, Oakes, and Fairmont. Almost two thousand people listened to Pastor Dickinson and to Mr. Martin Kruse, executive secretary of the North Dakota Boy's Ranch. Kruse spent a few minutes at each of the sessions on the operation of the Ranch.

CHICAGO HUMAN-RELATIONS INSTITUTES

What is the Church's responsibility when the community changes racially? This was the general topic of the first of four institutes planned by the Chicago Lutheran Society for Better Human Relations.

The topic of this first institute, held November 22, was handled ably by Francis W. McPeck, executive director of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, and by a number of prominent Lutheran clergymen of the Chicago area. The participating pastors were Harry Huxhold, R.C. Stuckmeyer, Bernard Hemmeter, A. R. Kretzmann and Jaroslav Pelikan Sr.

The second of the four institutes was held February 7 at Concordia Teachers' College, River Forest, Illinois. Under the general topic, "Tensions Everywhere—But Christ for Their Removal," two panels discussed respectively the implementation of integration through higher education and in parish work. The first panel was manned by Dr. Boettcher of the Chicago Lutheran High School Association, Dr. Bretscher of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Dr. Choitz of Concordia Teachers' College in River Forest, Dr. John Stach of Concordia College, Fort Wayne, and Prof. Strietelmeier of Valparaiso University. Members of the second panel were Dale Koopman, Miss Stella Wuerffel of Michael Reese Hospital Dietetic School, William Schuene-mann, and Wm. A. Peters, principal of St. Paul Lutheran School (Dolton) in Chicago.

**THE LUTHERAN HUMAN RELATIONS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA**

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