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Lutheran Diaconal Association

Summer 1995

The LDA Today, Vol. 2, No. 1

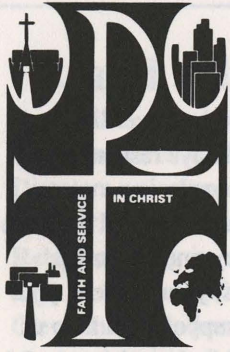
Lutheran Deaconess Association

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THE LDA *Today*

A Newsletter of the Lutheran Deaconess Association • Valparaiso • Indiana • Vol.2 No.1 • Summer 1995

Setting new standards

Deaconess Diane Greve is the first non-ordained person to be named recipient of the Granger Westberg Pastoral Care Award.

The award, a \$2,500 educational scholarship and a commissioned sculpture, is made annually to a candidate who has a minimum of three years in the parish ministry or equivalent and is enrolled in a clinical pastoral education program.

"We found your personal statement and letters of recommendation to be outstanding," said Benjamin Aune of Greve's application. Aune is president and CEO of InterHealth, a national alliance of faith-based health organizations which makes the award.

In fact, Greve's essay, *Perspectives in Pastoral Care*, was so compelling that the selection committee decided to rework the award guidelines so they might consider non-ordained

candidates for the award. They subsequently chose Greve to receive the 1994/5 honor.

A former member of the LDA staff, Greve was in her second year of residency in

clinical pastoral education at the University of Minnesota Hospitals when she received the award. She now serves as chaplain of the Ebenezer Society in Minneapolis.

"I am privileged to

accept this award in the name of the deaconesses who have gone before me," said Greve in her acceptance speech.

Dr. Westberg, for whom the award is named, was on hand to make the presentation on January 18 at an InterHealth Forum in Fort Meyers, Florida. Westberg, a parish pastor, hospital chaplain, and lecturer, is regarded as the founder of parish nursing. ■



Deaconess Diane Greve (left) and Dr. Granger Westberg

Later is better than never

"Why didn't I think about doing this ten years earlier?" asks Juanita Ebert, Chicago, Illinois.

Juanita is referring to her mid-career decision to prepare for deaconess ministry. A social worker with 19 years experience, she is one of three new students to enroll in the LDA's Plan 4 educational program for non-traditional students.

"Several years ago the LDA recognized the great gifts women over 35 could bring to diaconal ministry, so we designed an education/formation program just for them," says LDA Executive Director Louise

(see Plan 4, page 2)

► Could you or someone you know be in the picture below?
◄ For more information on Plan 4, call Mary or Olivia at 219-464-6925.



Plan 4 students (from left) Juanita Ebert, Debra Ganzer and Jane Almquist.

From my perspective . . .



Deaconess Louise Williams

A bowl and a towel are symbols of Christian service. They remind us of Jesus washing the disciples' feet in John 13,

In first century Palestine, foot-washing was a necessary service. People wore sandals and walked on dusty roads. Today foot-washing may be an interesting experiment or a powerful ritual, but it is not needed in the same way.

One mark of diaconal ministry is adaptability. The service is shaped by needs in much the same way a towel is flexible, taking shape around the foot as it dries.

As we move toward the 21st century, the Lutheran Dea-

coness Association wants to shape itself for service appropriate to this age.

What are the needs in the church and world? What is the servant Christ calling us to do? What are the special resources we have for service?

We are beginning an exciting process of inquiry to answer those questions. We will gather ideas and information from sociologists and futurists, from people who give and receive diaconal ministry, from Christians who believe the church is called to service in the world.

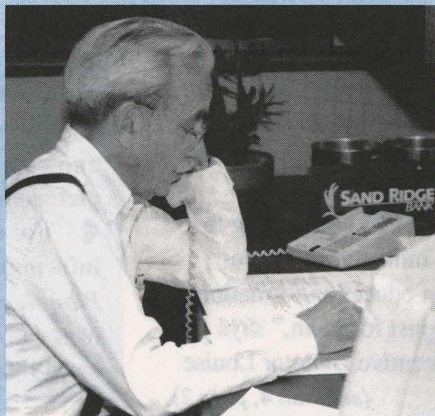
As we plan for the future, we will structure ourselves so

that we can be towel-like and flexible, always responding to changing needs.

