

1-1951

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Lutheran Deaconess Association

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THE LUTHERAN

OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF THE
LUTHERAN
DEACONESS
ASSOCIATION
WITHIN THE
SYNODICAL
CONFERENCE

Deaconess

Vol. 28

No. 1



January, 1951



THE ANNUAL MEETING AND BANQUET, CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA, November 3, 1950. The speaker was the Rev. Herman Mayer, St. Louis, Mo.

DO YOU KNOW

Do you know that Deaconess Work was begun in the Synodical Conference in 1919, whereas other Lutheran church bodies began in 1884, 1890, and 1893?

Do you know that forty-five student deaconesses are preparing at Valparaiso University for services in parishes, mission fields, and charitable institutions?

Do you know that the first Negro student to enter Valparaiso University was a student deaconess?

Do you know that Deaconesses Martha Boss and Gertrude Simon are doing a great work among Chinese refugees in Hong Kong?

Do you know that the budget of the Lutheran Deaconess Association calls for \$23,190.00 for this fiscal year, which is \$3,000.00 more than came in for the Deaconess Program during the preceding year?

Do you know that an article by Deaconess Amelia Doctor in the December issue of *This Day* would make interesting and profitable mission reading for a day school or the ladies aid?

Do you know that Social Service is a promising field for the woman worker, and that the Deaconess Association aims to train deaconesses for this service?

Do you know that the nurse who is rendering valuable aid to Chaplain Kenneth Hoffman at our hospital in Vicksburg, Miss., is a student deaconess from Valparaiso University?

Do you know that Chrysostom had forty deaconesses who were full-time workers in his parish in Constantinople during the fourth century?

Do you know that three deaconesses are serving at the Institute for the Deaf in Detroit, Michigan?

Do you know that the establishment of a Deaconess Scholarship of \$50.00, \$100.00, or \$150.00 has a tremendous appeal to women's organizations of our church?

Do you know that deaconesses are under Synod's Pension Plan and that employers of deaconesses are requested to pay 5% of the salary of the deaconess into the pension fund of Synod during 1951?

Do you know, yes, Do you know that the Deaconess Program has great potentialities of service if you and I will back this Program with our prayers and our contributions?

MY SUMMER FIELD WORK IN ADDISON, ILLINOIS

Playing the role of "Mommy" to a number of God's little ones at the Children's Home at Addison, Illinois, for three months of the past summer was truly one of the most happy and unforgettable experiences in my life. When I asked for field work experience during the summer, I had no idea that my summer would be so enjoyable and so very profitable, for the experience was something I could never buy for any price.

My position on the staff of such a fine institution was that of a housemother for pre-school children, ranging in ages from three to seven, and helping with the small toddlers. In the pre-school department our time was taken up with feeding, washing, dressing, and playing with the children, as well as keeping their rooms clean, patching skinned knees, and various other duties. One of the most delightful experiences was putting the children to bed and helping them as they folded their tiny hands and said their prayers. Of course, there were also hectic moments and many glasses of spilled milk to wipe up. But I enjoyed every minute of it, for I was doing the Lord's work.

Caring for the physical needs of the children took up the major part of our time, but we tried to show them much love and attention, which they so sorely need. It is my hope that the children profited as much from my efforts as I did from the experience which I gained from my work. May the Lord bless them and the institution which is caring for them.

Mary Arbeiter



Student Deaconess Mary Arbeiter doing field work in Addison, Illinois—showing love to the little ones.

JUST OFF TIMES SQUARE

Times Square, New York City—to many people the “glamor spot” of the nation, but to the more realistic, only a “hiding place” for what really lies beyond—frustration, broken homes and lives—and a need. Only two blocks away lies “Hell’s Kitchen,” one of the many large and well-known tenement areas of this metropolis. Yet within its confines we are privileged to serve, for here also are found the offices of our Metropolitan Lutheran Inner Mission Society.

