



The DEAF LUTHERAN



Official Publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association & the Board for Missions of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Fall, 2000

St. Louis, MO

Volumes 92, No. 3

DEAF LUTHERAN DEVOTION



Rev. Mark Anderson,
ILDA Pastoral Advisor

WHAT SHOULD WE READ?

I don't know about you but I love reading! If there is just one thing I would much rather do in my whole life than anything else, it would be reading. Science shows that the more we read, the stronger our brains perform – it is almost like a good old sweaty workout in keeping our bodies in top shape. I know of so many people that would prefer watching TV's than reading a book. True that we actually "read" those captioned TV shows. Still, reading a good book does more wonders than "reading" those captioned mindless shows. I hope that you agree with me on the great importance of reading a good book.

I also wonder if most of you read all or some of those deaf publications such as "Silent News," "The Frat," "Deaf Life," "Gallaudet Focus," "that RIT-NTID publication" (sorry, but I cannot recall the exact title as I am not a NTIDer), email-"Deaf Digest" and so forth. Those publications usually provide interesting and helpful news in keeping us updated on most recent developments and happenings in the d/Deaf communities. Once again, do you usually sit down and read the whole deaf publication OR just take a quick look and then throw it away on your way out? Hmm. Anyway, do we read them or not?

Suppose someone in authority just told me that I could choose only ONE book to read, which book do you think I would pick? Of course, you would say with a big smile: "the Bible!" My friends in Christ, we all need to be very honest with ourselves. Would we really pick that Bible out of joy or out of need or out of desperation or what? I remember reading an interesting article that when a man was about to be abandoned on a lonely island, he had to choose between two books: the Bible or a book of survival. Which book do you think he would choose? Even better, which book would YOU choose? Please be honest! That article said that he chose the book of survival. Would you choose likewise?

My point is this: While the Bible is the most popular book in the whole world when it comes to buying, it is also one of the least read. Hmm. How about that! Do you read it let alone have in your house two, three, four, or even five Bibles?

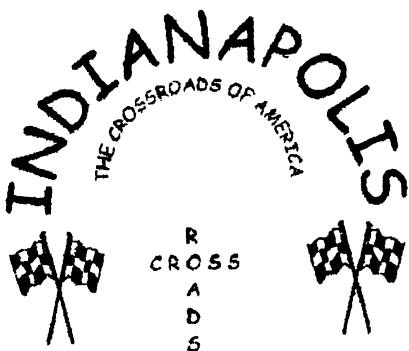
My brethren in Christ, the purpose of reading the Bible, as found in **II Timothy 3:15-17** and **Psalms 119:105**, is to make us wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus, and to train us in holy living. The Lord God wants us to read and study His Word faithfully, listen carefully (with our eyes, of course) when your pastor reads and preaches it, believe it with all your heart, with all your mind and with all your spirit, and finally live it in your daily life activities. The Spirit of God really encourages us to read the Bible because it is actually a love letter from our Heavenly Father about His Beloved Son, Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away all sins of the world. (John 1:29)

Now, back to the question I asked earlier in this article: Which book to choose? The Bible! Smile! Read the Bible with great joy in our precious Savior! May the Lord bless you richly with His limitless grace and peace as you read His Word faithfully.

Indianapolis 2001 ILDA June 21-24, 2001

Registration forms inside! Plan ahead
and save \$\$\$ with combo packages!

The Crossroads of America
"Choose this day whom you will serve"
Joshua 24:15



ILDA Pastoral Advisor

President's Message...

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

You may know that September is a "membership drive" for ILDA. If you are current members, you might get a renewal notice from Karen Beiter, ILDA Treasurer. I encourage you to renew ASAP and invite your fellow Deaf Lutherans who have not been members of ILDA recently to join. You can share about the exciting missions of ILDA with them by showing the recent issues of *The Deaf Lutherans*. We strive for reaching all of unchurched deaf and hard-of-hearing people in America and around the world. ILDA is not a private exclusive club. Any Lutherans are welcome. The purposes of ILDA are to enrich the lives of deaf people through spiritual growth and develop Christian leadership among all the people with whom we associate. Without your help, ILDA may not be able to do that.

I am glad that ILDA is in partnership with LCMS-World Missions and Concordia Seminary in supporting the Deaf Institute of Theology (DIT). Praise the Lord that there are more than 30 participants! Please support and encourage them in their studies with DIT. We pray that every participant will be better equipped for praying, witnessing and caring for the believers and unbelievers. We better get busy on that since we do not know when Jesus will come. Just disregard other end-of-world prophecies by other Christian writers. No one knows the exact date that Jesus will return except the Father.

