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THE LUTHERAN

**OFFICIAL ORGAN
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LUTHERAN
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Deaconess

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Vol. 29

No. 4



October, 1952

*Senior Deaconess Class. Five Seniors
Will Be Graduated In January,
The Other Nine In May*



Left to right, first row: Shirley Marks, Gloria Guetzke, Joan Wagner, Irma Thoele, June Finger. Second row: Betty Buss, Shirley Groh, Rose Marie Harms. Third row: Elaine Yoreo, Barbara Looman, Eleanor Weidner, Lucille Zimmermann, Naomi Schubkegel, Dorothy Murphy.

A MOST PRESSING PROBLEM ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR OUR STUDENTS

The above title can be taken at its face value. Here are the facts. The Deaconess Association owns only one residence in Valparaiso, which can house thirteen students. Another residence is rented from the Lutheran University Association. In this building likewise thirteen students can be housed. Since these two buildings adjoin one another, twenty-six students can be housed in a group.

But what about the other twenty-three students—the overflow? They must be housed in private residences, one, two, or more blocks away.

Such scattered housing creates a serious management problem for our House Director, Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann. Naturally, the solidarity of the student group is broken by such a condition. But it is imperative that the group of student deaconesses feel their oneness since of all students at Valparaiso University, they are being educated especially for service in our Church. Moreover, this creates a felt problem of discipline control for our House Director. It is obvious that personal closeness to and counseling of the student group, so important in character and personality development, are greatly hampered by such decimated housing.

Moreover, families in the neighborhood are very reluctant in renting room space for female students so that we were unable to rent sufficient housing space for all students in the overflow this fall.

If our Deaconess Program is to expand, we most emphatically need adequate housing space, a spacious and well equipped Chapter House on the new campus of Valparaiso University. Such a building to house approximately seventy-five students would cost between \$200,000.00 and \$250,000.00. We are confident that if our friends could see how hampered we are at the present time by inadequate housing, thousands of dollars would flow into our Building Fund so that a new Deaconess Chapter House could become a reality in the near future.

We are deeply grateful to the donors listed below for their contributions which help to increase our Building Fund.

Flora Schmidt, Oconomoc, Wis.....	\$ 5.00
Lulu Sieb, Monroe, Mich.....	2.50

Joyce Nienow, Ringle, Wis.....	1.00
Wm. Proverbs, Youngstown, Ohio.....	2.00
Will E. Hoerr, Cincinnati, Ohio.....	160.55
Arthur Buss, West Allis, Wis.....	2.00
Ladies' Aid, First Trinity, Buffalo, N. Y.	10.00
St. Paul's Walther League, Albany, N. Y.	13.00
Mrs. Carl Salzbrenner, New Haven, Ind.....	30.00
Mrs. S. Fred Bauer, Eden, N. Y.....	2.00
Emma Zentner, Falls City, Neb.....	1.00
Mrs. Walter Melcher, Hoagland, Ind.....	1.00
Mrs. T. N. Jordan, Champaign, Ill.....	5.00
Florence Ruhlig, Detroit, Mich.....	5.00
Mt. Calvary Church, Denver, Colo.....	29.13
Deaconess Lulu Noess, River Forest, Ill.....	10.00
Ruth Ann Homscher, Denver, Colo.....	25.00
Estate of Sophia Meyer, Peoria, Ill.....	200.00
Pi Delta Chi (Student Deaconesses) Valparaiso, Ind.	85.48
Mrs. J. L. Schlegel, Lima, Ohio.....	2.00
Lutheran Deaconess Ass'n., St. Louis, Mo.....	10.00
Deaconess Grace Braeger, Albany, N. Y.....	10.00
Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann, Valparaiso, Ind.	13.00
Mrs. Earl Schoenrock, Merrill, Iowa....	5.00
E. Jane Trautmann, Valparaiso, Ind.....	25.00
Louise Peter, St. Paul, Minn.....	5.00
Rev. A. Kirchhoefer, Chicago, Ill.....	1.00
N. N., Chicago, Ill.....	1000.00
Fellowship Hour, River Rouge, Mich....	25.00
Total	1685.72
Previously acknowledged	9973.55
Total	\$11,659.27

STUDENT DEACONESS COSTS AT VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

The student pays \$45.00 a month towards room and board. Some students prefer to furnish their own board, eat at the cafeteria or do their own cooking (cooking equipment furnished for a limited number of students at the Deaconess Chapter House). Such students pay \$140.00 for room only. Books, general health, laboratory, and student council fees are extra, as are music lessons and room rental for piano practice. The entire costs for room, board, books, fees and part-tuition will vary from \$500.00 to \$600.00 a year.