In order to better acquaint you with our work, I invite you to spend a day with me in the neighborhood projects of our Inner Mission. After arrival at the office, mail and records must be checked. The schedule for tonight’s children’s program must also be prepared. Meanwhile, James and Mrs. Z. are waiting to discuss their problems. James is a middle-aged man, out of work and in need of a pair of eyeglasses. After learning something of his background, we take care of his immediate need and invite him to our worship services on Sunday mornings. Mrs. Z’s problems are more involved, and we must spend a longer time with her. She comes to us with a marital problem, which eventually means either a broken home or renewed happiness. While we cannot definitely predict the outcome of her difficulty, we can offer some counsel and remind her to take all problems to Him who is waiting with open arms. If necessary, we can also refer her to the proper agency for social casework.

Following lunch we set out to visit a few homes. We stop first to see Harry’s grandfather. Harry had once faithfully attended our worship services with his grandmother, but after her death stayed away frequently. In need of the advantages of mixing with children his own age, we suggest to Mr. A. that we would like to take Harry to our established neighborhood congregation for Sunday School. We promise to call for Harry, at least for the first few weeks.

Then we hurry on to the East Side to see our aged communicant mother—Mollie. Mollie greets us in her usual charming southern manner, and we draw up a chair and listen to the latest accounts of her daily activities—limited to a great extent by a bad heart condition. She tells us that she misses regular attendance at services and assures us



Deaconess Mary Elaine Kluge

she will be there on Sunday if health and weather permit. Then she folds her hands and asks us to read from the Book of Revelation. How she rejoices in its passages of comfort!

Now we must hasten back to the Mission for our “Open House” children’s program. At 7 o’clock the doors are opened and children literally “stream in.” Johnny must go through the “red tape” of handwashing tonight, but we let Susie go back to her handicraft class, where Miss Wilma, her counselor, is waiting to guide her in the evening’s activities. Later we visit Miss Wilma’s class as we watch the handicraft projects. We see Peter looking a little unhappy and not very talkative tonight, but he is busy. Looking around elsewhere we notice Miss Marie and Mr. Jerry (other counselors) busy with their projects. We can’t help thinking how wonderful it is to work with these young people from our local churches. At chapel time we introduced the lesson and then our counselors tell the Bible story. Refreshments follow. After the “clean-up” is completed, we call it a day.

Yes, it has been a day of activity—of someone’s need, of our opportunity. Tomorrow, perhaps, we can meet another need in serving those little colored ones who sit in our class waiting to hear of the love of Jesus.

Mary Elaine Kluge

THE LUTHERAN DEACONESS

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DEACONESS CHAPTER HOUSE

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Matron: Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann

FINANCIAL FELLOWSHIP**Regular Support Is a Felt Need**

The expansion of the Deaconess Program will be greatly helped if congregations, ladies aids, the Lutheran Women's Missionary Leagues will send an annual contribution for this Cause. Regular contributions for the Deaconess Cause are a "Must" if this phase of the work of our Church is to flourish as it rightly merits.

It is a gratification to note that during the year 1950 a goodly number of societies and congregations contributed to our Cause. We are hoping that many more societies and congregations will make a start in contributing towards our deserving Cause. Next to our Lord, we are dependent upon you for



Service at the High School, next to the Basel Mission, Hong Kong. About 50-60 attended the English-Cantonese service. At the extreme left is Deaconess Martha Boss, R.N., and at her right is Deaconess Gertrude Simon, R.N.

the growth and expansion of the Deaconess Program within our Church.

Below are listed the contributions for our current support during the last three months of 1950.