I participated in the Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference in Austin last June. I am inspired by Jennifer Knaack's experiences in Macau. This makes my wife and me want to be missionaries to other countries someday. I encourage that each of the regional conferences or churches invite her to give her presentations about her missionary experiences. I am sure that you will be inspired.

Last June, I went to the Texas District -LCMS convention in Houston with Pastor Seeger as a delegate for my church, Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf. I am impressed with the organization of the convention. I enjoyed the instant electronic voting system. This system is really a big plus for making the business meetings effectively and timely. President Barry went there and shared the "Tell the Good New about Jesus." Yes I am totally with him about reaching many unchurched people. Visit the web site, www.lcms.org/310 for excellent resources on evangelism. It is not hard to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I am concerned about a shortage of pastors for hearing and deaf churches but it will be more severe in the near future when this generation of pastors will retire or leave the ministry in the next five years. I am thankful for the DIT program but we have to

wait for seven years or more before the first group of participants will finish all of the required courses before becoming pastors for the Deaf congregations.

Last week, I went to Houston with my Mormon friend to visit the Mormon temple before it is closed to non-Mormons and "dedicated" to the "lord." I learned about the temple so I can better witness to Mormons. Beware of their distorted doctrine of Joseph Smith, the false prophet. Mormons claim that they are true Christians. Don't be surprised or confused after a Mormon says "I believe in Jesus Christ." I am sorry to say that they are not following the simple Gospel according to John 3:16. Jesus died as the Perfect Sacrifice for past, present and future generations. Jesus rose from the dead and is in Heaven and will return. The Mormons perform baptism for the dead in the temples all over the world. Under God's grace, we must be alive to have faith in Jesus. We can't have faith for other people—especially dead people. We do not need any temple or other works to earn our salvation. I am pleased that my Mormon friend told two Mormon missionaries that I am a "die hard" Lutheran. I simply stand on the Word of God, the same as Martin Luther stood before the Council of Worms. We have the Father, Jesus and Holy Spirit in one God according to the Holy Writings. Just be ready and defend the Bible against the "wolves."

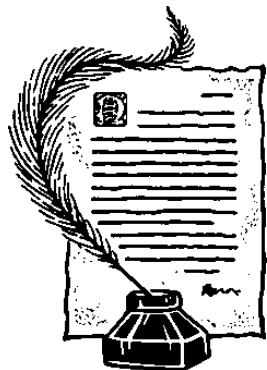
Via e-mail, I just learned from Pastor Munz in Indianapolis where Dennis Konkel finished his vicarage year. Vicar Konkel visited a deaf friend and his friend was uneasy about going to any Lutheran church. The vicar inquired more and his friend said because of John 3:16. It seems that other deaf Christian groups tried to tell people to not go to any Lutheran churches because Lutheran churches and Lutherans do not believe in John 3:16. I do not know where they got this strange information. We Lutherans are strong believers in the 16th verse of the third chapter in the Book of John. Yes, John 3:16 is the "gospel in a nutshell". Please share that with others.

The ILDA Mission Project is quite behind. We have less than half of the two-year goal of \$55,000. As of July 2000, the balance given for ILDA Mission Projects is around \$17,500. It should be at least \$27,500 by June 2000 then should reach the goal of \$55,000 by the convention time. Now, we need \$37,500 to meet the goal. Please pray and help us, especially Pam Kane, to meet the goal at the convention. Read the suggestions in Karen Beiter's recent letter.

There is no official Web site of ILDA. Yes, there are several ILDA websites but they are not approved or sanctioned by ILDA. My ongoing project is to establish the site and fill it with resources before the next ILDA convention.

Richard Norton, ILDA President

Editorial...



Another summer will soon be over with! I hope that many of you had a good summer. Mine was so busy with our new church reconstruction project. Many of us will be busy with fall activities and with the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays coming up by the time the Christmas Issue of *The Deaf Lutheran* newsletter is in the mail early December.

Now is the time to renew your biannual ILDA Membership Dues (October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2002). By the time you have received this fall issue of *The Deaf Lutheran* newsletter, ILDA Treasurer, Karen Beiter, has invoices mailed to you for your renewal. Remember, the \$20 per person due is for two (2) years of ILDA

membership. And don't forget about keeping/joining God's 1000 Club for an addition of \$20 per person per two year! Can't wait for the invoice or somehow you didn't receive your invoice? Use the form found on the last page of this newsletter!

