



# The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

Christmas, 2001

St. Louis, MO

Volumes 93, No. 4

## DEAF LUTHERAN DEVOTION

### DO NOT BE AFRAID AS I AM THE LORD GOD OF HEAVENS AND EARTH.

*Psalms 46:10* – God’s Word for the Deaf

**Let go of your concerns. Then you will know that I am God. I rule the nations. I rule the world.**

The King James Version (KJV) says:

**Be still and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.**

An American Translation (AAT) says:

**Stop and know that I am God! I am high over the nations, exalted over the world!**

Even though using different words from those three different versions of the Holy Bible, they are saying the same thing that the Lord God has everything under His complete control.

Really, our Heavenly Father of the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior is encouraging us not to worry or be afraid of all bad things happening around us. God encourages us to trust in His Wisdom and His Love even right in the middle of terrible situations such as WTC, DC, PA, and war on terror and Anthrax attacks.

Jesus says in *Matthew 24:6* (AAT): “you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you don’t get alarmed. It must happen, but that’s not the end yet...”

Once again, our Good Shepherd gives us His encouraging Word that we not be quickly alarmed as other people would be, simply because Jesus promises us that He will not leave or forsake or desert His sheep, that is, us believers. (*Hebrews 13:5* AAT)

So the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide of our Christian life, gives us courage to boldly say: “The Lord is my Help. I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?” (*Psalms 56:4, 11; Psalms 118:6* AAT)

The Word of God tells us in Revelation chapters 4 and 5 that the future belongs to Christ the King of kings and the Lord of lords. That means that Jesus knows and holds your future both on the earth and in heaven. After all, all heavens and the earth are under His rule. So, while we can be very anxious about our future, we

need not be like the others who do not have hope and cry out in pains and despair. Rather, we, as His children, have complete peace and total assurance with the Lord God in Christ.

Once again, as the ILDA pastoral advisor called to proclaim the Good News of salvation and deliverance (saved and fully forgiven) through His perfect life, His suffering and death on cross and His resurrection from the dead, I am encouraging you to keep your eyes alone on Jesus Christ always. He alone makes your faith perfect and complete (*Hebrews 12:2*). We can surely depend on His promise that He is our High Priest who prays for us always that we remain strong in our faith.

Jesus says to us: “You are mine! I am always with you even to the end of the times.” Amen!

*ILDA Pastoral Advisor*



Rev. Mark Anderson,  
ILDA Pastoral Advisor



The **Chi** (X) and **Rho** (P) stands for **The Anointed, the Messiah**



The **IHS** stands for **Jesus** which means **Who saves sinners** by death on a cross

We often see those two church symbols in churches. Have you ever wondered what those symbols mean and how they mean to our Christian faith. I remember very well when a friend of mine with whom I grew up at Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit, Michigan stopped by at my place for a visit at the Christmas time. At the time I was just a new pastor at St. Matthew’s Deaf Lutheran Church in Newark, NJ. That church had many beautiful Christian symbols which were used as visual aids for the deaf worshippers to appreciate the love of the Lord God in Christ. Well, as my friend and I walked through the church, he noted those two certain symbols that were part of the front of the altar. He then asked

*Continued on page 2...*

*In Memoriam*  
**Memorials**  
**September**  
**11, 2001**



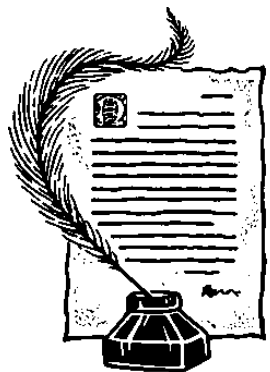
me what they meant. Of course, I told him of the meanings as you can see in the above shadowed box. He then said: "Oh, I see. This church is so full of symbols that makes me feel as if I am in a Roman Catholic church. That is why I go to a church that has nothing but a empty cross." Then he saw the nativity set on the altar floor between the same two Christian symbols. He thought for a few moments and said: "Now I can see why you use those symbols. I understand it now. That makes it a more meaningful picture for me to understand how much Christ Jesus means to me and why He came down from His heavenly home."

Whenever we see the nativity set of the Babe Jesus with His parents, Mary and Joseph, we

remember that the Heavenly Father loves us sinners so much that He chose (anointed) His only beloved Son to save people. Jesus accomplished the plan of God by living the sinless life for us, suffering and dying on cross for the forgiveness of sins and arising from the grave for the eternal life. How beautiful the Good News is! Indeed, Christ Jesus is the Savior of all people! God declares that Jesus' name is above all names (Acts 4:12) because only His name can save sinners. It is good for us to appreciate those two symbols of Christ and Jesus as we prepare to celebrate the Advent and the Christmastide for the glory of our Lord God.

ILDA Pastoral Advisor

## Editorial...



Greeting everyone in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

A lot has happened since I published the last issue of *The Deaf Lutheran* newsletter. I recently was informed that some incorrect information was sent to me. The article "Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf has a Deaf Deacon," which is on page 4 of the Fall 2001 issue. Some pastors were incorrectly listed. Also, missing from the article is Rev. Gary Lawson of Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. Lawson has taught a training class the evening before the installation. Pastor Lawson also was the preaching pastor for the installation service for Deacon John Rushton.

One other mistake I made... while I was at the GLRC conference in Toledo, Ohio on November 2-4, 2001, I met a wonderful person named Pat Monroe of Nebraska. She informed me that I had the wrong picture on page 9 of the Fall 2001 issue. Pat is a female, so now I have no idea who the man in the photo is. Sorry! (PS: *Yesterday in the mail, I have just received a letter from Deacon Richard Windisch, Sr. of Clark, NJ. He said it was he in that photo, not Pat. My apology!*)

Many of us grief for our brothers and sisters who were killed and those who are missing by the four airliners that has crashed on September 11th in NYC, Washington D.C. and in Pennsylvania. The World Trade Towers, America's landmark, was destroyed. It was a strange morning for me. I woke up not feeling well, very unusual for me, and after watching *Good Morning America*, I went back to the bathroom. Upon returning to the TV a little bit after 9 AM, I notice the first tower on fire. Suddenly, I saw an airplane crashed into the

second tower. I was a bit shocked and wasn't sure what was really going on as Closed Captions wasn't sent on the TV in full text. Then about an hour later, the two towers came crashing down. I remained glued to the TV all day and evening.

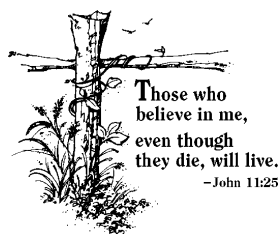
As my pastor said, "be prepared with our maker...", this is a wake up call for us all to be prepared for our own death. "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." John 11:25. "Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life." Revelation 2:10.

One thing I really noticed for the next few days was that the sky was so crystal clear, brilliant blue and small puff of clouds were very sharp in shape and clean. Reason? No airplanes were in the sky (jet planes leaves trails of exhaust gasses when they fly). All the planes were grounded.

Our (Larry Ginter and myself) planned trip to New York City on September 29 and 30th was a little bit up in the air. I have kept in e-mail contacts with Maureen Woods, St. Matthew's 90th Anniversary chairperson. Even sad, we were determined in still attending the event.

We did go after all and were glad that we went. They had a wonderful celebration. After the banquet, Pastor Bill Wrede took Larry and I for a tour around NYC-the other deaf church in NYC, Central Park, Time Square, Radio City, etc. Wow! Active city, alive even during late Sunday evenings and very rough roads! We only got as close as few blocks from Ground Zero.

David G. Brown, Editor



## Coming up Next...

### "Let Thy Holy Angels Be With Us"

Come and join us as we celebrate the 17th Biennial Convention in Minneapolis, MN. The Mall of America is a short walk from the Hilton Hotel at Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport area.

Hosts: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, 1101 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414.  
V/TTY: 621-331-2474

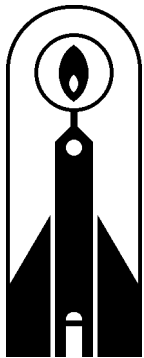


**November/  
December are  
D/L 2002  
subscription  
renewal  
months!**

### Coming in the Spring 2002 Issue of *The Deaf Lutheran*...

- Photos from the October 7th Installation of Rev. Dunseth in Michigan.
- Photos from the November 2-4 GLRC conference in Toledo, Ohio.

