

Valparaiso University

ValpoScholar

The Lutheran Deaconess

Lutheran Diaconal Association

4-1953

The Lutheran Deaconess, Vol. 30, No. 2

Lutheran Deaconess Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholar.valpo.edu/lutherandeaconess>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Practical Theology Commons](#)

This Full Issue is brought to you for free and open access by the Lutheran Diaconal Association at ValpoScholar. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Lutheran Deaconess by an authorized administrator of ValpoScholar. For more information, please contact a ValpoScholar staff member at scholar@valpo.edu.

THE LUTHERAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN

OF THE

LUTHERAN
DEACONESS
ASSOCIATION

WITHIN THE
SYNODICAL
CONFERENCE

Deaconess

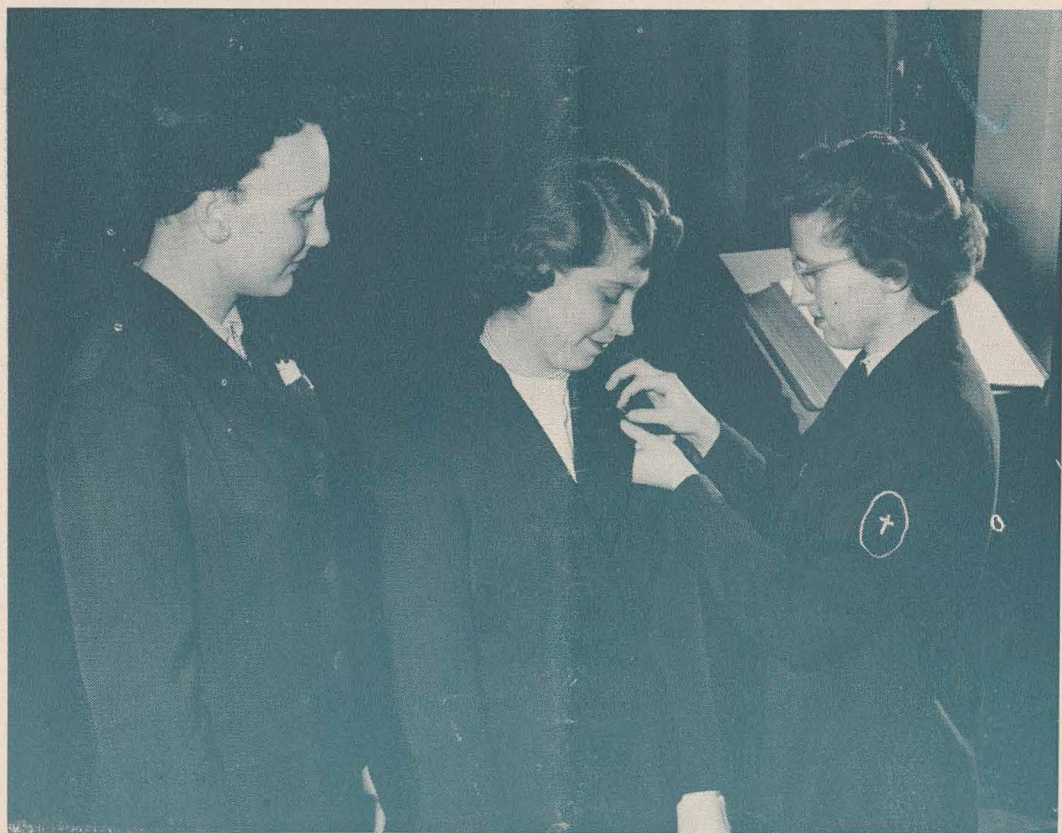
Vol. 30

No. 2



April, 1953

Consecrated, Lord, To Thee



Miss Joan Wagner looks very pleased when Deaconess Grace Pomeranke pins on the Deaconess Cross during the Rite of Consecration in Bethany Lutheran Church, Buffalo, New York. Deaconess Lois Roepke, at the left, looks on while this part of the act of consecration is taking place.