Another reminder is ILDA 1999-2001 Mission Project goal. Keep your contributions coming in so that we can reach our \$55,000 goal by June 2001 in Indianapolis! **As of July 23rd 2000, the goal has reached \$19,917.69. We still need \$35,082.31 to meet our goal by June 20, 2001.**

Included in this newsletter are registration forms for the 2001 convention. Remember, one form per person is required so make copies for spouse/friends. Make a copy of the hotel form or schedule that is on the back.

David G. Brown, Editor

Mission Planters Institute

February 19-26, 2000...

Holy Three-in-One Hosts International Event

Forty one Lutheran Pastors who serve deaf ministries in the Missouri Synod and its overseas partner churches in Ghana Africa, Australia, Brazil, India, and Canada learned how to reach even more deaf people as a result of the first ever "Deaf Mission Planters Institute" held February 19 - 26 in Houston. The institute, modeled after the synod's annual "Mission Planters Institute" was designed by LCMS World Mission to teach pastors strategies for reaching the lost. Its purpose was to inspire the participants to be more interested in finding the lost and to help develop a process to do mission work. After a week of Bible study and brainstorming, the participants spent the final four days of the eleven day institute in private writing time as they developed their own outreach plan.

Holy Three-in-One Lutheran Church for the Deaf was privileged to be chosen as the host for this first ever event. In preparation for the event, Holy Three-in-One suggested that the LCMS consider Kaiserhof Lutheran Retreat Center as the institute sight. Approval was given and Holy Three-in-One began the task of planning for the event. One of the most difficult aspects of the planning was the logistics of transporting both participants and presenters between Bush Intercontinental Airport and Kaiserhof. This was especially difficult as both domestic and international flights were arriving and departing all during the eleven day institute. To solve the problem, Holy Three-in-One rented a fifteen passenger van and members Jennifer Bonura and Elaine Lieder donated

countless hours of their time driving between the airport and Kaiserhof. Jennifer and Elaine ended up logging 1248 miles between Kaiserhof and the airport.

One highlight of the institute was a free day on which the participants were treated to a visit to Space Center Houston. After the visit, they were taken to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church for a tour of it's magnificent facility and to learn about the many ministries happening there. One of the men's ministries called "The Holy Smokers" provided a delicious bar-b-que dinner which could only be described as "AWESOME". After dinner, Astronaut Dan Brandenstein, veteran of four space shuttle missions presented a program describing his experiences in outer space. He also signed countless autographs for the enthusiastic audience.

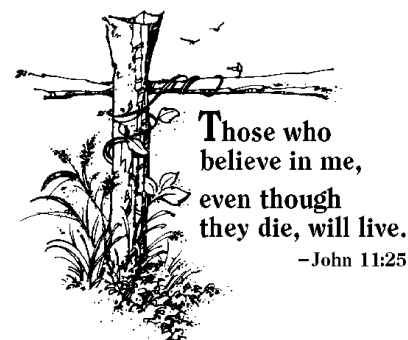
As the host of this institute, Holy Three-in-One received support and help from numerous people. Denise Kaiser, Director of Kaisenhof was a most gracious hostess and went way above and beyond the call of duty in dealing with so many LCMS pastors for such a long period of time. Also, the generosity of Aid Association for Lutheran was evident as representative Mark Hemann arranged for notebook materials and also a grant to help defray some of the cost. Also, many thanks to Bruce Collet of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church who worked so hard to provide the pastors with a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun.

Holy Three-in-One most of all thanks our gracious Lord who allowed us to be instruments in providing this "Deaf Mission Planters Institute" for the renewal of Deaf Ministry throughout the world. TO HIM BE THE GLORY!!!!

Picture of some LCMS pastors to the deaf touring Space Center Houston.



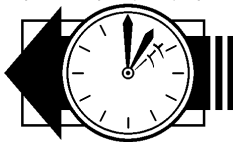
Rev. Larry Lieder



News from around the Regions...



SET YOUR CLOCKS



BACK

At 2 AM on October 29th

Remember to send to the D/L editor your church's newsletters!

On June 25, 2000, Hope congregation in Michigan celebrated the 50th anniversary of the ordination of **Rev. Victor Mesenbring** and the 50th wedding anniversary of June and Vic.

There is an unofficial report that **Rev. Rodney Rynearson** (RRR) is to marry Velma Lubbert of St. Louis. Velma was a missionary overseas for sixteen years. Rynearson served in deaf ministry and at the headquarters of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in the office of Deaf Missions for many years. His wife, Rhoda, who was also very involved in deaf missions, died 2 years ago.