# St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of the Deaf Celebrated their 90th Anniversary...



On Sunday, September 30th, 2001, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Elmhurst, New York, celebrated the 90th year of their church building.

We began the service from outside. Rev. Bill Wrede used incense to help us **see** and **smell** how God's blessings touch us and everything around us as we entered the building. After our confessions, the Pastor sprinkled us with water to help us remember that God washes away all of our sins.

After the service, we all went to Riccardo's by the Bridge for the 90th Anniversary Luncheon. Wow! Cocktail Hour and Luncheon about 5 hours long. Co-Chairpersons Carolyn DeFalco and John D. Woods and their troop did a wonderful job!

Guest Speaker was Rev. Louis Jasper, D.D., Ed.D of Newark, NY. He was ordained into the ministry at St. Matthew's back in 1959. Dr. Jasper has served 23+ years of missionary work in Hong Kong and Macau, China. In 1996, he has retired, he and his wife, Joan, has returned to the USA.



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of the Deaf  
41-01 75th Street, Elmhurst, NY 11373



Guest Speaker,  
Rev. Louis Jasper



John D. Woods, President  
of St. Matthew's



Riccardo's by the Bridge, Astoria, NY.

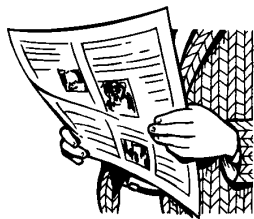


Carolyn DeFalco, Head  
Elder of St. Matthew's



Donna Wright, Mistress of Ceremonies, gave a slide presentation of slides and photos taken in the past of church members and events.

# News from around the Regions...



## News about our People



## New relay service number is 7-1-1.

(Emergency number is still 9-1-1. Do not confuse this with the new telephone relay service 7-1-1 number!)

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

### Northwest Region...

Cross of Christ, Edmonton, Canada... D.I.T.-three more students has registered-**Shirley Talbott, Alex Rear** and **Bob Lang**. **Jerry** and **Janne Couziech** has received certificates for the first course in Level II of the D.I.T. Program. Congratulations!

Faith, Spokane... new officers elected in June are: **Elmer Francisco**, President; **Dennis Aukett**, V-Pres.; **Diane Francisco**, Secretary; **Gary Wilson**, Treasurer; and **Karen Barr**, Financial Secretary.

### Pacific Region...

Pilgrim, Los Angeles... **Lutheran Deaf Camp**, last summer, had 58 kids enjoying the mountains and fresh air. The 2002 Lutheran Deaf Camp will be held on August 4-9, 2002. Deadline is May 1, 2002. Cost \$225 per child. Contact Rev. Leber at: 1-909-823-2468 or e-mail: RevLeber@aol.com.

**Seven night cruises** to Hubbard Glacier, Alaska is being provide by Rev. Leber. Aug 7-14, 2005 from Vancouver, Canada-after the ILDA convention. Cost \$1525-\$1825 per person.

### Midwest Region...

Nebraska... **Emma Mappes**, Lincoln, Nebraska has celebrated her 100th birthday on August 23rd. She is a graduate of Nebraska School for the Deaf. Her late husband was a pastor of the Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Omaha which had a following among the deaf in the Nebraska/Iowa deaf community for many years.

**Deaf Missions in Minnesota...** unknown to me, our brothers and sisters in Twin Cities celebrated 100 years of deaf missions on September 8th & 9th. (I picked this up from Trinity Deaf LC of Pittsburgh newsletter.)

### Central Region...

Peace, Indianapolis... **David Reeves** attended the Deaf Olympics in Rome, Italy July 21-August 1. He won gold medals in bowling.

Central Illinois welcomes **Rev. Tom Phillips** to serve the deaf in Peoria and Jacksonville area.

### Dixie Region...

**Jesus, Austin...** Texas School for the Deaf had their Homecoming on October 6th. As usual, JLCD has a booth there. This is a wonderful way to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to other deaf who do not know Jesus! JLCD will also have a booth at Deaf Fiesta 2001 in December.

### Great Lakes Region...

Our Savior, Michigan... **Rev. Thomas Dunseth** was installed as pastor on October 7th, 2001.

Alpha, Rochester... Jesus has called home **Ralph Bliss** and **Alta Herrick**. On October 28th, Alpha held a "Friendship Day" to spread the Good News among those who do not know Jesus.

Good Shepherd, Toledo... hosted the **GLRC conference** on November 2-4, 2001. Libby Ruppert and her troop have done a beautiful job! Last summer, two members did mission project

works... **Judy Kiser** to Sioux Reservation and **Andy Petzoldt** to Panama City. **Barbara Snyder** has entered God's Kingdom on September 10th.

**Holy Cross, Columbus...** the church youths spent a wonderful 3 days of camping in West Virginia near Bluestone Dam. **Daniel Bergstresser** has gone to England for soccer tournament with help of AAL Branch.

### Eastern Region...

Christ, Silver Spring... **Rev. Ron Friedrich** was installed as pastor on September 23rd. **Anita Nash** has joined Jesus in Heaven.

St. Matthew's, NYC... **Mabel Schwing** celebrated her 100th birthday on August 13th at Valley View Home in Elwyn, PA. Many people came to her party, including a man with a camcorder and a reporter for a local newspaper. She also got a framed certificate of honor from President and Laura Bush.

New York City... **Rev. Bill Wrede** is safe and sound and home after the WTC collapsed. He was only four blocks when the towers came down. His black preacher uniform was covered up with gray dust. He spent most of the day praying with firemen and police officers.



Mabel Schwing at her 100th birthday party.



**James C. Hall** of Everett, Washington died on Sunday, June 17, 2001. He was a former employee of the Jacksonville Journal Courier, The State Journal-Register and was last employed at Holman Autobody in Seattle.

### Bonnie White...

I met Bonnie White of Washington, DC area during the ILDA convention in Indianapolis. Bonnie was telling me about her volunteer work in Washington. She volunteered as docent at two museums. The next time any of you readers visit Washington, DC, please stop in at National Museum of American History and Hirshhorn Museum (art) building and Sculpture Garden building to say hello to Bonnie! She is anxious to give tours for the deaf community. You can reach her via e-mail: BooHWhite@aol.com.



## Installation of Rev. Ronald Friedrich...

Rev. Ron Friedrich was installed as pastor for Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Silver Spring, Maryland on September 23, 2001. Rev. Bill Wrede was guest preacher. Worship leader for the installation was Rev. Mike MacDonald. Rev. Friedrich has been in full time deaf ministry for 25 years. He will also work at Gallaudet as Lutheran Chaplain. He is a former Pastoral Advisor for ILDA.

Your Deaf Lutheran editor was not able to attend, but many thanks goes to Jim Casterline for sending the photo via e-mail. Pastor Ron is located forth from right in the photo.



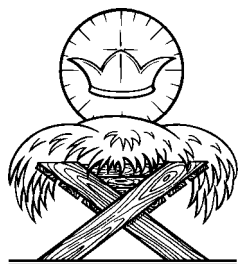
## From Wisconsin...



David Leonard (Emmanuel, West Allis, WI) and Rev. John Reinke (MAL – South Wisconsin District) took 2nd place in the horseshoe tournament at the Midwest Timberfest of the Deaf competition held over the Labor Day weekend near Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin.



Our Savior  
is Born



For unto us a child is born,  
to us a son is given ...  
Isaiah 9:6



## Regional Conferences Dates...

Please inform your Deaf Lutheran Editor of dates before Feb 1, 2002.

### Northwest Region...

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### Midwest Region...

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### Dixie Region...

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### Eastern Region...

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### Pacific Region...

?

### Central Region...

?

### Great Lakes Region...

October 2002, Cleveland, OH  
– 50th year of GLRC Celebration.

**Don't forget to visit ILDA's Web Site!!!**



[www.LCMSdeaf.org/ILDA](http://www.LCMSdeaf.org/ILDA)

Also check with this web site for LCMS World Ministry counselor, Rev. Roger Altenberger's latest report.



Ted Pulfer (Silent, Madison, Wisconsin) and Rev. John Reinke (MAL – South Wisconsin District) took 1st place in the 2-Man Bucksaw/Novice competition at the Midwest Timberfest of the Deaf over the Labor Day weekend in the Wisconsin Dells area.