Student Deaconess Group of 48 resident students at Valparaiso University. With the 4 students doing field work for the year, this makes 52 students in all, the largest number of student deaconesses in the history of the Deaconess Movement within our Church.

EUSEBIA IN GREECE

Eusebia means piety. Eusebia consisting of a group of women was organized in 1938. It is a closed society and the number of its members is small. All are university graduates. The aim of this society is primarily missionary.

It works all over Greece, especially among the more educated and younger women of Greece. Eusebia looks after the Sunday Schools, produces literature and trains teachers. Older girls are enlisted to visit hospitals, and from the ex-scholars of the Sunday Schools. Eusebia has formed a group of young workers.

The work of the Student Christian Group among women is largely managed by members of Eusebia. The movement also works among nurses and forms the counterpart of a nurses' Christian fellowship in other countries. It has a rest home for nurses in Athens.

It penetrates the State schools and universities and some of its members teach or the staffs of these institutions.

The missionary journeys of Eusebia have quite an apostolic ring about them as one reads the lists of provincial towns and islands visited by the members who organize meetings and catechetical schools for country women.

There is no real counterpart of this organization in any other country.

CHICAGO WOMEN'S GROUP GIVES \$550 SCHOLARSHIP

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Greater Chicago Chapter, has established a four-year Deaconess Scholarship for \$550. This will provide the following four scholarships: a \$100 Freshman Scholarship; a \$125 Sophomore Scholarship; a \$150 Junior Scholarship; and a \$175 Senior Scholarship.

This sum of \$550 was given the Lutheran Deaconess Association with the suggestion, if possible, that this money would flow for the benefit of some student who would have service in the foreign field in view.

A freshman, Miss Rhoda Gilmer, meets this request, since she has expressed the desire to serve in the foreign field. She comes from Pastor Buege's congregation, Minneapolis, Minn.

Thus this scholarship grant becomes personalized. The donors and the recipient of this scholarship will keep in contact with each other during the four-year college preparation of Miss Gilmer.

We believe this sets a precedent worthy of emulation. Other women's groups may want to establish a similar four-year scholarship for some student who has social work or parish service in view.

Thank you, Chicago ladies.

PLACEMENT OF MAY DEACONESS GRADUATES

The placements by the Committee on Placement are as follows:

1. Betty Buss, Calvary Lutheran Church, Portland, Oregon, the Rev. Omar Stuenkel, pastor.

2. Shirley Groh, Field Secretary, Lutheran Deaconess Association.

3. Rose Marie Harms, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma, the Rev. Waldemar Frank, pastor.

4. Barbara Looman, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Albany, New York, the Rev. Arthur Steinke, pastor.

5. Dorothy Murphy, Zion Lutheran Church, Nampa, Idaho, the Rev. Harry Young, pastor.

6. Naomi Schubkegel, Christ Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois, the Rev. Richard Stuckmeyer, pastor.

7. Eleanor Weidner, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan, the Rev. Carl Brauer, pastor.

8. Elaine Yoreo, Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Chicago, Illinois, the Rev. Bernard Hemmeter, pastor.

9. Lucille Zimmerman, Bethany Lutheran Church, Buffalo, New York, the Rev. Bertwin Frey, pastor.

More applications for deaconess graduates were received than there were graduates available. For that reason all congregations and charitable institutions that applied for deaconess graduates could not be supplied.



Deaconess Gloria Guetzke with her parents in Beloit, Wisconsin, on the day of her consecration. Christian parents experience a great joy in knowing that their daughters serve as deaconesses.

A WEEK WITH A DEACONESS

Sunday:

Sunday morning I conduct a Sunday School in the Children's Orthopedic Ward of a large General Hospital. Class begins at 9:30 A.M. and lasts one-half hour. Ages of children are from 2 to 8 years. Lessons are taught with flannelgraph aids. On the last Sunday of the month I attend our service at the Juvenile Detention Home and assist in interviewing girls who are detained there.

Monday:

Visit the County Hospital and make bedside calls in the women's wards. Home calls on special cases or follow-up calls on former patients.