Midwest Region...

Calvary Lutheran, Des Moines... celebrated 25 years in their church building on July 23rd. **Rev. Tim Eckert** and wife Susan have a new baby girl named Rachel Marie who was born in April. **Emma Mappes** is 99 years young on August 23rd!

Word of God Lutheran, Eastern Iowa... Jesus has called home **Bernard Gulstrof** and **Ruby Olberg**.

Central Region...

Peace Lutheran, Indianapolis... **Vicar Dennis Konkell** (past ILDA President) has completed his one year of vicarage. He and Susan will return to St. Louis on August 20th to complete his studies. Materials for **ILDA 2001 Convention** is now available. See elsewhere in this newsletter for the convention and hotel registration forms.

Dixie Region...

Jesus Lutheran, Austin... Grace Lutheran Church, 1250 Belvin St., San Marcos welcomes JLCD's outreach preaching in their building every 2nd Sunday of the month at 2:00 PM.

Great Lakes Region...

Trinity Lutheran, Pittsburgh... **Ruth and Ed Cupps** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April Fool Day.

Alpha Lutheran, Rochester... **Evelyn Kemmet** and **Jim Mick** has entered God's Kingdom. Keep Alpha and 10 other deaf churches in your prayers for a pastor for each churches!

Good Shepherd, Toledo... **Ed and Lil Huener** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last April. Jesus called home **Robert L. Betts** on June 5th.

Holy Cross, Columbus... had an AAL matching fund-raising western style day on May 21st. Fund is to help **Rev. Don Leber** in his recovery from stroke that caused his right side paralyzed.

Christ Lutheran, Cleveland... is now (early August) waiting for their occupancy permit so moving can proceed. Many volunteers had put in long hours of hard work in the new building. Wedding vows took place on June 17th for **Christie Brown** (daughter of **Deaf Lutheran Editor**, David Brown and Sharon) and Jonathan Rocks. Rev. Gary Lawson officiated. Christie has graduated from OSU on June 9th!

Eastern Region...

Christ Lutheran, Silver Spring... **Pastor George Natonick** has delivered his final sermon on June 11th.

Come and Join Us for Ten Awesome Days in Israel!!

This tour is planned for Fall 2001 and will be interpreted. **Approximate cost is \$2300 per person.** This includes air travel, first class hotels, most meals, tours, admissions and tips. Pastor Shirrel and Janet Petzoldt (of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Deaf, Toledo, Ohio) will be your hosts. If interested, please contact:

Pastor Shirrel and Janet Petzoldt
4908 San Joaquin Drive
Toledo, Ohio 43615
419-531-3457 v/tty
petz@accesstoledo.com

A TASTE OF GERMANY

The Helping Hands Guild of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Silver Spring, Maryland, will serve German dinner on Saturday, November 4, 2000 from 4 to 5:30 PM.

At 3:00 PM before the dinner, Jim Casterline, will give a talk about his experience growing up in a German community in South Carolina.

This fund-raising event, "A Taste of Germany", will be held at the **Calvary Lutheran Church, 9545 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland** in the Fellowship Hall. (Entrance at the back of the church building on Woodland Drive)

The cost of the dinner is \$8.00 for each adult, \$3.00 for each child (6 to 12 years old) and free for age 5 and under.

Proceeds to two nonprofit organizations: (1) Family Service Foundation that serves deaf people in Maryland and the Nation's Capital area and (2) ASL Access (www.aslaccess.org) for the purchase of ASL Videotapes for serving the public in Baltimore City and Maryland.

Baked goods, new and used items will be on sale. Matching funds with Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL).

Donations are also welcome. Make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf and mail to: **Alice L. Hagemeyer**
2930 Craiglawn Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904-1816

Any questions, please contact:
Barbara Rassofofsky, Chairman TTY: 301-572-2371
barbarajeane@pocketmail.com



HOTELS · RESORTS · SUITES

The Indianapolis Marriott is conveniently located on the East Side of Indianapolis at Exit 89 off I-70, just ten minutes east of downtown Indianapolis. The hotel offers 253 guest rooms with complimentary parking, indoor/outdoor pools, whirlpool, fitness center, in-room coffee makers, hair dryers, iron & ironing boards and much more.