At the left you see a happy young lady, Miss Evelyn Middelstadt, on the day of her consecration. Note the official uniform she is wearing. At the right is Mrs. A. G. Plagens, President of the L. W. M. L., Minnesota District. Mrs. Plagens, the Minnesota District and Zones within the District are taking a lively and helpful interest in the education of young women for deaconess service.

EVELYN MIDDELSTADT CONSECRATED AS A LUTHERAN DEACONESS

On September 28, Miss Evelyn Middelstadt, a 1952 graduate of Valparaiso University, was consecrated as a Lutheran deaconess in St. John's Lutheran Church, Elk River, Minn. The Rev. A. Krentz, Superintendent of the Lutheran Deaconess Association, preached the sermon and performed the rite of consecration assisted by Pastors Henry Otten, W. H. Sutterer, O. H. Dorn and A. A. Schulz. Pastor Otten also served as liturgist. Mrs. Albert G. Plagens, President of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Minnesota District, pinned the deaconess cross on the new deaconess, the emblem of her office as a Lutheran deaconess.

After the consecration service the ladies' aid gave a beautiful reception for Miss Middelstadt in the school basement. At this oc-

casion she received a sizeable purse to show the appreciation of the congregation for her and her calling. Congratulatory addresses were given by her pastor, the Rev. Henry Otten, by Pastor W. H. Sutterer in the name of the pastors of the synodical circuit, and by Mrs. Plagens in behalf of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Deaconess Middelstadt responded in her usual modest manner.

Based on her excellent scholastic record at Valparaiso University, her beautiful character and sincere personality, Miss Middelstadt has been given a two-year scholarship by the Lutheran Friend Society, Minneapolis, Minn., of which the Rev. E. Buckley Glabe is the executive secretary, so that she is enabled to study on at the University of Minnesota to acquire her Master's degree in social work.

THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS

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House Director: Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann

DEACONESS ANN VIERCK MARRIED TO DR. O. H. KOCH

July 13 was just the day for a garden wedding at the Home for Aged Lutherans, Anaheim, California, where Deaconess Vierck had served since 1950.

Everyone at the Home for the Aged had been looking forward to this date since it had been announced. What could Miss Vierck use for her new home?

Chairs were set around the sides of the patio and an altar improvised at the west end. One of the ladies of the Home had brought out her white rug, another had made a white satin pillow, and a third loaned her lace cover for the altar.

To the strains of "Lohengrin's Wedding March" Miss Vierck was escorted to the altar and given in marriage by Mr. F. H. Gerdes, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Home. Her attendant was Mrs. O. Ristow and Mr. Ristow attended the bridegroom.

Mrs. F. H. Gerdes sang the "Wedding Prayer." Pastor D. Guenther performed the double ring ceremony. His text was the twenty-third psalm chosen by the couple.

An added note of beauty was the singing of a bird in the tree top. It seemed as though "The One Above" was bestowing His blessing upon the happy couple.

So now we say "goodbye" to "Our Deaconess, Miss Vierck." May she enjoy true happiness in making a home for herself and her husband, Dr. O. H. Koch.

—Laura Schulz

Note: Deaconess Vierck served in that capacity for nineteen years. A good record! God continue to bless her.

HOW PASTORS RECRUIT STUDENT DEACONESSSES

We are happy to state that our pastors are stressing deaconess service in their confirmation classes. Sometimes pamphlets are given to the girls of the confirmation class. An excellent idea!

Some pastors make it a point to bring deaconess service to the attention of their Walther Leaguers. This is well timed since Walther Leaguers during their high school years choose their future careers. Some pastors speak to individual Leaguers who seem to have the necessary qualifications for good church workers.



Deaconess Ann Vierck on her wedding day
—now Mrs. O. H. Koch.



Commissioning of Deaconess Rink, St. Louis, Mo. Left to right: The Rev. R. G. Lange, Chairman of the Board of Foreign Missions, congratulating Miss Rink; Dr. O. H. Schmidt, Executive Secretary of the Board for Missions in Foreign Countries; the Rev. Robert Baum, Institutional Missionary, St. Louis, Mo.

DR. O. H. SCHMIDT COMMISSIONS DEACONESS RINK FOR SERVICE IN INDIA

"I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work." This was the text used by Dr. O. H. Schmidt in the commissioning service for Deaconess Adeline Rink on July 6, 1952, in Brauer Memorial Chapel, St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Schmidt set forth the wonderful "works" that are calling to Deaconess Rink from Travancore where she will tell others of the Savior's love for them.