Tuesday:

Visit a large Mental Hospital about 35 miles from Chicago and make calls in two women's infirmaries.

Wednesday:

Visit a large Mental Hospital in Chicago and call on women in all women's wards. From there to the County Hospital for a short period to check any information or referrals at the Social Service Department. In the evening assist our chaplain in a State Hospital by going to the wards to assist patients who want to attend the service.

Thursday:

Visit the County General Hospital and make calls in the women's wards. Also assist our chaplain by assisting the patients who want to attend the service.

(Continued on page 5)



Deaconess Frieda Bremermann, City Mission Work, Chicago, Ill., with a group of crippled children in the hospital whom she teaches in Sunday School on Sunday mornings.

THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS

Published in January, April, July and October, at Berne, Indiana, by and in the interest of Lutheran Deaconess Association. Printed by the Economy Printing Concern, Inc., 153 So. Jefferson St., Berne, Indiana

Entered as second class matter May 1, 1931, at the post office at Berne, Indiana, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription Price 25c per annum. All matters pertaining to the Editorial Department are taken care of by the Superintendent, the Rev. Arnold F. Krentz, 2808 Hoagland Avenue, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Officials of Lutheran Deaconess Association

- PRESIDENT:** Rev. Walter Klausing, 1315 So. Anthony Blvd., Ft. Wayne, Ind.
VICE-PRESIDENT: Rev. E. H. Albers, 610 E. Leith St., Fort Wayne 5, Ind.
SECRETARY: Rev. H. H. Backs, 6818 Old Trail Rd., Fort Wayne 6, Ind.
TREASURER: Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner, 3330 Eastbrook Dr., Ft. Wayne 3, Ind.
SUPERINTENDENT: Rev. Arnold F. Krentz, M.S. Home Office: 2808 Hoagland Ave., Ft. Wayne 6, Ind.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. Walter Klausing | Mrs. Hedwig Kucher |
| Prof. E.E. Foelber, M.A. | Mr. Wilfred Rafert |
| Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner | Mr. Hugo Boerger |
| Rev. H. H. Backs | Rev. L. C. Kirst, Hon. |
| Rev. E. H. Albers | Mr. L. Pingel, Hon. |
| Miss Pauline Krudop | Dr. O. P. Kretzmann |
| Mr. Arthur Finger | Advisory |
| Mr. Oscar F. Lehrman | |

MEMBERS AT LARGE

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Oscar Fedder | Rev. R. J. Torgler |
| Chicago, Ill. | St. Louis, Mo. |
| Rev. Armand Ulbrich | |
| Detroit, Mich. | |

**DEACONESS CHAPTER HOUSE
VALPARAISO, INDIANA**

House Director: Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann



Deaconess Ruth Berg, parish worker in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bronx, New York, reading a devotion to a parishioner.

PARISH WORK IN THE BRONX

For 18 months I have served as a Parish Deaconess in the Bronx. In St. Paul's congregation the work has been varied, and therefore very pleasant and interesting, with a wide range of experiences. Chief among my duties are instruction of the Junior Confirmation Class of about thirty pupils this year, calls on Sunday School children absent for 2 consecutive Sundays (averaging about 25 calls each week), and regular shut-in calls made once a month. It was one of my regular shut-ins who taught me a real lesson of life—"that happiness is being content with what the Lord gives us."

She had no earthly possessions beyond bare necessity. Frequently, she had very little food, and her clothing were given to her by kind neighbors who discarded them. But she knew she had a more precious gift—her Savior. Many hours each day were spent in prayer. One evening, while entering her bedroom in darkness so as not to awaken her husband, she fell and broke her hip. Her last days were spent in pain but her faith sustained her calm, content, and unafraid. She went to meet her Savior a few days later.

My work as counsellor to our Junior Walther League—the newly confirmed, keeps me active in the work of the young people. I assist in the activities of the Intermediate and Senior groups, especially as counsellor

KRENTZOGRAM

The Board of Directors of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod has given the Board of Directors of the Lutheran Deaconess Association permission to collect \$250,000.00 for the erection of a new Deaconess Chapter House on the campus of Valparaiso University.