California	\$ 59.00
Colorado	67.00
Connecticut	8.00
Florida	6.00
Illinois	492.75
Indiana	757.91
Iowa	335.38
Kansas	79.00
Kentucky	1.00
Louisiana	20.00
Maryland	20.00
Massachusetts	18.25
Michigan	712.75
Minnesota	338.20
Missouri	105.43
Montana	39.00
Nebraska	76.00
New Jersey	42.25
New York	180.00
North Dakota	160.00
Ohio	494.65
Oregon	11.90
Pennsylvania	25.00
Rhode Island	20.00
South Dakota	87.11
Texas	41.50
Virginia	2.00
Wisconsin	1155.14
Wyoming	5.00
Unknown	1.00
	\$5361.22

DEACONESS BOSS—TOO HOUNG LEE—THE SAVIOR

Deaconess Martha Boss longed for years to carry the Gospel to China. Finally her prayers were heard. The Mission Board resolved to send her to China. She took a year's course at the Mission School at Concordia Seminary, and then she left for Enshih, China. Now she is stationed in Hong Kong.

In Hong Kong 18-year-old Too HOUNG LEE was a student at the Middle School. Miss Boss was one of his teachers, and he could hardly wait for his classes with her on Wednesday and Friday mornings. She always told such wonderful stories about Jesus the Savior of the world. On Sundays he heard how Jesus died on the cross to take away the sins of men. How different his life had become since he had met Jesus. One day he handed an essay to Miss Boss about his life. Friday there would be no class since it was Children's Festival. When Miss Boss corrected his notebook, she found that his English wasn't very good, but the essay gripped her. It read:

"I was born in Macao eighteen years ago. At that time people lived very peacefully and lovingly. My family was satisfied even though we were very poor. The war between China and Japan came. Times were terrible. For that reason I suspended my studying for three years. I came to Hong Kong to continue my studies. I am glad to study English. I want to be a doctor for my occupation. I often play basketball and go swimming because it makes me feel very good. I go to church too because we think of God's words—it is very wonderful for us indeed. So that I am very eager for you to please talk about God's story to me, hoping that I can become a Christian. Do you want to be a teacher and teach me everywhere and every time? My address is 4 Mong Kok Road, second floor, Kowloon. Hoping that you will bring the Gospel to me, yours obedient, Too HOUNG LEE."

Naturally, Miss Boss thought: "How happy I would be to bring the Savior's Message to this young man. I must go to see him." The next day in class she inquired about Too HOUNG LEE. The other students looked at her in surprise. They said: "He went swimming on Children's Festival and drowned. He's dead."

Miss Boss was stunned. What could she

OUR BUILDING FUND

A new Chapter House for student deaconesses in Valparaiso is an imperative need. It has long outgrown its ability to house even a third of our present students. And from year to year our student group is growing. Last year we had over thirty students; this year the number has risen to forty-plus.

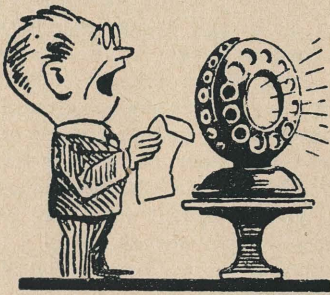
Every gift for the Chapter House to be erected when sufficient funds are available is an excellent investment. It is a help toward training more Christian workers for our parishes, missions, and mercy institutions.

We gratefully acknowledge the following gifts:

LWML, Iowa District West	\$1000.00
Will E. Hoerr, Cincinnati, O.	60.55
Mrs. Henry Bollwinkel, Overland, Mo.	10.00
Miss Augusta Hoppe, Oak Park, Ill.	2.00
Mrs. Carl Rittberger, Zanesville, O.	50.00
Mrs. O. C. Lemke, Wausau, Wis.	10.00
Grace Ladies Aid, Jessup, Iowa	5.00
Mrs. Arthur Gallmeyer, Fort Wayne, Ind.	5.00
Mrs. G. L. Hemler, Park Ridge, Ill.	1.00
Miss Amanda Zimdahl, Milwaukee, Wis.	5.00
Paul Datchefski, Cleveland, O.	10.00
Mrs. Fred S. Bauer, Eden, N. Y.	1.00
St. Peter's Church, Decatur, Ind.	30.00
C. O. Rubow, Eldora, Iowa	5.00
Mrs. Bertha Rolff, Baldwin, N. Y.	1.00
Grace Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Mo.	10.00
Mrs. John Avers, Elmore, O.	4.00
Dr. Carl A. Hoppert, Lansing, Mich. ..	5.00
Miss Helen Koepke, Milwaukee, Wis.	10.00
Mrs. Glen McCue, Arriba, Colo.	5.00
Mrs. Arthur Koepke, Milwaukee, Wis.	3.00
St. Paul's, Albany, N. Y.	10.00
Fred Groh, Rockford, Iowa	5.00
George Nitz, Millington, Mich.	5.00
Immanuel Ladies Aid, Lima, O.	5.00
Mrs. V. Heidorn, Chicago, Ill.	1.00
Ladies Aid, Trinity First, Buffalo, N. Y.	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$1268.55
Previously acknowledged	\$6599.00
	<hr/>
	\$7867.55

do? It was too late to help him now. But her heart throbbed at the thought: "Thank God he had heard of his Savior and knew the way to heaven."

STATION LDA



TUNE IN

•The boys and girls of Pastor Martin Kirsch's congregation, Lakefield, Minn., collected \$85.85 during a two-month period for the Deaconess Cause. Deeply appreciated. Incidentally, Lakefield now has its own hospital since December 1. Pastor Kirsch pleaded for deaconesses to serve in the hospital but none was available. If some Lutheran nurse reads these lines, she might feel inclined to write to Pastor Kirsch.

•Deaconess Martha Theilmann who has served both as matron at our Institute for the Deaf in Detroit and Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, Wis., has begun service in Child Welfare, Indianapolis, Ind. Notice the versatility of service—to deaf children, children with restricted mentality, children with problems.

•Over in Shawano, Wisconsin, we addressed more than 900 ladies from our various ladies' aids in the area. Deaconess Lois Jank, Milwaukee, Wis., and Missionary Schweppe addressed the Convention too. Thanks, Pastor Parsch, for the invitation. We are always happy to speak to any women's group on our Challenging Deaconess Program.

•Some one with a facile pen should write a story about the sons and daughters from ministers' families within our Synod who have made a definite contribution towards the welfare of mankind outside of the field of religion. To cite a single instance, Arthur E. Schwarting, son of Pastor Schwarting, Andover, S. Dak., received his Ph.D. degree from Ohio State University at the age of 24 (that in itself is an achievement), and is now a professor at the University of Connecticut. He discovered that the American ergot is as effective as the imported ergot. Ergot is smut on rye and is used for medical purposes. Ergot appears to be very

harmful, and yet it is a benediction in disguise. We congratulate Dr. Schwarting who specializes in plant drugs.

•A study in contrasts. As I look out of my study window I see seven sparrows eating on the ledge of the window of the neighbor's house—the good housewife places food on the ledge the year round. The humanity of man to sparrows seen on the ledge and the inhumanity of man to man in the world at large—boys dying in Korea!

•While we are typing these lines an air-mail letter arrives from Deaconess Boss in Hong Kong. She writes: "On November 26 124 people were received into our church by baptism at our little chapel in the Refugee Camp. . . . We have some very fine Christians out there, and it is always a real joy to visit them. . . . One just does not know what the future will bring, but having Jesus in our hearts, we can go on serving the Lord with gladness. . . . I always feel so very sorry for the Chinese people who hardly know anymore what peace is. China needs our prayers so very, very much. Please do pray for China." Miss Boss, these lines will be read by many who will heed your plea for prayers for the Chinese.

•We note that Deaconess Lydia Lutz, matron of the Home for the Aged, Westlake, Ohio, was given deserved recognition by the Board of Directors of that Institution with a special gift of \$50.00 for ten years of loyal service. That is good news.