(Please clip and mail to the... Indianapolis Marriott, 7202 E. 21st St., Indianapolis, IN 46219)

PLEASE RESERVE MY RESERVATION AT THE INDIANAPOLIS MARRIOTT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION BIENNIAL SUMMER NATIONAL CONVENTION JUNE 21-24, 2001

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Sharing room with _____
(One form per reservation please)

Credit Card to be used (circle one) AMEX VISA M/C CARTE DINER

Credit Card # _____ Expiration Date _____

To Process Reservation, We Require A Credit Card Guarantee or Payment Of First Night's Deposit By Check or Money Order

Check Preferred Room Type _____ Arrival Date _____ # of Nights _____

SINGLE OCCUPANCY
 (One person/One Bed) Arrival Time _____
(Check in time is 4:00 p.m.)

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
 (Two Persons/One Bed) Departure Time _____
 (Two Persons/Two Beds) (Check out time is 12:00 noon)

(Three Persons/Two Beds)

(Four Persons/Two Beds)

AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION
WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AREA GO TO THE GROUND TRANSPORTATION AREA FOR CAREY INDIANA LIMOUSINE SERVICE. FOR ADVANCED RESERVATIONS CALL 1-800-888-INDY. TAXI SERVICE IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN THIS AREA.

Smoking

Non-Smoking

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
June 1, 2001, IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE
SPECIAL GROUP RATE.**

All guestrooms are \$99.00 plus tax, \$109.89 inclusive. This rate is valid 2 days prior and 2 days after the convention. If you guarantee your reservation by check or money order, please make it payable to the Indianapolis Marriott.
(Deposit refundable if reservation is cancelled by 6pm, day of arrival)
Please call if you will need to cancel.
Call direct at 317-352-1231 or toll free at 1-800-228-9290



International Lutheran Deaf Association

16th Biennial Convention

Tour – Friday, June 22, 2001

Conner Prairie or White River State Park

PLAN A The Conner Prairie is living history museum with three historic features (Prairie town Village, William Conner Estate, and Pioneer Adventures Area) in the year of 1836: the 65,000-square-foot Museum Center house exhibits, theater, and a gift shop and persimmons restaurant.

PLAN B White River State Park in the Heart of Downtown Indianapolis is located minutes from several downtown attractions. They are NCAA Hall of Champions, Eiteljorg Museum of Indians and Western Art, America's Greatest Heroes, Downtown and etc.

PLAN A (Conner Prairie)

10:00 a.m.	Leave from Marriott Inn
10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Conner Prairie
1:20 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum
2:40 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.	Downtown
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Indiana School for the Deaf
4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf
5:00 p.m.	Arrive to Marriott Inn

OR

PLAN B (White River State Park)

10:00 a.m.	Leave from Marriott Inn
10:20 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum
11:40 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.	White River State Park
	NCAA Hall of Champions
	Eiteljorg Museum of America Indians and Western Art
	The Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial
	Downtown
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Indiana School for the Deaf
4:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf
5:00 p.m.	Arrive to Marriott Inn

This package **ONLY** tour (Conner Prairie or White River State Park)

cost \$40.00 per person

Lunch included.

To register, watch your Church bulletin board or read your Deaf Lutheran newsletter for the ILDA reservation form.

DEADLINE MAY 31, 2001

Question or need more information, contact:

Alan D. Rork, Tour Chairman

4413 Brenda Dr., Anderson, IN 46013-1403

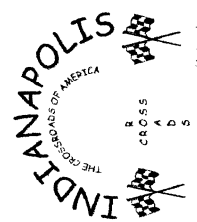
TTY/FAX: 765/642-3022

E-MAIL: Rorknbad@aol.com or Alan.nbad@juno.com

OFFICE USE ONLY: Amount received \$ _____ Personal Check () Money Order () Cash () DATE RECEIVED ___/___/___ No. _____



16th ILDA Biennial Convention June 21-24, 2001



Mail and pay early and save! See Combo Package prices below.

PLEASE USE ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON AND **PRINT** THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ TTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____ VOICE: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ FAX: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please check the events you want to participate in. Enter the amount in the "Total" column, then add your total at the bottom.

X	Event	Combo Ticket	or	Select	Total
	Registration Fee (Required)	Included		\$20.00	
	Thursday Reception	Included		8.00	
	Friday Lunch Box	Included		18.00	
	Saturday Buffet Breakfast	Included		17.00	
	Saturday Banquet	Included		35.00	
	Sunday Buffet Breakfast	Included		22.00	
	SUB-TOTAL	SEE BELOW		120.00	
	Combo Package #1 postmarked before 12-31-00	101.00			
	Combo Package #2 postmarked before 4-30-01	111.00			
	Combo Package #3 postmarked before 5-31-01	116.00			
	EXTRA ITEMS BELOW				
	Friday Night Reception			10.00	
	Saturday Luncheon for God's 1000 Club Members ONLY			20.00	
	Plan A - Corner Prairie with lunch box (Friday)			40.00	
	Plan B - White River State Park with lunch box (Friday)			40.00	
	Non-ILDA Member please add \$10.00			10.00	
	TOTAL				\$