FLASH

Any mission, congregation, or charitable institution desiring the services of a student deaconess summer field worker, kindly write to our Fort Wayne Office for the necessary application blanks.

on hikes and field trips. A small amount of work with records helps fill in my program. This concerns especially the individual Communion records. Also instruction of the Senior Girl's Bible Class on Sunday morning is my responsibility. Another interesting duty is to call on persons who have attended one of our services, and have signed the guest register.

Frequently, Pastor has asked me to conduct the mid-week Family Bible Hour, adult membership class of hospital and shut-ins calls when he is unable to attend. It was on one of these hospital calls that I visited Kathy, a little girl of five years. She had undergone a spinal operation, because of which she will never walk again. On a previous visit to her home, she had walked to the bus stop with me. Since this was the only way I hoped to help her remember me, I reminded her of this. She did remember, and as I left her bedside she promised "If you come to see me at my house, I'll walk you up the hill again." Those words still echo in my ears. Yes, God does work in mysterious ways! We plan to serve Kathy through Sunday School by mail, if she cannot be brought to the Church.

Various special reasons make calls on our members necessary, and when time permits, calls on inactive members are made. In this connection one incident looms to the forefront. This incident makes me realize how miraculously the Holy Spirit does guide and direct our activities. On a Saturday afternoon some months ago, while on calls in a particular area, I decided to call on a family not on my list of calls. Let us call them Mr. and Mrs. B. By coincidence the sister of Mr.

B. was there also. She has a family of 7 children, none of whom were baptized, and she had been visited many times because of this. The reason was pride—the children's clothing was too shabby, and her relatives would criticize. On this particular day the situation was different. The children had just received new wardrobes, because they were to be placed into foster homes for some time. When I approached her with the idea of baptizing the children before they left the home, she consented. Pastor was contacted and the 7 children were baptized.

As you can see, most of my time is spent on calls, travelling all over the Bronx, and sometimes to Manhattan. But there are always new people to meet, new places to see, and new souls to be won for Him who says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." The work is challenging, interesting and rewarding. As kingdom workers we must never forget the gracious promise of our Saviour, "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world," for we know that without His help our feeble efforts would be useless.

Ruth Berg.

A WEEK WITH A DEACONESS

(Continued from page 3)

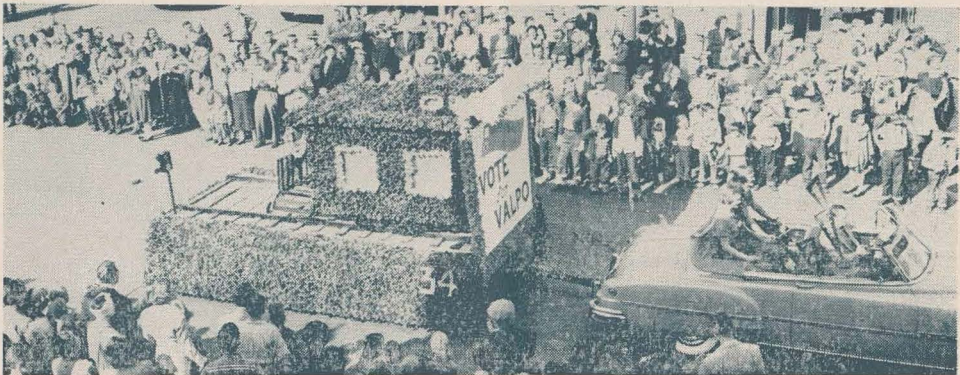
Friday:

Visit a Chicago Mental Hospital to make calls in the women's wards and diagnostic section.

Saturday:

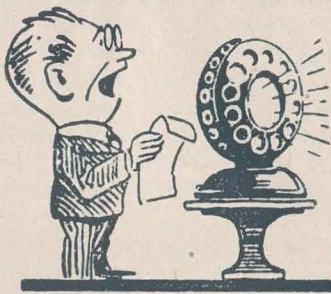
Some mornings are devoted to home visits, telephone calls and correspondence. Prepare the Sunday School lesson.