Also, Silent Lutheran Church in Madison sponsored a Sunday morning worship service at the Midwest Timberfest of the Deaf.

# 2001 Convention Report...

## International Lutheran Deaf Association

16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention

Marriott Hotel

Indianapolis, Indiana

June 22-23, 2001



### Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>

The business meeting began at 8:40 a.m. with an opening prayer by Rev. Mark Anderson.

1. Warmest welcome and greetings from President Richard Norton. He thanked God for helping us all in making a good choice to come to ILDA Convention to learn more and then share about Jesus Christ.
2. **Necrology:** No report as Mae Madding resigned from the position due to no communication of any news on deceased ILDA members since '99 after ILDA Convention. Now President Norton asked that the information of deceased ILDA members be sent to ILDA Historian but any news on recent deaths be given to the President.
3. **Introductions to General Assembly:** President Norton introduced Elmer Francisco as our Parliamentarian and Lee Ann Kotal as the Assistant to the Secretary. ILDA Executive Board including Pastoral Advisor and LCMS Deaf Ministry Counselor, Regional Presidents and ILDA Chairpersons/Committees (Mission Projects, Scholarship, Right Hand, Publicity & Historian and Nominating) were all introduced. Interpreters for the current business meeting were introduced: George Perry and Gail Quick.
4. **Nominations:** Dennis Konkel shared the list of those who accepted the nominations. It was still open to anyone who would nominate anyone or be interested in being nominated and, if so, then this would have to be seconded by another. He explained each officer's role. All people who had been nominated were brought to the floor. New nominations were added: Mike Bowman of Columbus, OH, for Treasurer position and Rev. William Wrede and Rev. Tim Eckert for Pastoral Advisor position. Each gave brief comments about why s/he was interested in running for a certain position.
5. **Resolution Committee:** Charles Kotal introduced the committee members: Lester Ahls, Glenda Haefner and Rev. Mark Anderson. He explained that anyone could give resolutions in good writing to anyone on the committee about what certain things needed to be changed/improved, or who should be complimented or recognized, etc. Must hand all in by 9 a.m. next morning.
6. **'99 Convention Minutes:** Tim Johnston reviewed and summarized Minutes whenever necessary. The minutes were approved by the General Assembly.
7. **Necrology:** Recent information was handed in. President Norton informed us that Arthur Anderson died Tuesday, June 19<sup>th</sup>. He was the one who received the Right Hand Award at ILDA Convention in Portland, OR.
8. **Closing Prayer:** Rev. Mark Anderson asked the general assembly for any prayer request. Quite a large number of prayer requests were given. Rev. Anderson explained that although prayer requests were too many to remember while saying a prayer, but our Great Lord certainly saw and knew what was in our minds when we requested our prayers to be included. He then closed with a prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20am and the business meeting was to be resumed the following morning at 8:30am.

### Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>

General Assembly began at 9:00 am.

1. **Nominating Committee Update:** The committee was still open for any new nominations before final closing. Introduction of tellers was made: Lester Ahls, Arther Harper, Elmer Francisco and Wayne Bergesser. Two nominations for President-elect stayed the same as the day before - Lee Ann Kotal and Pam Kane. Rev. Mark Anderson came to the floor to make a sincere prayer to be presented to the Lord to help us vote for the right persons. The votes took place for President-elect position.
2. **Treasurer Report:** Karen Beiter greeted us all in the name of Jesus Christ and thanked us so much for the enriching experience as a treasurer as she was completing her second term. She enjoyed the experience very much but that certainly kept her very busy. She shared the goals for ILDA in the near future and suggestions/ideas for how ILDA could save money. ILDA balance was \$19,347.34. For the mission projects we hit \$50,000 in '99 which was exciting and now we tried for \$55,000 so we were still trying. Before the convention, the total was \$30,205.70 in Mission Projects fund. Another amount of \$10,391.47 was still in Convocation fund and it was put into a CD to let interest be earned for the future convocation in 2005. The amount of \$4,059.66 was in ILDA Publicity Video Project. The Zacharias Fund had \$19,255. She updated on ILDA membership dues which was now \$20 for a two-year membership. Before the ILDA Convention, there were 204 members and 79 God's 1,000 Club members. She showed the balance sheets, account statements, the list of donations/contributions by the churches over a 4 year period, letters of gratitude, the '99-01 ILDA budget and fundraising ideas on the overhead. (refer to the Treasurer's reports.) James Swalley made a motion to accept the treasurer's reports. **Passed.**
3. **Resolutions Update:** Charles Kotal shared that he received several resolutions yet it was still open for any more resolutions. Then he would present the list of

resolutions for the general assembly to review and approve.

4. **Nominating Update:** First female to win for ILDA President-elect was Pam Kane. She came to the floor and thanked us for voting for her. She would make a commitment to the Lord and ILDA to serve us the best as the president-elect. For the secretary position, the motion was brought up to close the nomination so the current candidates were Tim Johnston and Charles Kotal. The voting took place.
5. **President's Report:** Richard Norton greeted us as brothers and sisters in Christ. He informed that ILDA has existed for 30 years and ILDA has confronted many challenges as in the case of Crossroads direction. He hoped ILDA helped many different deaf ministries and interpreting services to grow - both parts of deaf ministry are very important. He reminded us about Matt 28:18-20: The Great Commission - which is our duty to go and spread the Gospel. He updated us that the Executive Board met early in March. Now we have an ILDA web site which was created by David Brown. Now ILDA Convention minutes and treasurer reports as well as ILDA Handbook could be on the web site. The web site address is [www.lcmsdeaf.org/ilda](http://www.lcmsdeaf.org/ilda). The next 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation that Rev. Mark Seeger is to be chairman of in 2002 was postponed until 2005. We just completed the first goal out of three goals and we could go by a five-year period basis so it would give us enough time to complete the last two goals (increase the number of deaf-based ministries and size of church membership and believers.) We now have 46 talented Deaf Institute of Theology (DIT) students who would serve as deacons, lay leaders and church leaders in our deaf churches across the nation. He emphasized the importance of continuing communication among the regional presidents and ILDA officers. He informed that Mill Neck Foundation extended the John of Beverley Award to ILDA.
6. **Nominating Update:** The Secretary position went to Tim Johnston for the second term. Tim came to the stage and thanked for the continuing belief in him to serve as ILDA Secretary. He added that he would continue to look for ways to better serve ILDA as the Secretary. The nomination for the Treasurer was open and then closed. Those who were nominated were Mike Bowman and Jim Sipchen. Each gave comments about what experiences each had. The voting took place.
7. **Synodical Representative Report:** Rev. Roger Altenberger greeted and introduced himself as our LCMS Deaf Ministry Counselor. There were seven vacancies in the deaf churches. New church workers who have been assigned are Rev. Bill Wrede to Long Island and Mill Neck, NY, Rev. Bruce Hein as MAL to Rocky Mountain District, Rev. Jim Drummond as MAL to Northwest District, Rev. Dennis Konkel as MAL to West Iowa District, Rev. Tom Phillips to Jacksonville, IL, on a part-time basis, and Rev. Fred Leighty as MAL to East Iowa District. Other church workers who have been approved are Deacon John Rushton to continue presiding over services at Alpha Deaf, Rochester, NY, and Charles Kotal as lay minister at Pilgrim Deaf, LA, CA. Currently, there are 46 students in DIT program with all pre-seminary courses completed and taped on videos. Two seminary classes have been developed and completed by LCMS Deaf Ministry so far. There are 228 LCMS congregations having interpreted services. Five Fort Wayne Seminary students were studying to become pastors of the deaf and there was none at St. Louis Seminary. New goal as of now is to work with Concordia Universities at Bronxville, Irvine (CA), and St Paul (MN) to train Directors of Christian Education and Directors of Christian Outreach for the work among the Deaf. Why? To involve more young people in reaching out to more young Deaf. Sad news: California/Nevada/Hawaii District has stopped supporting Sacramento/Stockton areas served by Rev. Bob Rowland. Southeastern District Deaf worker, Rev. Mike MacDonald has been working part-time since. Good News: All future videos for LCMS congregations will be fully captioned; Counselor of Deaf Ministry will be involved with the orientation process at both seminaries and will be working to shorten the entire DIT class curriculum. He could still serve and support deaf ministry efforts in other countries including Brazil, Africa, China, etc. We have deaf ministries and programs better focused than other deaf-based religions. Most importantly, there are 3 million deaf in the United States and almost 2 to 5 percent of them know the Lord, leaving almost 2.8 million Deaf going to Hell. Is that satisfactory? Praise the Lord for answering prayers as more are heading into Deaf Ministry service/leadership training. More prayers still are needed to have more church workers and leaders.
8. **Nominating Update:** The Treasurer position went to Jim Sipchen. Jim came to the floor and thanked us with a commitment to serve us well with God's and our help.
9. **Pastoral Advisor:** Rev. Mark Anderson came and mentioned that LCMS Deaf Ministry Counselor took up most of Pastor Advisor's report time so his would be brief. He thanked us for the opportunity to serve us well the past two years. He said he must sit tight and silent and let the deaf churches run. He thanked God for having pastoral advisor's articles added to Deaf Lutheran newsletter so he could say something. But he would not be going to let articles give us mind of serenity but instead he would challenge our faiths to grow well.
10. **Nominating Update:** Four nominated Pastoral Advisors were still the same: Rev. Mark Anderson, Rev. Bill Wrede, Rev. Tim Eckert, and Rev. John Reinke. Any new nomination was closed. Voting took place.
11. **Deaf Lutheran:** David Brown greeted and welcomed us to ILDA Convention in Indianapolis, IN. Since then, the Deaf Lutheran (DL) newsletter has processed very successfully with much needed grants received for better production equipment and software. Much gratitude went to Mill Neck Foundation for the generous grant. The DL production has become well stabilized with