CHECK PLEASE:

- Deaf
- Hearing
- Deaf and Blind
- Visual Impaired - your own companion
- Wheelchair - your own wheel
- Special Diet
- Need daycare for child? Age(es) _____ Daycare - \$2.00 per hour/per child

Please send Check or Money Order
Payable to: ILDA-PEACE

MAIL TO: % Donna Bankston
Peace Lutheran Deaf Church
6404 E. 46th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46226

**DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS
MAY 31, 2001**

OFFICE USE ONLY: Amount received \$ _____ Personal Check () Money Order () Cash () DATE RECEIVED ___/___/___ No. _____



Junior ILDA Biennial Convention June 21-24, 2001

Mail and pay early and save! See Combo Package prices below.



PLEASE USE ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON AND **PRINT** THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

NAME: _____ TTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____ VOICE: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ FAX: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please check the events you want to participate in. Enter the amount in the "Total" column, then add your total at the bottom.

X	Event	Combo Ticket	or	Select	Total
	Registration Fee (Required)	Included		\$15.00	\$15.00
	Thursday Night Pizza	Included		10.00	
	Indianapolis Motor Speedway / Children's Museum	Included		15.00	
	Saturday Breakfast	Included		17.00	
	Saturday Banquet	Included		15.00	
	SUB-TOTAL	SEE BELOW		72.00	
	Combo Package #1 postmarked before 12-31-00	15.00			
	Combo Package #2 postmarked before 4-30-01	20.00			
	Combo Package #3 postmarked before 5-31-01	25.00			
	TOTAL				\$ _____

CHECK PLEASE:

- Deaf
- Hearing
- Deaf and Blind
- Visual Impaired – your own companion
- Wheelchair – your own wheel
- Special Diet

Please send Check or Money Order
Payable to:
ILDA-PEACE

**Deadline For
Registration is
May 31, 2001**

Regional Conference Reports...



DDLC Report...

Left Photo:
Jennifer Knaack



Deaf Lutherans from Florida to Tennessee to Texas met over the weekend of June 23 - 25 for the Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference, held at Concordia University at Austin, Texas. The theme for the conference was "Who Will Go For Me?" and was based on the Bible reading from Isaiah 6:8. **Jennifer Knaack**, the first deaf volunteer missionary to Macua, China, was the guest speaker (see picture). Jennifer fascinated and inspired us with her presentations, and encouraged us to consider answering, "Here am I, send me!" when God asks, "Who will go for Me?"

Those people elected to serve God by being officers for DDLC from 2000 - 2002 are:

President - Martha Malone
President Elect - Jeff McGuire
Secretary - Jennifer Bonura
Treasurer - Carol McGuire
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Larry Lieder

"Retiring" officers include: Carol Seeger, President; Lordy Smith, Secretary; and Rev. Mark Seeger, Pastoral Advisor.

Everyone had a great time of learning, fellowship, food, devotions and worship. Our next Dixie Deaf Lutheran Conference will be held in Houston in the year 2002.

Front row - Jennifer Bonura, Martha Malone

Back row - Carol McGuire, Rev. Larry Lieder, Jeff McGuire



Above left to right: John Rushton, Allen Rich, Rev. Mark Ruppert, Julie Crossen, and Robert Gore. Below: the Crossens hosted the Feud game.

GLRC Report...

Deaf Lutherans from Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York met over the weekend of August 18 - 20 for the Great Lake Regional Conference, held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio. The Theme for the conference was "Yes to King!" (Y2K) based on the Bible reading from Revelation 19:16 "**On His robe written— King of kings and Lord of lords.**" The banquet evening event were games of Church Feud using crossword puzzles based on *Yes to King*.

Those people elected to serve God by being officers for GLRC from 2000 - 2002 are:

President - John Rushton, extended term
President Elect - Allen Rich, extended term
Secretary - Julie Crossen
Treasurer - Robert Gore, reelected
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Mark Ruppert

The next celebration GLRC is in Toledo, OH in 2001. The next business GLRC meeting is in Pittsburgh, PA in 2002.

ER-ILDA Report...

The conference was held on May 26-29, 2000 in Whitehall, PA. 56 attended. The theme of the conference was "*Into the new millennium with Jesus Christ.*" **Dennis Konkell** gave an excellent Banquet speech.