Frieda Bremermann.



This float for the 1952 Home-Coming at Valparaiso University, constructed by the Student Deaconess Group, took second prize. Our students are very resourceful.

STATION LDA



TUNE IN

•Mrs. Charlotte Mohn, widow of Missionary Mohn, who, with Pastor Naether, was one of the first two missionaries of our church in India, died in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on March 28, and was given a Christian burial by Pastor Walter Klausing on April 1.

•The 1953 class of deaconess graduates at Valparaiso University, consisting of fourteen members, is the largest class of deaconesses ever to be graduated by Valparaiso University and the largest group of deaconesses to be consecrated within the Synodical Conference since 1929 when fifteen deaconesses were consecrated. At that time there were three deaconess schools within our church.

•Miss Linda Shier, deaconess solicitor in St. John's Lutheran Church, Amlin, Ohio, collected \$107 in membership dues in a congregation of 140 communicant members. Certainly an outstanding record. If we had more Linda Shiers, our income would increase to such an extent that we could train many more young women for the diaconate.

•Writes Kathleen Bliss in her book, *The Service and Status of Women in the Churches*: "The revival of deaconesses in Germany in the first part of the last century is, in terms of its subsequent influence, the greatest event in the life of women in the Church since the Reformation." We agree wholeheartedly. Incidentally, this book is an elaboration of "The Life and Work of Women

in the Church," a topic of the World Council of Churches held in Amsterdam in 1948. A "Must" reading for anyone who wants to get an overview of how Christian women are serving in the various denominations all over the world today.

•An orchid to Pastor Krenzke, Lakefield, Minn., for working out such an elaborate speaking schedule for us during five days: March 22, preaching in his congregation in Lakefield in the morning and in Okabena in the afternoon and lecturing in Pastor Lieske's congregation in Worthington in the evening; March 23 lecturing in Pastor Gerike's congregation in Sioux Valley; March 24, Fulda, preaching afternoon and evening for Pastor Bode; March 25 preaching in Pastor Janzow's congregation in Monterey; March 25, lecturing to the ladies' aid in Monterey and preaching in Pastor Spaude's congregation in Windom in the evening.

•In 1852 Florence Nightingale wrote to Dean Stanley, an intimate friend, about the Church of England, of which she was a member: "I would have given her my head, my hand, my heart. She would not have them. She did not know what to do with them . . . She neither gave me work to do nor education for it." The Lutheran Deaconess Association is certainly wise in utilizing the head, the hand, and the heart of Christian women in its program of parish, mercy, and mission work. Good stewardship requires that we enlist the talents of Christian women for deaconess service.



The Rev. Victor Mack giving Deaconess Irma Thoele a Bible verse for encouragement and motivation on the day of her consecration.



Deaconess Adeline Rink being presented with a corsage of chrysanthemums by Deaconess Marie Twenhafel as she leaves on the Steamship Silver Stream for India on December 17, 1952, to do mission work there. Miss Rink arrived in India on Jan. 23, 1953.

SCHOLARSHIP SPECIALS

Received during the months of January, February, and March for our Scholarship Fund from the following friends of our Deaconess Cause, to whom we express our very sincere thanks:

Ruth Ann Homsher, Denver, Colo.	\$100.00
Mrs. J. F. Woessner, Byram, Conn.	100.00
Zion Church, Schenectady, N. Y.	100.00
St. Matthew's Church, New York, N. Y.	100.00
St. Paul's Ladies' Aid, Chicago Heights, Ill.	50.00
Redeemer Ladies' Aid, New London, Conn.	30.00
Trinity Ladies' Aid, Glidden, Wis.	50.00
LWML, Southern Illinois District	100.00
LWML, North Dakota District	150.00
N. N., Chicago, Ill.	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$1280.00

DEACONESS HOMECOMING FLOAT WINS SECOND PRIZE

Homecoming was highly successful this year. Not only did Valparaiso University win its football game but the student deaconesses won second prize for their float.