newsletters going out four times a year. Readers are around 782 to 827 subscribers. Since Feb. 2001, there have been 788 subscribers. Past issues could be found on the web site. DL is now self-supportive but the earnings and expenses have been getting real close and tight. The printing costs keep increasing while the subscription rates remain the same at \$7.50/individual and \$7.00/blanket rate. The DL would appreciate any kind of donation to help out with increasing expenses. For example, the amount of \$2,500 was donated from '99 ILDA Convention in Cleveland, OH. Larry Ginter, Business Manager, thanked us for the continuing support of the Deaf Lutheran. He reminded us to continue sending in the renewed subscriptions or become new subscribers. Charles Kotal came up to the floor with an emphasis on how important DL newsletter has been to the deaf churches as one of the significant communication tools. He requested that we continue to send in more information to the DL to help each other keep abreast of happenings in various deaf churches and regions.

12. LCMS Deaf Ministry Counselor: Rev. Roger Altenberger regretted overlooking important news concerning another deaf worker in CA - Denise Manning of Northern California who became deaf two years ago and has since learned sign language. She used to work in Guatemala and Panama with the missionary program. She came back and started working in northern California with the deaf. She has lots of experiences with missionary work. Praise be to the Lord.
13. Finance Committee Report: Karen Beiter came up to the floor to present the upcoming proposed 2001-2003 ILDA budget. The expected income would be \$7,800 (ILDA membership dues \$4.5k, God's 1000 Club \$1.5k, ILA Donations \$1k and Interests \$0.8k) and the expected expenses (2002 Ex Board \$3k, '03 Board/Convention \$13k and Misc.\$3k) would be \$19,000. ILDA still needs to look for ways to reduce the expenses. The membership enrollment has declined due to more members opting for ILDA dues rather than both ILDA and God's 1000 club to help out with ILDA operating expenses. There has been an increased trend in donating more to Mission Projects rather than to ILDA operating expenses. There is a need to cut down the expenses so ILDA donations could be increased.
14. Law Committee: James Swalley, President-elect, greeted us as brothers and sisters in Christ. They had been studying some of the changes and wanted to share what they had done. Carol Ann Pickell, Rev. Mark Anderson, Winona Alter and James were on the committee. The first issue was about allowing a female to run for the ILDA President position. They found a statement in the ILDA Handbook (red book) that any male or female could run for President so no further action was done to revise the handbook. Second issue was about allowing ILDA Convention financial reports to be submitted within 6 months instead of required 90 days but it is now understood that financial reports could come within 100 or 120 days. Thirdly, the new ILDA Endowment proposal has been carried on for several years but never was printed in the constitution or handbook. It was separate from other funds. It would have its own officers and would earn the interests. He didn't have much to suggest so he would pass on the proposal matter to the next committee so they could have full report at the next convention. Once this had been revised and accepted, it would go into the handbook so it would be more or less a guideline to help know what to do with those certain funds. Fourth issue was to encourage each region of ILDA to support up to 1/7<sup>th</sup> of Mission Projects funds. The fifth was to merge the positions of Publicity and Historian into one and have the duties that were listed in the Handbook (sections K and U) merged and updated. Finally, the amount expected for the Deaf Lutheran (DL) Newsletter to collect up to \$1,000 has now been changed to \$20,000 (section D of article 25 in the handbook.) This would help DL become flexible and better sustaining with their production and operating budgets.
15. ILDA Publicity Video Project: Alice Hagemeyer greeted us as friends in Christ. She wanted to briefly share her background with us. Previously she knew nothing about ILDA and was astonished to learn how wonderful the ILDA organization was when she joined several years ago. She felt that would be the similar case with many other deaf Lutherans and Christians for not knowing anything about ILDA, so that motivated her to chair the ILDA Publicity Video project with great enthusiasm. Linda Desroisers, Richard Norton, Rev. Mark Anderson and Alice were on the committee. It would be a five-minute video presentation. This video would help increase the ILDA membership with better understanding about the ILDA. She has been very actively involved with public libraries to have ASL Access collections established so ILDA Publicity video could be in these collections so that would increase better publicity as well. She urged each of us to visit a public library to see if there is any ASL Access Collection and then make a request for it if there is none. Each of us has a responsibility as ASL Access Collection provision awareness has been very much underway. The video would cover Deaf Culture, Language and History and ILDA. It has been a dream coming alive to Alice.
16. Mission Projects: Pam Kane came to the floor and thanked us for the enriching experience of working with Mission Projects. Now that she would be going to serve as ILDA President-elect. She was very pleased to announce about how Mission Projects goals have been going well lately. She updated that each deaf church would receive the copies of Mission Projects brochures so each could provide more funding supports. As of now, the amount \$33,993.11 had been reached for the Mission Projects, falling short of about \$22,000 of the \$55,000 Mission target. This target would continue to be the same for the next two years. The new proposed mission projects for 2001 through 2003 would be:

PROPOSED LIST OF MISSION PROJECTS:

1. DIT/Zacharus .....	\$11,000
2. ILDA PR Video Project .....	5,000
3. Sao Paul Lutheran Church of Brazil .....	2,500
4. Republic of Madagascar Schools for the Deaf .....	2,500
5. Summer Camps (CA, NE & TX) (\$3k each) .....	9,000
6. Ghana .....	\$2,000
7. Macau (missionary) .....	2,000
8. New York West Camp .....	2,000
9. Concordia Special School Ed (Macau) .....	1,500
10. India House Improvement .....	3,000
11. Nyandarua School of the Deaf .....	3,000
12. Pax Natrua Ranch (Canada) .....	1,000
13. Starfish Learning Center .....	3,000
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$47,500</b>

The proposed list of mission projects with pledged amounts and priority was approved.

Rev. Don Leber came to the floor and received warm appreciation from the general assembly for his continuing effort to work for deaf youth Lutheran camp. He expressed the importance of the continuation of financial support for these mission projects including the deaf youth camps. He wanted to see every one of these projects finished early before the next ILDA in Minneapolis, MN. President Norton asked the deaf congregations to strive to take 2%, 5% or 10% of the church offerings to go to the ILDA Mission Projects.