•The student deaconesses at Valpo publish the *PI DELT News Letter*. Any prospective student who wants a preview of student deaconess life at the University should write the editor, Miss Elizabeth Kujawski, 605 Chicago St., Valparaiso, Ind., for a copy. We enjoy the humor of this breezy publication. The article "Growing Pains" describes the cramped conditions thus: "Not that the Pi Delt likes to study, but one has to keep up appearances. This is rather hard to do without a desk. Some of us can't write anyway, but it's even hard to make believe on a card table or bed."

APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER FIELD WORKERS

Send to our Fort Wayne Office for application blanks for Deaconess Summer Field Workers. About forty students available for 1951 Summer Field Work.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Approximately 175 members and friends attended the annual banquet and meeting of the Lutheran Deaconess Association at Concordia Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Friday evening, November 3. The atmosphere radiated a deep interest in and concern for the Christian objectives of this important organization within the Synodical Conference.

The Rev. Walter Klausing, president of the Association, opened the assembly with a prayer in which he gave thanks to God for the rich blessings of the past and implored Him to continue to remember the efforts of the Association for the upbuilding of His holy name among men.

Various phases of deaconess work were emphasized by graduate and student deaconesses. Miss Lois Jank, Faith Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wis., enumerated various opportunities in parish services. Miss Mary Arbeiter, senior at Valparaiso University, of Murphysboro, Ill., described the social activities of the Chapter House. Miss Clara Hermes, of La Grange, Texas, spoke of her experiences of service among Latin Americans, stressing the extreme poverty of many of the people and the fact that many are only nominally Catholic.

Mrs. Sylvia Trautmann, matron of the Chapter House at Valparaiso, gave a brief report of her services as matron. Mrs. Elmer Stassen, former matron, was also introduced. Special attention was called to the fact that Deaconess Rathke of India had completed twenty-five years of service in the Lord's vineyard.

A brief address was given by Mr. Henry E. Branning, mayor of Fort Wayne, in which he called attention to the grave responsibilities of officials and citizens particularly in these days of emergency and war, and he highly commended the Association for the important services it is rendering to a sin-sick world.

The principal address was delivered by the Rev. Herman A. Mayer, St. Louis, assistant executive secretary of missions in North and South America. Pastor Mayer said in part, "It was the need for women workers in the institutional missions of our Church that prompted such men, as the Rev. F. Herzberger of St. Louis and the Rev. Philip Wambsgans of Fort Wayne, to bend every

effort in the organization of the Deaconess Association in 1919."

Referring to the challenge of the opportunities, Rev. Mayer stated, "Deaconess service offers an opportunity to do something for the Lord NOW. Today men and women everywhere are in need of spiritual guidance and direction. Men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking after the things which are to come on the earth. The rumble of war in the distance may come closer. The funeral bells may toll louder and longer. Scientists who invented the atom bomb are afraid that it may destroy its inventors and modern civilization. The time is short.

Rev. Mayer agreed that the Deaconess Association had accomplished many advances in bringing the Gospel to the underprivileged in institutions, mission fields, and parishes. "The world," said Pastor Mayer, "must be won by those who are Christ's. Service in the Church flows out of the universal priesthood of all believers. With the multiplicity of activities full-time women workers are necessary in large modern parishes. An aggressive and willing worker can be a mighty instrument for good in the Lord's kingdom. Home missions offer a field which has not been exploited except on the parish levels. District mission boards might engage deaconesses on a full-time basis and place them into new mission territories at the side of the missionary. With the additional help the young mission might grow faster. In reference to women workers in the foreign fields Rev. Mayer said, "Our Missouri Synod has not made extensive use of women workers in the mission fields. Our few representatives in Africa, China, Japan are acquitting themselves very creditably."

Other fields of service in which Christian women are necessary is social service where they might serve children with problems and emotionally unstable adults.

The Rev. Arnold F. Krentz, superintendent of the Association, gave an account of his stewardship as general supervisor of the work and training program. Many members and friends of the Association do not fully realize that Pastor Krentz travels thousands of miles each year for the purpose of preaching, lecturing, advising, counseling, and seeking greater support for this God-pleasing endeavor. The Board of Directors is deeply grateful for the consecrated and capable services of Superintendent Krentz.