Though it was a very hot afternoon, Brauer Chapel was filled with friends and co-workers giving witness to their deep love for Deaconess Rink who had served them faithfully for five years as City Missions Deaconess. The Reverend Robert Baum, Executive Secretary of the Lutheran Mission Association of Greater St. Louis and Pastor of Brauer Chapel, served as liturgist for the commissioning. Brauer Chapel was selected by Miss Rink for this service as she had served there as Sunday School teacher in addition to her regular deaconess work at

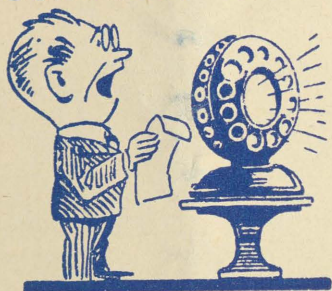
Koch Tuberculosis Hospital and the State Hospital.

Deaconess Rink attended summer school at Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois, and after visiting her family, she will sail for India some time this fall. Her overseas address will be Trivandrum, Travancore, India.

In several farewell parties given for Deaconess Rink, various speakers mentioned her outstanding characteristics which make her so dear to those whom she is leaving in St. Louis and make her so admirably suited for the work which awaits her in India. She is a consecrated Christian woman, possesses infinite patience and quiet determination, can see her service in relation to the whole of Kingdom Work, and above all, has a deep and complete trust in the protection, guidance and love of her Savior, Jesus Christ. All who know her prayerfully commend her for her service in India—the working of the works of Him who sent her before the night cometh.

—Shirley Groh

STATION LDA



TUNE IN

•The spirit of missions still prevails in Germany. At the mission festival held in Hermansburg in Hanover this spring 18,000 people were present. That is not a misprint—it is 18,000 not 1800—so a relative in Germany informs us. Uplifting, inspiring, aggressive—the story of Ludwig Harms and the Hermansburger Mission.

•The young congregation at our Lutheran Hospital, Vicksburg, Miss., presented our deaconess stationed there, Miss Mary Arbeiter, with a wristwatch at the end of her first year of service with the explanation, "With most grateful appreciation for all that you have done for us and for our children." Such a token of appreciation, according to Miss Arbeiter, always carries with it a feeling of joy and at the same time a bit of sadness for not doing more and for not seizing every opportunity to serve Christ as we should. Sounds just like Miss Arbeiter who deserves her name.

•During the past summer we preached for a pastor who was about to retire after serving faithfully in his congregation for more than three decades. At the time of his retirement he was receiving a salary of \$2400 a year. What surprised us was the contribution his family had made to our church and to suffering humanity: one son is a pastor of our synod, another is a doctor, the third son is a dentist, and the only daughter is a nurse. Congratulations to the brother, for the fact that his four children propelled themselves on their own financial power. Surely his salary could not have put his children through college and nurses' school.

•Over in a London graveyard can be found two graves, symbolized by two

diametrically opposed philosophies of life. On the first grave stands a cross, symbolizing that the person buried there had faith in Christ as his personal Savior — under that cross lie the mortal remains of Mr. Lutz, the father of a former deaconess, Margaret Lutz, consecrated in 1933, now the wife of Pastor Reiser, Secaucus, N. J. Not far away can be seen a fist above a grave, under which is buried Karl Marx, the Communist philosopher. Today these two philosophies, the one love and sacrifice and service and the other class hatred and world revolution, are in a great struggle. We know: In Christ we conquer.

•The Minnesota District of the Lutheran Laymen's League and the Lutheran Women's Missionary League joined forces for the purpose of placing an exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair, August 23rd through September 1. A conservative estimate of the average attendance is 350. Approximately 14,000 pieces of church literature and tracts, among them hundreds of pamphlets on our Deaconess Program, according to Mrs. J. Berger, were taken from the table. Seems like an excellent idea.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Lutheran Deaconess Association will be held on Friday evening, November 14, in Emmanuel Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind., beginning at 7:30. Pastor Fred Heidbrink is pastor of Emmanuel congregation.

The meeting will be in charge of the Rev. Walter Klausung, president of the Lutheran Deaconess Association. Prior to the meeting proper the ladies' aid of Emmanuel will serve a luncheon for all who will be present.

The terms of the following directors expire at this time: The Rev. Walter Klausung, Prof. E. E. Foelber, Mrs. Hedwig Kucher, and Mr. G. M. Schmidt.