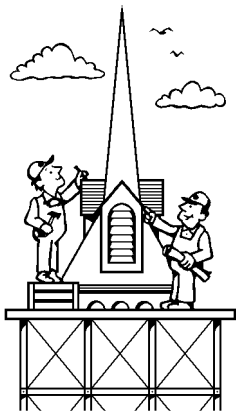
Those people elected to serve God by being officers for ER-ILDA from 2000 - 2002 are:

President - Joe Yeates
President Elect - Wayne Borngesser
Secretary - Carolyn Snyder-Mason
Treasurer - Mary Burgess
Pastor Advisor - ?

The next ER-ILDA conference will be held on June 15, 2001 at Claggett Farm near Frederick, MD.



Corner Stone c:1948...



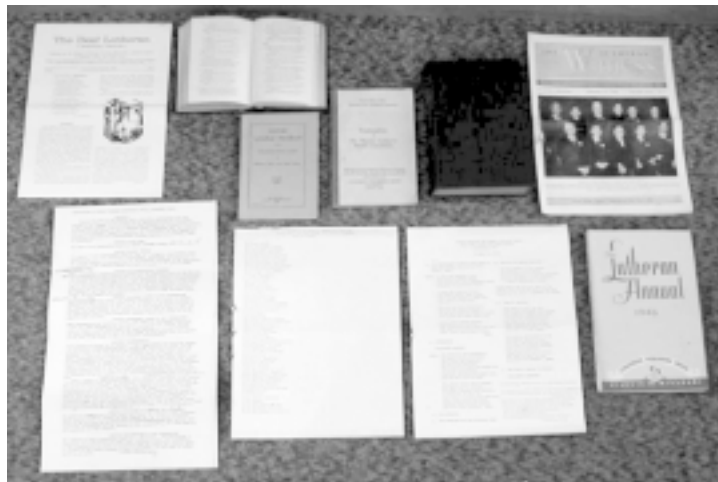
RENOVATION

Christ Lutheran Church-Deaf of Cleveland, Ohio has recently removed the corner stone from their old building. The corner stone is dated 1948.

The corner stone was laid into the building in 1948. On July 23rd, we had a celebration and opened the time capsule. Inside the copper box was Rev. Frederking's bible, a hymn, a 1948 copy of The Deaf Lutheran newsletter, a list of member names (1948), a copy of the church's Constitution, a copy of the Lutheran Annual, the cornerstone time capsule's 1948 Ceremony program, the Lutheran Witness, and two other items (little green and brown books) I can't remember what it is right now.



A hired restoration person prepare the corner stone for removal on April 29th.



On July 23rd, David G. Brown, Fred Waltz and Richard Tingler cut open the copper time capsule box that was inside the corner stone.



Wheat Ridge Ministries invites and encourages Lutheran congregations to submit applications for its Congregation Health and Hope Grant program. The grants will facilitate the initial development of congregation-based health and wellness ministries. The maximum amount per grant is \$2,000 for a single congregation and \$6,000 for a partnership. Sponsoring congregation(s) must match the dollars awarded from the grant. Twenty-five grants will be awarded.

For information, call 800.762.6748 or www.wheatridge.org/pd/handh.htm

1999-2001 ILDA Mission Project Goals...

1. Deaf Mission Planters Institute	\$15,000
2. Macau (Volunteers)	2,000
3. Ghana	2,000
4. D.I.T. and Zacharias	16,000
5. Pax Natrua Ranch (Canada)	1,000
6. Camps for the Deaf	
Nebraska	3,000
California	3,000
Ohio	3,000
7. Starfish Learning Center	6,000
8. Computer (Deaf Lutheran)	4,000
Total	\$55,000

Pam Kane of Cleveland, Ohio will continue to be your ILDA Mission Project Chairperson. Payments and contributions are to be made out to: **1999-2001 ILDA Mission Project** and mailed to:

**ILDA TREASURER
Karen Beiter
7300 Briggs Rd.
Lima NY 14485**



Your help is greatly needed...

The Indianapolis ILDA 2001 Host need money from all deaf churches and ILDA Regions. Because Indianapolis has volunteered to host the last minute 2001 Convention site vacancy, they are in great need for funds to help prepare for the convention. They don't have much time to have a lot of fund raising like all the other host churches had in the past.

All donations can be made to:
**Indianapolis ILDA 2001 Convention,
Peace Lutheran Church-Deaf, 6404 East
46th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226-3550.**

Thank you! The Deaf Lutheran Editor



Congratulations...