The float consisted of a caboose of a train with a politician (dummy) standing on the rear platform campaigning for Valpo. Miss Irma Thoele (now serving at the Gospel Center, Cleveland) proved a very efficient and successful chairman of the float-structuring committee.

Many hours (during the day and the night) were spent to complete the masterpiece. Volunteers were quickly put to work. Their efforts were richly rewarded, as is shown by the plaque on the wall of the Deaconess Chapter House.

DEACONESS SUNDAY OR DEACONESS MONTH

By resolution of the Augustana Synod, Sunday, May 17, will be Deaconess Sunday in that branch of the Lutheran Church. Looks like an excellent idea. Pamphlets are made available to congregations and Sunday Schools. Programs are worked out for the various auxiliary organizations.

The United Lutheran Church has designated the entire month of June as Deaconess Month. During that month deaconess education and services are widely publicized and interpreted. It is a concerted effort in a worthwhile cause.

A complaint that frequently reaches us is, Why do we hear so little about our Deaconess Program? Perhaps it would be a good idea to set one Sunday or month during which time a systematic effort would be made to disseminate information on our Deaconess Program within the Synodical Conference.



Deaconess June Finger promises to serve her Lord faithfully and according to the ability which the Lord giveth. Left to right, the Rev. A. W. Voges, Rev. A. Krentz, Rev. Theo. Stiegemeier.



At the consecration of Deaconess Shirley Marks in Bridgeport, Conn. Left to right—Rev. A. Krentz, Mr. L. H. Eggert, parish school teacher, her mother, Mrs. Martha Marks, Miss Marks, her father, Mr. Albert Marks, and her pastor, the Rev. Herman Wehmeyer.

FIVE CONSECRATIONS

In this issue of the *Lutheran Deaconess* can be seen pictures taken at the consecration services of our five January graduates: June Finger, Gloria Guetzke, Shirley Marks, Irma Thoele, and Joan Wagner.

Miss Marks was consecrated on February 1, in Bridgeport, Conn. The Rev. Herman Wehmeyer assisted at the rite of consecration. Deaconess Dorothy Gohr pinned on the deaconess cross. At the afternoon reception Miss Gohr conducted a question period which was deeply appreciated. Miss Marks is now attending Columbia University and in September will join the faculty of our new School for the Deaf, Mill Neck, L. I., New York.

Miss Wagner was consecrated in Bethany Church, Buffalo, New York, on February 8. Pastor Bertwin Frey was the liturgist and assisted in the rite of consecration. Deaconess Grace Pomeranke pinned on the deaconess cross, a beautiful part of the act of consecration. Miss Wagner is now serving in Lutheran Child Welfare, Addison, Ill.

Miss Thoele was consecrated in Immanuel Church, Seymour, Ind., on February 15. Pastor Victor Mack served as liturgist and assisted at the rite of consecration. Mrs. Malinda Steltenpohl, a former deaconess, pinned on the deaconess cross, symbolic of the office of the deaconess. Miss Thoele is now serving at

the Gospel Center in Cleveland, Ohio, city mission work sponsored by the Central District of the Missouri Synod.

Miss Finger was consecrated in Immanuel Church, Bay City, Mich. Pastor Th. Stiegemeyer, local pastor, served as liturgist and assisted at the consecration as did the Rev. A. W. Voges, Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Children's Friend Society, Bay City, Mich. Miss Finger is serving as social worker for this society.

Miss Guetzke was consecrated in Beloit, Wisconsin, on March 8. Pastor Walter Baese was the liturgist and assisted at the consecration. Deaconess Christine Seckel, Matron of Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wisconsin, pinned on the deaconess cross. Miss Guetzke is serving in Dr. O. O. Geismann's congregation in River Forest, Illinois.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

New pamphlets on the Deaconess Program are just off the press. Attractive! Informative! Why not order a supply for insertion in your Sunday's bulletin, your tract rack, your Lutheran Women's Missionary League, ladies' aid or Walther League? They will help keep your people informed on the many service areas for professionally trained women in our Church.