DEACONESS SCHOLARSHIPS

In our Deaconess Program, scholarship funds are a vital factor. The scholarship needs for this academic year are about \$6,900.00.

We are happy to report that the list of donors to the Scholarship Fund is growing. Below you find the names of donors to the Scholarship Fund during the months of October, November, and December of last year.

LWML, Carrol Circuit, Iowa West.....	\$ 50.00
LWML, Thumb Zone, Michigan.....	50.00
LWML, Milwaukee Chapter, English Dist.	100.00
LWML, Sioux City Circuit, Iowa West	150.00
LWML, North Dakota District.....	150.00
Ladies' Aid Conv., Shawano, Wis.....	200.00
St. John's Ladies Aid, Bound Brook, N. J.....	10.00
Zion Dorcas Society, Ocheyedon, Iowa	25.00
Zion Mission Circle, Chippewa Falls, Wis.	100.00
Concordia Society, Freeport, Ill.....	10.00
St. Paul's Ladies Aid, Manawa, Wis....	50.00
St. John's Ladies Aid, Clarinda, Iowa	28.22
St. Paul's Albany, N. Y.....	10.00
John E. Jass, Peoria, Ill.....	20.00
Miss Augusta Hoppe, Oak Park, Ill.....	2.00
Miss Adela Norden, Ridgeville Corners, Ohio	40.00
Frederic C. Weiss, Mt. Clemens, Mich.	500.00
Mrs. F. O. Krause, Alma, Mo.....	10.00
Miss Frieda Stark, Gary, Ind.....	3.00
Miss Clara Strodel, Chicago, Ill.....	50.00
Mrs. G. M. Hemler, Park Ridge, Ill.....	2.00
Miss Amanda Zimdahl, Milwaukee, Wis.	1.00
Paul Datchefski, Cleveland, Ohio.....	10.00
Paul E. Tegge, Milwaukee, Wis.....	60.00
Dr. Carl A. Hoppert, Lansing, Mich....	5.00
Mrs. Anna Leopold, Lakewood, Ohio	4.00
Mrs. Arthur Koepke, Milwaukee, Wis.	3.00
N. N., Monroeville, Ind.....	100.00
	\$1743.22

Three directors were re-elected: The Rev. E. H. Albers, Oscar Salzbrenner, and Arthur Finger.

Mr. Oscar Salzbrenner's treasury report was printed in detail in the booklet and the new budget totalling \$23,190.00 was adopted.

Mr. Edwin A. Benz, member of the Board, added much to the enjoyment of the banquet in his capacity as master of ceremonies.

H. H. Backs.



Deaconess Marian Epp, leaving her office at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Chicago, Ill., the Rev. Ewald Lorenz, pastor.

APPLICATIONS FOR DEACONESS GRADUATES

The Committee on Placement of Deaconess Graduates usually meets the end of February.

Any congregation, mission, or charitable institution desiring the services of a 1951 Deaconess Graduate should send in its application at the earliest possible date to our Fort Wayne office. Do it NOW.

WE SUGGEST THAT YOU READ

1. "Bells of Zion" by Deaconess Amelia Doctor in the December issue of *This Day*. Will serve well for mission information for ladies aid societies or Sunday and Day Schools.

2. "Flight by Night" by Deaconess Martha Boss in the October issue of the *Lutheran Women's Missionary League Quarterly*. Describes how some of our missionaries, men and women, left the interior of China, on a plane from Chengtu to Hong Kong, when the Communists took over. This is church history in the making. Read it, discuss it, and you will be convinced that deaconess mission service is eminently worthwhile.

3. "Just Off Times Square," a very revealing article in this issue of *The Lutheran Deaconess* by Deaconess Mary Elaine Kluge on her mission work in New York City. The article moves rapidly and holds your attention throughout.