17. 1999 ILDA Convention: The convention was very successful in Cleveland, OH, in 1999. The net profit was \$16,189.93.
18. Nominating Update: Rev. Mark Anderson would continue to be our Pastoral Advisor for the second two-year term.
19. Scholarship Committee: Lee Ann Kotal came to the floor to present the list of seminarians: Steven Cholak (Akron, OH), Mark Ehrlichman (Minneapolis, MN), Scott Johnson (Denver, CO), Kurt Klingbeil (New Richmond, WI) and Terry Quick (Fort Wayne, IN.) Each would receive a scholarship of \$1,000.
20. Bid for 2007 Convention Host: President Norton informed us that he received no letter of interest to bid for '07 Convention, yet. There was plenty of time. He encouraged any deaf church to consider the bid to be the '07 Convention Host.
21. Resolutions Update: Charles Kotal informed that there were five resolutions. First and most important resolution was in the support of deaf missionaries and missions which had been terminated by certain districts. **Carried.** The second resolution was the recognition of appreciation for the wonderful service of Rev. Rodney Rynearson as LCMS Counselor of Deaf Ministry and the successful search for the next new successor to the Counselor position. The third resolution was to show the appreciation of the Peace Lutheran Church of the Deaf for the acceptance to host the 2001 ILDA Convention which was very successful when they were asked to host with the short notice. **A round of standing applause was given to the Indy Host.** Fourth resolution was to show the appreciation to the outgoing ILDA President Richard Norton. Fifth resolution was to show the appreciation to Karen Beiter, ILDA Treasurer for four years.
22. Unfinished Business: President Norton reviewed unfinished business which was already completed.
23. New Business:
  - Lester Ahls (Carol Ann Pickell) made a motion to request that copies of previous convention's minutes be provided for all future conventions. **Passed.**
  - Mark Ehrlichman (Martha Malone) made a motion for Christians to have a committee to explore ways in developing/establishing a fund that would provide the monies to cover the interpreting costs for the deaf seminarians. **Failed.** (Rev. Roger Altenberger made a point that it was the seminary's responsibility to handle the issues of interpreting costs not ILDA's as it had a different focus.)
24. Necrology Update: President Norton informed that Mae Madding resigned from the position as there was no information of any deceased ILDA members since 1999. He requested that any recent news of deceased ILDA members be shared with the General Assembly now. So far there were seven: Arther Anderson (St. Paul, MN died on 6/19/01 - he received the Right Hand Award at ILDA Convention in Portland, OR), Patsy Nadler (Madison WI died last Feb '01), Ruth Cupps (died on 4/4/01), Phyllis Crossen, Harold Nord (Manhattan, KS), Paul Synder, Edna Alder, Lynn Frye Sr., Sam Riege, and Rhonda Rynearson.
25. 2003 ILDA Convention: Mark Johnson, co-chairman of convention, presented the updates of the upcoming ILDA Convention near Minneapolis, MN. The theme will be "Let Thy Holy Angels Be With Us" and the verse is from Psalm 91:11. The host will be Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Minneapolis, MN during July 3-6, 2003. The powerpoint presentation of the 2003 ILDA Convention preview was shown on the screen.
26. Announcements and closing prayer were shared.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Tim Johnston, Secretary*

# ILDA Board Meeting June 19-21, 2001...



Peace Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Indianapolis, IN



1999-2001 ILDA Officers:  
Richard Norton, James Swalley, Tim Johnston, Karen Beiter,  
Rev. Roger Altenberger, and Rev. Mark Anderson.



## Board of Directors' Meeting

Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf  
Indianapolis, Indiana

### June 19, 2001

**Present:** Richard Norton, President, James Swalley, President-elect, Tim Johnston, Secretary, Karen Beiter, Treasurer, Rev. Mark Anderson, Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Roger Altenberger, Deaf Ministry LCMS Counselor, Carol Ann Pickell, Central Prez, Martha Malone, Dixie Prez, Joe Yeates, Eastern Prez, John Rushton, Great Lakes Prez, Glenda Haefner, Midwest Prez, Greg Desrosiers, Northwest Prez,  
**Visitors:** Betty Swalley, Kathy Burt, Natalie Norton, Right Hand Award Chair, Charles and Lee Ann Kotal, Scholarship Chairs, Pam Kane, Missions Project Chair, David Brown, Deaf Lutheran Editor, Larry Ginter, Deaf Lutheran Business Mgr  
**Absent:** Greg Desrosiers, Northwest Prez (plane arrival delayed.)

Rev. Roger Altenberger gave a devotion on Matthew 28:18 - Great Commission and discussed what the purpose of ILDA Convention would be and how we can best serve our Great Lord.

President Richard Norton called the meeting to the order at 7:15pm. He extended great appreciation at our making sacrifices in using our vacation time to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> biennial ILDA Board meeting.

- Minutes:** The beginning part of minutes of last 15<sup>th</sup> ILDA Board meeting was read and copies will be made to be read tomorrow morning.
- Treasurer Report/Auditor's Report:** Karen Beiter gave a report on ILDA's current financial standing using the overhead projector. Currently as of June 15<sup>th</sup>, the balance is \$19,347.34 in ILDA General Fund, \$30,205.78 for Mission Project (including \$4,500 that was already disbursed for three summer camps), \$10,391.47 in Convocation Fund, \$4,059.66 in Video fund, \$19,255.00 in Zacharias fund, \$263.49 in Endowment fund, \$1,000 in Jr ILDA fund and \$1,260.50 in LCEF CD. Membership count was that we had 206 ILDA members and 79 God's Club members. (see financial reports for further details.) She hoped that ILDA continues to be very economical with their monies. There was a question & answer period about finances and a discussion about what economical savings could be. The auditors already reviewed and signed the financial reports and they were John Beiter and JoAnna Rushton.
- President's Report:** President gave a copy of his report to each of us. (see President's Report.) He highlighted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation to be held in 2005 instead of 2002. The chairperson will be Rev. Mark Seeger as he was one of chairpersons in 1997 when the second convocation was held. The postponement was because only one of three goals were met. It seems that year 2005 is more appropriate and easy to remember. He also emphasized how important communication needed to be accomplished with one example of each regional president ending a term to notify the ILDA Secretary of the contact and email addresses of next new regional president. He briefly mentioned that Mill Neck Foundation chose ILDA as a recipient of the John of Beverley Award and the award dinner will be held on July 15<sup>th</sup> where he will be in attendance on behalf of president elect, James Swalley, who will be unable to attend.
- Pastoral Advisor:** Rev Mark Anderson remarked on how he was able to submit articles for The Deaf Lutheran Newsletter and appreciated the editor, David Brown for being so faithful in reminding him about the articles.
- LCMS Counselor for the Deaf Ministry:** Rev Roger Altenberger gave each of us a Counselor Report on 8 deaf church vacancies, 7 new workers including a layminister and a deacon being assigned, 46 Deaf Institute of Theology (DIT) students with all pre-seminary students completing 2 Seminary level courses, 62 deaf churches and 228 congregations being interpreted. He worked with both Deaf Theological Seminary programs in St. Louis and Fort Wayne. St Louis seminary didn't have any new seminarians for the Deaf but Fort Wayne had five. DIT continues to be an important program to recruit more deaf pastors and leaders. He mentioned one sad note that California-Nevada-Hawaii District ceased to send financial support to Rev. Rowland due to a reason that was not known.
- Closing Devotion:** Rev Mark Anderson continued where Rev Roger Altenberger began the devotion on the Great Commission. It is still our job to tell about Jesus to others. He shared the experience that he had at Illinois Association of the Deaf banquet at the invitation of Chicago Chapter of IAD President, Carol Lee Pickell (also ILDA Central President.) There he was seated next to Miss Deaf America where they had an interesting discussion about religions. She mentioned about religions becoming a taboo in the Deaf Community. Rev Mark had the opportunity to share about his Lutheran faith and Jesus' sacrifice of His life for the new bride. Who is the new bride? The bride is the church of Christ - the people of whom He finds no faults but perfect enough that he cares for them so much. It is analogous to a new groom in seeing a precious new bride to be so perfect in his eyes that he will focus entirely on only her and nothing else!

Meeting was adjointed at 8:50pm.