We hope you will be part of that inquiry and planning. Your ideas, your prayers, your financial support will help us respond to real needs as we follow the servant Christ, washing the feet of the world.

Sharing Christ's service,

Louise Williams
Executive Director



Phonathon rrrrrings with success

Bill Seeber (above) works the phones during the LDA's seventh annual spring phonathon.

Seeber, who developed the annual event for the LDA in 1988, was one of 55 callers recruited by volunteer coordinators Bob and Ellen Schnabel. Together, these volunteers—LDA board members, students, deaconesses, and friends—rang up pledge totals topping the \$54,000 mark. That's a 25% increase over 1994!

Thanks to all the volunteers. And thanks to you for answering our calls and pledging your support of the LDA. ■

Newsmakers

• **Deaconess Judy Hoshek**, assistant to the bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA, wrote "Grabbing Towels and Basins" for *Lutheran Partners*. The article was published in the March/April 1995 edition of the magazine.

• **Deaconess Ruth Dyer**, an elementary school guidance counselor, was featured in an article in the Daytona, Florida *Reporter* in March. She was cited for her work with a 10-year-old student who underwent brain surgery and for the support services she provided his family and classmates.

• **Deaconesses Esther Williamson and Margaret Heine Towe** were featured in an article about specialized pastoral care givers in *District News—Ohio/Kentucky* (May). Esther is on the staff of Gloria Dei, Hudson, Ohio. Margaret is a chaplain at the University of Ohio Medical Center. ■

(Plan 4, continued)

Williams. "Plan 4 is for women who—because of careers, families, or finances—cannot leave their home communities to enroll in college full time. With this plan they complete their program locally under the guidance of nearby deaconesses, plus two week-long sessions each year at the Center for Diaconal Ministry in Valparaiso."

Joining Juanita in this year's new Plan 4 group are Jane Almquist, Houston, Texas, and Debra Ganzer, Howards Grove, Wisconsin. Jane is a computer software instructor. She also serves as president of the Texas Federation of Lutherans for Life and is on that organization's national board. Debra is the coordinator for the Domestic Abuse Task Force of Sheboygan County, an interfaith organization.

Do you know someone for whom later might be better than never? ■

... and action!

Welcome! The LDA's Board of Directors welcomed its newest member, **Deaconess Jeanette Rebeck**, during its spring meeting. Jeanette, who hails from Cleveland, calls herself a "time-sharing deaconess" because she is on the staff of two Lutheran congregations—Bethany English in Cleveland and Christ the King in Twinsburg.

Aye! The exclamation resounded as the Board unani-

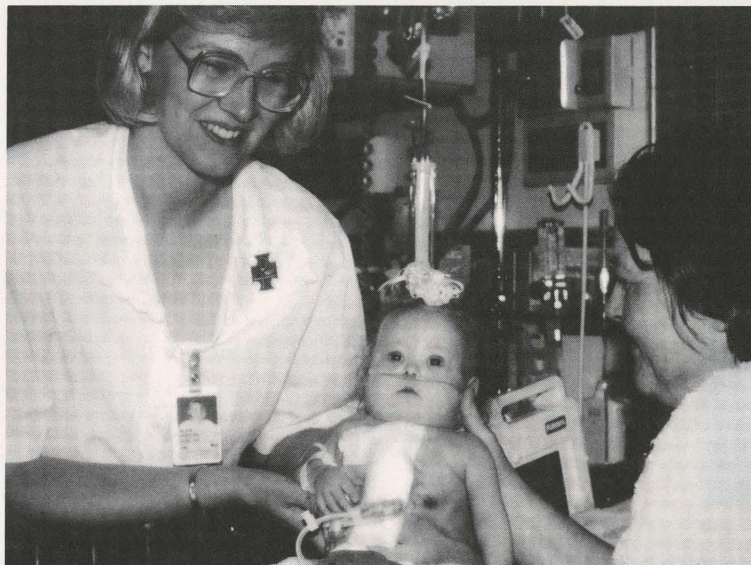


Deaconess Jeanette Rebeck

mously approved the motion to call **Deaconess Olivia Hartung** to the staff of the LDA as **Director of Formation and Laity Services**. (Yes. She's the same Olivia featured in the next column, *Among you* . . .)