...on the occasion of the wedding of **Elmer Francisco** and **Diane Waters**. In a worship service attended by over 70 people Elmer and Diane were united in marriage on May 27, 2000 at Faith Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

The service was conducted by **Rev. Martin Hewitt** (Faith's Pastor) and by **Rev. Mark Seeger** (Diane's former pastor at Rochester, NY).



Elmer was the Business Manager of The Deaf Lutheran newsletter for many years until he retired in 1997.

*Photos supplied by
Larry Gorton, Former
President of ILDA.*



David Reeves, Member of Indianapolis Peace Lutheran Church of the Deaf leads qualifiers for Deaf World Games in Rome

David, who works in the utilities department at the home of the Indiana Pacers and Fever, was selected to bowling's Team USA for the 2001 Deaf World games in Rome, Italy.

In Rochester, NY last month David became the No. 1 male qualifier when he finished his three-day, 40-game trial with an 8,467 total. That's an average of 211.675. He was one of six bowlers to make Team USA.

David stated to a newspaper reporter "I read the Bible on Wednesday morning before I went bowling. I read (in) 1 Peter, chapter 2: 19-25, which says when I am suffering, I must be patient. During lunch I was praying and I let him know I wanted my last day to be my best day for my birthday gift. I'll be 39 on July 29. I will be 40 in Rome. Many bowlers got hurt or had bad blisters and quit. I fought and had good patience. I refused to give up and make it." Reeves wears a bracelet with the initials W.W.J.D.

"Get Ready – Jesus is Coming!" 2000 Wheat Ridge Christmas Seals



Christmas Seals are distributed free to congregations and schools. Individuals and families use the stamps on their cards and letters to share their joy in the birth of the Savior.

Congregations and schools may order seals materials by contacting the Wheat Ridge office at 800.762.6748 • 630.766.9622 (fax) • wrmal@wheatridge.org • One Pierce Place, Suite 250E, Itasca, IL 60143

Prayer List...

By Jennifer Knaack as guest speaker for the DDLC conference in Texas

- Lei leng (Diana) - Monetary support, safe travels and adjustment to American life.
- Rev. Thomas Dunseth and family - readjustment to American life and a new call.
- Sara McKinney - Her continuing work in Macau, health, strength and courage, and thanksgiving for her service.
- Wendy - Continued studies in the Bible and growth in personal faith, thankfulness for bringing her into God's family.
- Three male students - Wisdom and courage to not join the Buddhist rituals.
- Concordia School of Special Education - Monetary support, teachers' understanding of students' needs.
- More workers - a career missionary and more volunteers

Contact List (if more information is needed):

LCMS World Mission
1333 S. Kirkwood Road
St. Louis, MO 63122-7295
1-800-433-3954

Sara McKinney
Dak Seng Gardens 3-P
Estrada da Vitoria #26
Macau, South Asia

Monetary support:

First Ev. Lutheran Church
735 NE First Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744
payable to: First Lutheran Church
memo: Sara McKinney - Macau missions

Monetary support for:

Lei Ing (Diana) - Schooling in America
Concordia School of Special Education - renovation funds
Macau deaf ministry - a Career missionary and volunteers

Please contact:

Sara McKinney at Mckinnsa@yahoo.com
Rev. Thomas Dunseth at tdunseth@juno.com
Jennifer Knaack at Wknaack@peoplepc.com

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e-mail: LarryDGinter@aol.com

Please send articles, stories and pictures to: David G. Brown, Editor, 3434 Klusner Ave., Parma, OH 44134-5030. FAX: 440-886-2961. e-mail: CreaBrowns@aol.com



Fall is ILDA Membership Due Renewal time!



For New D/L Subscription

Cut out and fill in this coupon, enclose your check or money order of \$7.50 for one year's subscription payable to *The Deaf Lutheran* and mail to:

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Thank you for your subscription.

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ILDA Membership period is October 1, 2000 thru September 30, 2002.

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Open to any communicant members in a congregation or field of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or The Lutheran Church-Canada.

Biannual dues are \$20 per person.

God's 1,000 Club @ \$20 per person. Qty. _____ x \$20 = \$ _____.

This Club is open to any member who wish to help with the operating expenses of the ILDA Board of Directors. Add \$20 per person per 2-year. (This is an addition to membership due.)

Total enclosed \$ _____.

Please make your check or money-order payable to:
ILDA TREASURER, Karen Belter, 7300 Briggs Rd., Lima NY 14485

Your Name _____
Spouse Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Thank you for your support.