### June 20, 2001

**Present:** Richard Norton, President, James Swalley, President-elect, Tim Johnston, Secretary, Karen Beiter, Treasurer, Rev. Mark Anderson, Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Roger Altenberger, Deaf Ministry LCMS Counselor, David Brown, Deaf Lutheran Editor, Larry Ginter, Deaf Lutheran Business Mgr, Pam Kane, Missions Project Chair,



Alice Hagemeyer, ILDA Publicity Chair, Carol Ann Pickell, Central Prez, Martha Malone, Dixie Prez, Joe Yeates, Eastern Prez, John Rushton, Great Lakes Prez, Glenda Haefner, Midwest Prez, Greg Desrosiers, Northwest Prez, Charles and Lee Ann Kotal, Scholarship Chairs, Dennis Konkell, Nominating and Local God's 1000 Club Chair, Natalie Norton, Right Hand Award Chair, Jack Burns, Pacific Prez (came in mid-afternoon), Mark Johnson, 2003 Convention co-Chair (evening)  
Visitors: Betty Swalley, Kathy Burt, Susan Konkell, Lester (Advisory Council member) and Betty Ahls  
Absent: Jack Burns, Pacific Prez (excused for morning and part of afternoon)

Morning Devotion began with a prayer by Rev Mark Anderson. He shared with us how wonderful the magazine titled "Good News" was and strongly encouraged each of us to consider having deaf church or individuals subscribe to this magazine. This was because it made clear indication of how the Lutherans' beliefs lie in good compliance with Holy Bible with clear explanations. He explained about a bible verse, 1 Corinthians 1:30. Jesus Christ already died and forgave all of our sins that it was already done. He continuously gave free forgiveness. His blood as an illustration was attached to almost each believer like a baby's umbilical cord with his mother in receiving all good stuff while discarding all bad stuff back to the mother. All we have to do is admit our errors and give thanks for his free forgiveness without any real need to ask for forgiveness. The magazine's contact information is:

GOOD NEWS, 6973 Chippewa St., St Louis, MO 63109, USA Tel: 800-778-1132, Fax: 314-645-1924 Email: info@good-news.net

The meeting began at 9:00 am. The copies of previous ILDA BD minutes were distributed and read with no corrections requested.

#### ILDA Region Reports

1. Central Region: Carol Ann Pickell greeted us with an appreciation that Rev Anderson helped in preparing the report while she was overwhelmed with another duty as IAD Chicago Chapter President. The CRC conference of 2000 was held in Gurnee, IL last May by Our Savior's Deaf Lutheran Church. About 60 attended. Rev John Reinke accepted a call as MAL to western half Southern Wisconsin District covering both Madison and Delevan. To her surprise, Rev. Jack Dorr quietly retired from Deaf Ministry of Central Illinois District and now resides in Florida with his wife. She then gave a report on other activities and happenings in the Central region. (see her report.)
2. Dixie Region: Martha Marlone shared that it was a new experience for her as a president but appreciated past president, Carol Seeger, for all her help and advice. Dixie Deaf Lutheran Regional conference was held in Austin, Texas with about 35 in attendance. There are 8 active deaf ministries: Jesus Deaf in Austin, TX, Holy Three-in-One in Houston, TX, Eternal Mercy Deaf in Memphis, TN, Christ Deaf in Jackson, Ms, and Redeemer Augusta Deaf in GA having active pastors, while Our Savior in St. Augustine, FL, and Rogate Deaf in Clearwater, FL, were added but John of Beverley Deaf in Dallas, TX, relocated to hearing Peace Lutheran church. She continued in sharing the full report of happenings in Dixie region. (see her report.)
3. Eastern Region: Joe Yeates introduced himself as the president with it being a new experience to him. He regretted that he didn't get all the region's churches reports but had reports from three churches. St Mark and St Matthew Lutheran Churches in the NY area have been vacant for ten years. Now Rev Bill Wrede was assigned as a Mission Developer serving both churches and also worked at Mill Neck School. St Matthew in Clifton, NJ, continued to have worship services by lay leaders/deacon. (see his report.) In addition, an email of report was sent by outgoing regional president, Diane Munoz which was being printed and distributed. (see her printed email of report.)
4. Great Lakes Region: John Rushton greeted us with full enthusiasm and joy for the Lord. GLRC was held successfully in Columbus, Ohio with good attendance. He shared the reports of other deaf and interpreted churches in the region. Christ Lutheran in Cleveland had moved to a grand new church building with the Lord's continued blessings. Trinity Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh had a successful workshop, "Tell Good News about Jesus" by Rev. Mark Ruppert. With wonderful news, John Rushton became a deacon for Alpha Lutheran Church in Rochester, NY. (see his report.)
5. Midwest Region: Glenda Haefner, president, greeted and shared that much of information was all in her report so she would share few highlights. Midwest Region conference was held in Solon, Iowa by Word of God Deaf Lutheran Church with about 28 in attendance but was full with joyous spirits. She passed out Midwest/ILDA Resource Books to deaf churches and held a workshop on the resource books. With praises to the Lord, two new pastors, Revs. Fred Leighty and Dennis Konkell, were assigned to the Iowa District East and West as MALs, respectively. Another pastor, Rev. Tim Eckert is still a MAL at Trinity Lutheran in Davenport, IA. (see Midwest region report.)
6. Northwest Region: Greg Derosiers greeted us with warmth and love from Christ. He regretted that his wife, Linda, chairperson of ILDA 2005 Conference was unable to attend but wanted to wish continuing success at current ILDA Convention. He also passed out colorful postcards announcing upcoming ILA 2005 Conference and the excitement was evident in the air. He shared some bad but much wonderful news about the happenings in the Northwest region. One pastor being called to another church out of the region and that church had begun to close down. Not much information was received from Calgary, Alberta, and Regina, Saskatchewan. But Pastor Drummond helped in hosting a very successful NWLDA camp in a gorgeous location of Montana with over 80 in

attendance. There was going to be about 6 DIT students from that region. There were several other interesting highlights all mentioned in his report. (see Northwest region report.)

7. Pacific Region: Lee Ann Kotal, vice president, took over for the president, Jack Burns, in giving the report as Jack was unable to be present due to his required medical commitment to be done that morning. He was present in yesterday's meeting. Lee Ann shared that Pacific Region conference was held in Irvine in Orange County, CA, with about 30 in attendance. Sadly, Rev. Brian Smith accepted a call to a hearing Lutheran Church in NY but with the Lord's blessings, the deaf Lutherans continued to be very active in Southern CA area. Rev. Don Leber, MAL of southern CA continued to serve the Lord with loving stubbornness despite his being considered to be permanently disabled. He continued to work with Deaf Youth Lutheran camp with love. Rev. Dahmann continued to serve deaf church in Fremont as self-sufficient after the church property was sold. Rev. Rowland serving both Sacramento and Stockton, would receive a salary cut from Northern CA District starting in Jan. Slow growth in churches might be one of the reasons. Also, Arizona continued to have interpreted services. No word of action was known in Nevada. (see Pacific region report.)
8. Most of the regional presidents commented about the continuing difficulty in bringing in youth blood while some having had nice successes with youth camps.
9. Deaf Lutheran Editor: David Brown greeted us with warmth and that he would strive to share his report with his limited signing abilities. Despite that he continued to tell us of wonderful news. He now has a wonderful computer and production equipment totaling about \$7,000 thanks to a generous donation from Mill Neck Foundation. The DL production and budget had become well stabilized a couple of years ago. He continued to hunt for more articles and news from each region. Readership averaged between 782 to 827 subscribers. He mentioned that budget had become tighter due to present subscription of \$7.50/individual and \$7/blanket plan. Past issues were now in PDF formats available at www.LCMSdeaf.org/ilda website. He also managed to create a fabulous ILDA website. Rev Mark Anderson emphasized that each of us ought to check out his website as our Lord had given David Brown such outstanding talents in making this website very beautiful. (see the editor report.)
10. Deaf Lutheran Business Mgr: Larry Ginter shared that he continued to enjoy working with David Brown and DL business for four years since. The total subscription is around 780 with some blanket and individual plans remain unpaid. He hoped to receive the payments at the ILDA Convention. He shared his appreciation at Mill Neck Foundation for donation of monies on new computer equipment. One suggested using email as the means in sending DL newsletters to help save postage costs but David Brown pointed out that income from subscription may be dwindled quickly due to DL newsletters becoming free via emails. (see the biz mgr report.)
11. 2001 Convention: Winona Alter greeted us warmly in the name of Jesus Christ. ILDA Convention will be held at Marriott Hotel as scheduled June 21-24<sup>th</sup>. Everything was going very well and they overdid themselves in ensuring that everything was all arranged including little details. New ideas were also offered by them. As of Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, it was learned that only about 70% of the hotel rooms were reserved below the targeted 80% which might mean that conference rooms and others would not be given for free but discounts might be given. The total approximated cost for these rooms will be \$6,700. She continued saying that Indy ILDA Host had received much more monetary donations and grants than expected so everything would be well covered. A great amount of planning details were shared beautifully. Approximately, 250 had been registered. (see the '01 Conv report.)
12. Right Hand Award: President Norton explained that his wife, Natalie, was taking over the position after other two had to bow out with regrets due to personal situations. Natalie passed out the list of nominated ILDA folks for our review to be voted upon. Then both Natalie and Rev. Altenberger would tally the vote counts. The nominated folks were: Diane (Waters) Francisco of Spokane, WA, Ronald Madding of Portland, OR, Charence F. Schultz of Arcadia, CA and Helen Shoup of Frewsburg, NY (see the report for details on each Christian office involvements.)
13. Scholarship Committee: Charles Kotal greeted us in the name of Jesus Christ and mentioned that he hadn't received any nominated names the last couple of years but finally got several recently. As known, there were still common shortages of pastors and field workers in the LCMS as with other hearing Lutheran and various religious bodies. Various reasons were attributed to retirements, disabilities or accepting calls to hearing churches. Now we were finding new ways to recruit new deaf pastors and leaders through DIT program which was gradually gaining better footing. With much pleasure, he shared that we had six new candidates from the Fort Wayne Seminary but none from St. Louis Seminary. The names of the candidates were: Lawrence N. Brandt (hearing) of Wichita Falls, TX, Steven Cholak (hearing) of Akron, OH, Mark Ehrlichmann (deaf) of Minneapolis, MN, Scott J. Johnson (coda) of Denver, CO, Kurt C. Klingbeil (hearing) of New Richmond, WI, and Terry L. Quick (hearing) of Fort Wayne, IN. (see the Scholarship report of biographical details.)
14. VOTE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD: Richard Norton proposed to accept Charles Kotal's scholarship recommendation that ILDA awards \$1,000 to each five candidates except for Lawrence Brandt as he wasn't entirely committed to Deaf Ministry, yet. (seconded by D. Brown.) **Passed.**
15. 1999 Convention: Pam Kane shared the report using the overhead projector indicating 322 ILDA and 29 Jr. ILDA registrations. The amount of \$17,667 was the total revenues for the pre-ILDA meeting of which mostly came from