Olivia has accepted the call, a 3/4 time position, and will begin her work with the LDA in August. She will oversee work with prospective students, coordinate recruitment efforts, direct on-campus education and spiritual formation programs, and plan and implement events and programs for the laity.

In the meantime, Olivia continues to serve as a hospital chaplain and is completing a



Deaconess Olivia Hartung (left), a chaplain at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis, visits with Brittany, a hospital patient, and the child's grandmother.

Among you as one who serves

Name:

Deaconess Olivia Hartung

Ministry:

A member of the chaplaincy staff at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, St. Louis.

Responsibilities:

Offers spiritual and emotional support to hospitalized children and their parents and families, especially at times of acute crisis; provides follow-up care after the death of a child; and often participates in memorial services for children who have died.

Quote:

I believe that working at Glennon alongside my very gifted peers has deepened my

spirituality and added to my interpersonal and ministry skills. I value the experience very highly.

From Brittany's grandmother:

"Olivia has been like a rock for us. It's just good to have someone to talk to. My daughter [Brittany's mother] and I take turns being here with Brittany. So far, except for five days, she's spent her whole life here. She's recovering from heart surgery now. Olivia and the whole staff have been great. I don't know how anyone could face the long hours and loneliness without the kind of care and support we've experienced."

*Among you as one who serves, profiling deaconesses and their ministries, is a regular feature of **The LDA Today**.*

Master of Theological Studies in pastoral care at Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis.

Aye, again! The Board approved a **named endowed scholarship program** for the LDA. (See details in the box at right to learn how you can participate in this exciting new program to provide scholarships for deaconess students.) ■

Gift keeps on giving, and giving, and . . .

Now you can establish a named endowed scholarship in honor or in memory of a loved one. With a minimum gift of \$10,000 made over a period of five years (\$2,000 each year), you—or you and your family, your congregation, or other group—can provide annual scholarship awards for deaconess students in perpetuity. For a brochure and more information, call Kristi at 219-464-6925. ■



Lutheran Deaconess Association, Inc.

Center for Diaconal Ministry
1304 LaPorte Avenue
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383

The LDA Today is published semi-annually by the Lutheran Deaconess Association, Inc., Valparaiso, Indiana. **Executive Director:** Deaconess Louise Williams. **Editor:** Kristi Bangert, Director of Development/Public Relations.

Lutheran Deaconess Association
Center for Diaconal Ministry
1304 LaPorte Avenue
Valparaiso, IN 46383
Phone: 219-464-6925



Gretchen Enoch



Julie Hazewinkel



Beverly Holland



Sarah Mielke

Here is your answer

Do you ever wonder just who goes into deaconess ministry these days?

The answer is right here on this page. These five women completed the LDA's deaconess education program and graduated from Valparaiso University on May 21. They are:

- **Gretchen Enoch**, Indianapolis, Indiana. Gretchen, who was consecrated on June 4, is also certified as an Associate in Ministry (AIM) in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She hopes to serve a congregation as deaconess ministering to

youth, young adults, and families.

- **Julie Hazewinkel**, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Julie was consecrated on May 19. She graduated cum laude with a major in social work and a minor in theology. Julie hopes to serve as a deaconess in a social service agency or in campus ministry.
- **Beverly Holland**, Lexington, Massachusetts. Beverly completed her course work and graduated cum laude. She will finish her deaconess internship this year and looks forward to serving on the staff of a congregation.

- **Sarah Mielke**, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Sarah, formerly a professional ballerina, graduated magna cum laude. She also was voted outstanding senior student at VU and was cited by the theology department as writer of the best senior theology thesis. Sarah will be serving her deaconess internship this year in Colorado.

- **Liesl Pyle**, Arvada, Colorado. Liesl was consecrated on May 19. She graduated magna cum laude with a major in social work and a minor in theology. She hopes to work with and minister to



Liesl Pyle

people in need in an inner city social service program.

These women are now prepared to go forth and serve those in need in the church and the world. We thank God for them! ■