The principal speaker will be Pastor Gerhardt Nitz, St. Louis, Mo. Deaconess Grace Pomerence, Bethany Lutheran Church, Buffalo, N. Y., will stress the potentialities of the parish deaconess in her address.

The treasurer of the Lutheran Deaconess Association, Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner, will give his annual report and present the budget for this fiscal year.

The superintendent of the Association, the Rev. Arnold Krentz, will report on the prog-



Pastors' Daughters taking the Deaconess Course at Valparaiso University. Left to right: Lois Gereke, Wisner, Neb., Mary Bohrer, Fargo, N. Dak., Joan Stengel, Deerfield, Kans., Naomi Schubkegel, Long Prairie, Minn., Mary Jungemann, Egan, S. Dak.; missing on the picture, Ada Munding, Garrison, N. Dak.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND VITAL FOR STUDENT HELP

Scholarship contributions are the life blood of scholarships of \$100.00, \$125.00, \$150.00 and \$175.00 given to our forty-eight students. If donations to this fund flow we are able to give thousands of dollars in scholarship aid. Thank you, friends, for your scholarship gifts and may your number multiply.

L.W.M.L., South Dakota District.....	\$175.00
Rev. Louis Wickham, Austin, Texas.....	5.00
Zion Church, Mora, Minn.....	120.00
St. John's Ladies' Aid, La Grange, Ill.	10.00
St. John's Church, Plato, Minn.....	37.55
Cora B. Rackle, Hayward, Calif.....	1.00
N. N., Chicago, Ill.	500.00
Mrs. William Niece, Milwaukee, Wis.	10.00
Lutheran Deaconess Ass'n.,	
St. Louis, Mo.....	175.00
Trinity S. S., Hickory, N. C.....	25.00
Total	\$1058.55

ress of our Deaconess Program during the past year.

A group of our students from Valparaiso University will give a skit to further interest in the career of the Lutheran Deaconess.

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE FOR 25 YEARS AS A LUTHERAN DEACONESS

Our readers will doubtless be interested in a report on a quarter of a century of service by a Deaconess.

At the present time we are serving in Grace Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Mo., where we have been stationed since 1943.

Among the multitudinous duties of a parish deaconess may be also the leadership of a Girl Scout troop. Girl Scouting is a community project. Yet we feel that this too is a God-pleasing work. In the 29th chapter of Jeremiah the captive Children of Israel are told to "Seek the peace of the city and pray unto the Lord for it." Guiding the girls through the intermediate program has been a most gratifying experience.

Having explored the camp grounds at the beginning of our first weekend camp, several girls exclaimed almost indignantly: "There are colored girls in the next unit."

"Why is that so strange?" we replied. "They are Girl Scouts as well as we are." Being reminded of the third Scout law, "A Girl Scout is a friend to all, and a sister to every other Girl Scout," the girls walked away thoughtfully.



Student Deaconesses Ardele Stodick, left, and Eleanor Weidner, right, doing summer field work in child welfare, Indianapolis, Ind. Miss Stodick's home is in Hayward, Calif., and Miss Weidner lives in Clinton, Mass. So East and West met to serve in the Midwest.

Later that day the same girls said: "Are those girls nice! We had a good time playing with them."

Naturally, the main duties of the parish deaconess are related to soul winning and soul keeping. We have had a part in the various departments of the congregation which serve the children of the parish: Sunday School, Week Day Bible Club, first year confirmation class, and Vacation Bible School. Further, our work has been keeping the records up-to-date, sending out cards or letters, doing the follow-up visiting, as well as teaching various classes.

At least once a year we have a group baptism. Grace Church is located in a somewhat transient neighborhood, and consequently there is quite a turnover in the Sunday School enrollment. Children who have not been baptized are instructed by the deaconess. Three or more visits to the homes are necessary at times to convince the parents and to obtain their consent. During the past ten years we have had from six-

teen to twenty-six children of the Sunday School baptized each year.

Prior to our coming to St. Louis, we served fifteen years at the Children's Home, Addison, Illinois. We were a member of the first class to receive deaconess training in Bethesda Home, Watertown, Wisconsin, 1925-1927. This class is observing its 25th anniversary this year, having been consecrated May 1, 1927.

We have been active in the Deaconess Conference throughout these years, having attended all but one of the annual meetings. We have been on the executive board as president of Conference, member at large, secretary and are at present the vice president.

The Deaconess Association of St. Louis, at their June meeting took note of our twenty-fifth anniversary by presenting us with a traveler's clock. Such friendly gestures towards the deaconesses are a real encouragement to them in the work of their calling.

—Clara Strehlow