fundraisings while \$8,521.37 was the total expenses with a balance of \$9,145.24. The amount of \$52,236.93 was the total ILDA Convention revenues while \$45,192.24 was the total expenses leaving a balance of \$7,044.69. The total profit from both pre-ILDA and ILDA convention was \$16,189.93. (see the '99 Convention report which will be on the ILDA website.)

16. **ILDA Publicity Video Project:** Alice Hagemeyer introduced herself and explained the purpose of ILDA Publicity Video project to promote better awareness about ILDA in all deaf Lutheran churches and individuals. The idea was started a few years ago during past President Larry Gorton's term when it became noticeable that many didn't know about ILDA. Mill Neck Foundation gave a generous grant of \$6,500 for this project. It was greatly appreciated since the video production was quite expensive so a five minute length video presentation was decided as well as keeping it short so the better information be well received. The planned presentation would be on the history of Deaf people and ILDA. All information including photos were already gathered and James DeBees was chosen to produce it but had since been extremely busy so the video project was delayed. Alice regretted the unexpected delay after placing full trust without any signed agreement so she would make a firm request that it be completed by Dec '01 with prayers. The video committee was: Rev. Mark Anderson, Linda Desrosiers and Larry Gorton. (see ILDA Publicity Video Project report.)

17. **Law Committee:** President-elect, James Swalley greeted and shared what he did with law committee. The committee consisted of Rev. Mark Anderson, Carol Ann Pickell, Central prez and Winona Alter, secy of Central Region. He received two complaints about ILDA By-Laws. One was about allowing females to run for ILDA president and president-elect positions. Finally it was noticed that there was a mention in allowing females to run for top positions in the red ILDA Handbook so there would be no action to revise the by-laws. It was now with knowledge that females could become president candidates. Another one was about extending the required number days of 90 to 6 months in allowing the final convention financial report be submitted. It was because not all cancelled checks were turned in in time for the final report. James explained that no action would happen as it would be put into understanding that the finishing ILDA Convention host could have extra time to finish the final financial report.

18. **VOTE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD:** James shared the third motion from Rev. Mark Anderson to add a clean list of who was really part of the ILDA board members to avoid any further confusion for each upcoming ILDA Convention. It was supported by John Rushton and seconded by David Brown. **Passed.**

19. **God's 1000 Club:** Karen Beiter, treasurer, updated us that there are 79 members in this club but had received the mentions from others planning to join at the ILDA Convention so she hoped to see the number increase to 100. Winona Alter added that 1000 God's Club luncheon will be held at Marriott Saloons A, B & C at noon on Saturday for about 60 members.

20. **Nominating Committee:** Dennis Konkel greeted us warmly in Christ. He explained that the outgoing ILDA president automatically becomes chair of the Nominating committee. The names nominated as of printed are: John Rushton for president-elect, Tim Johnston (2<sup>nd</sup> term) or Carol Seeger as secretary, Pam Kane for treasurer and Rev. Mark Anderson (2<sup>nd</sup> term) or Mike McDonald for pastoral advisor. Lee Ann Kotal and Pam Kane were nominated for president elect and Jim Spichen and Russel Healy for treasurer and John Reinke for pastoral advisor. Dennis would collect more names during the convention and approach each nominated person for full confirmation.

21. **Resolutions Committee:** Charles Kotal greeted us again with full rolled-up sleeves on this committee. He would take the floor at the convention to let the ILDA folks know about approaching him with any resolutions to be made. He and the committee would work on resolutions during the convention. Names were suggested to be on the committee: Lester Ahls, Glenda Haefner and Rev. Mark Anderson.

22. **Mission Projects:** Pam Kane greeted us in Christ again. The target for Mission Projects was set at \$55,000 but was short by \$25,000. She shared that David Brown created a very nice brochure on Mission Projects with all information printed beautifully. She hoped to take the floor during the Convention to request/encourage more financial contributions from the ILDA conventioners. Pam recommended keeping the same target and modifying priority order of projects to be disbursed with monies. She gave an overview of the proposed mission projects to be financially funded by ILDA in details. (see Mission Projects report.)

• Republic of Madagascar Schools for the Deaf	\$2,500	priority: 4
• Sao Paul Lutheran Church of Brazil	\$2,500	3
• Nyandarua School of the Deaf	\$3,000	11
• Summer Camps (CA, NE & TX)	\$9,000 (\$3k ea)	5
• Ghana	\$2,000	6
• DIT/Zacharus	\$11,000	1
• Starfish Learning Center	\$3,000	13
• Macau (missionary)	\$2,000	7
• Pax Natrua Ranch (Canada)	\$1,000	12
• India House Improvement	\$3,000	10
• New York West Camp	\$2,000	8
• ILDA PR Video Project	\$5,000	2
• Concordia Special School Ed (Macau)	\$1,500	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$47,500</b>	

Total votes were counted and the resulting priority was now listed as seen above on the right side. The board approved the new priority. This would be brought to the convention floor for final vote.

23. **2003 Convention:** Mark Johnson gave the report on the upcoming details of '03 Convention to be held in Bloomington, MN, south of Twin Cities, Minneapolis and St. Paul where the Mall of America is. He worked along with his wife, Linda, and a small committee of several subcommittee heads. It was a bit struggle due to two big events happening this year which were his Deaf Lutheran Church's 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration and Senior Citizens' Convention of about 2000 expected in attendance. Once these events were past, more better work on '03 convention would begin. He gave all details of what will be planned to have. (see '03 Convention report.)

24. **Unfinished Business:**

- **Edward Pahl Collection:** Task force for locating a public library in Chicago area to include ASL videos collection in honor of Edward Pahl. Alice Hagemeyer updated us that she would take care of this with ILDA Publicity Video Project so no further action will be needed.
- **\$15/day meals:** Norton updated that \$15 per day for meals of ILDA board members was already passed and was now in effect.
- **ILDA Endowment Fund:** Norton explained about the proposed article on endowment article to be added to ILDA Handbook. Referred to Law Committee for further review.

**VOTE OF APPROVAL BY THE BOARD**

- **3rd Convocation:** Norton shared about Rev. Mark Seeger's recommendation in postponing the 3<sup>rd</sup> convocation from 2002 to 2005. John Rushton supported the recommendation that 3<sup>rd</sup> convocation be held in '05 with invitations, only much later after the '05 ILDA Convention. (seconded by Charles Kotal.) **Passed.**

25. **New Business:**

- **Mission Projects funding:** Each region is to be responsible for the 1/7<sup>th</sup> of mission projects fundings. An amendment by Glenda Haefner to replace the wording of "responsible" to "encouraged to support up to." **Passed.**
- **List of ILDA Board members:** Motion is made to establish a new section in Article XIII in the ILDA Handbook to have an official list of the ILDA Board Officers for the purpose of identifying which ones are to be invited to pre-ILDA Convention meetings.
  - \* **Board of Directors:** President, President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Pastoral Advisor, Regional Presidents or their representatives, Editor and Business Mgr of the Deaf Lutheran and LCMS Deaf Ministry Counselor.
  - \* **Non-Board of Directors:** Chairpersons, Historian, Past Officer Advisory Council members.

Evening Devotion was given by Rev. Mark Anderson. He shared about the importance of being true followers of Jesus Christ in telling others about Good News. Jesus Christ already encouraged us to be of good cheer without any fears for He already overcame the World so no longer have any false devil-influenced fears. He shared on how other Christian martyrs had endured the persecutions while proclaiming Good News in other countries as opposed to the Christians in America appearing to be silent about Jesus Christ while living with comforts. We each need to have a greater faith with God in approaching anyone to talk only about Jesus and letting the Holy Spirit take care of the rest on Good News.

**June 21, 2001**

Present: Same as yesterday.

Visitors: Kathy Burt and Betty Swalley.

Morning Devotion: Rev. Mark Anderson shared a powerful devotion on the simple truth: Believe in Jesus Christ is all you need to do and allow the Holy Spirit to lead you to serve Him with glad heart.

Meeting began at 10am.

1. Richard Norton informed us that ILDA Constitution & ByLaws already listed who are on the Executive Council, the Board of Directors and Committees so last night's attempt on finalizing the motion will not be needed. Refer to Article VII, VIII & IX on pages 6 and 7 of ILDA Constitution & ByLaws. The ILDA Handbook could be modified and revised as recommended by the ILDA Board or members even from the floor (refer to ILDA Const. & ByLaws Article XIV Section B pg 9.) But any revision on ILDA Constitution & ByLaws must be proposed at least 90 days ahead to be reviewed and voted upon (refer to Article XXI pg. 11.)

2. **New Business:**

- a. Greg Desrosiers made a motion (seconded by Jack Burns) to have Section K Publicity and Section U Historian duties under Article XX be merged and rewritten in the ILDA Handbook. **Passed. Referred to Law Committee for the revision.**
  - b. Greg Desrosiers made another motion (seconded by John Rushton) to increase the amount of paid advertising to \$20,000 instead of \$1,000 under Section D of Article XXV in the ILDA Handbook. **Passed.**
  - c. Glenda Haefner made a motion (seconded by Jack Burns) for seven regional presidents to have a meeting together during the convention. **Failed.** (There would be a leadership training on Saturday during the convention.)
3. **Announcements:** Karen Beiter asked all ILDA Board and Committee members to fill out the travel expense forms. She also shared the guideline in determining which ILDA officers, board and committee members' expenses will be covered by ILDA.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am. Richard Norton performed the closing prayer.

*Respectfully submitted by Tim Johnston, Secretary*

# “Signing Hands Show Us the Way”

By Alice L. Hagemeyer, Historian and Chair of Publicity Committee



left to right: Glenda Haefner, Alice Hagemeyer, and Sharon Schwarz.

“Signing Hands Show Us the Way” is the title of the ASL video, a long-awaited ILDA publicity project, which we hope to complete as soon as we work out final agreements with the company. When we complete the project, the video will be duplicated and eventually will become a part of the ASL Access collection for free loan through public libraries. More about this later.

I am also proud to say that the Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action (FOLDA), which I founded as a public service of my library consulting business, has already formed a partnership with ILDA.

As a FOLDA partner, ILDA will help build communication among individuals and groups within the deaf community by letting them know about deaf resources of interest. Also ILDA members are free to buy library and deaf promotional items, such as junior legal pads with famous deaf saying printed on the cover, from FOLDA at cost for fund raising worthy local literacy projects.

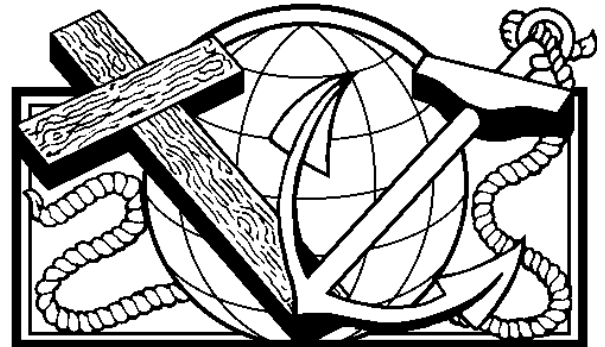
I have invited Glenda Haefner of Blaine, Kansas and Sharon Schwarz of St. Louis to

serve on my committee, whose mission is to promote public awareness about the ILDA, its purpose and mission projects, as well as to preserve ILDA history.

It is a big responsibility for the committee but it should not be a problem if we form a network of ILDA members who have email addresses and who will make a commitment to learn how to use local media for reaching out to the deaf community wherever they live, work, go to school and/or travel.

Glenda has agreed to take the responsibility to maintain communication with such ILDA members and Sharon will assist in locating data on ILDA as needed for the publicity projects and also to make arrangements in giving ILDA archival papers to the seminary..

If you are interested to be a part of the ILDA Publicity network, Please let Glenda Haefner know. Her email address is [haefner@bluevalley.net](mailto:haefner@bluevalley.net).



## ILDA 2001-2003 Mission Projects Goal... \$47,500

1. DIT / Zacharus ..... \$11,000
2. ILDA PR Video Project ..... \$5,000
3. Sao Paul Lutheran Church of Brazil ..... \$2,500
4. Republic of Madagascar Schools for the Deaf ..... \$2,500
5. Summer Camps (California, Nebraska & Texas \$3,000 each) ..... \$9,000
6. Ghana ..... \$2,000
7. Macau (missionary) ..... \$2,000
8. New York West Camp ..... \$2,000
9. Concordia School for Special Education (Macau) ..... \$1,500
10. India Parsonage Improvement ..... \$3,000
11. Nyandarua School of the Deaf ..... \$3,000
12. Pax Natrua Ranch (Canada) ..... \$1,000
13. Starfish Learning Center ..... \$3,000

Lee Ann Kotal of California is our new mission project chairperson. She can be reached via email at: [LAKOTAL@aol.com](mailto:LAKOTAL@aol.com).

## Advertising Rates...

# The DEAF LUTHERAN

The following rates has been established for advertising in *The Deaf Lutheran* newsletter. Ads must be in good taste, related to Christianity, and of interest to deaf Lutheran readers. Typewritten or email text are preferred. Photos and camera ready arts can be submitted by mail or sent by email in “jpeg” file format. Contact Deaf Lutheran’s Editor at [TheDeafLutheran@aol.com](mailto:TheDeafLutheran@aol.com) for more information on how to submit ads.

The rates are as: \$500 for full page; \$250 for half page, \$75 for quarter page; and \$62 for one-eighth page size advertisement.

Advertising help provide some income to *The Deaf Lutheran* staff for travels to different regions.



# The DEAF LUTHERAN

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## Christmas, 2001

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*Thank you for your subscription.*

**\* Special Offer! \***

Normal ILDA Membership period is October 1, 2000 thru September 30, 2002. (NOTE: You are welcomed to join now! Pay \$10 each for the second half of this period.)

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**God's 1,000 Club @ \$10 per person.** Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 = \$\_\_\_\_\_.00  
This Club is open to any member who wish to help with the operating expenses of the ILDA Board of Directors. Add \$10 per person per 1-year. (This is an addition to membership due.)

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Please make your check or money-order payable to: **ILDA TREASURER** and mail to: **Jim Sipchen, 11911 N. Centaurus Place, Oro Valley, AZ 85737-3456.**

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