



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

Christmas, 2008

St. Louis, MO

Volumes 100, No. 4

DEAF LUTHERAN DEVOTION



Rev. Jerold D. Munz,
ILDA Pastoral Advisor



Christmas 2008 promises to be a special time for us and for man people. In our family we welcome a fifth grandchild into our midst. Children are the glue that makes many Christmases special. Their joyful anticipation is infectious to everyone. A child can make everyone around them full with joy.

Sometimes that joy can be snuffed out because of circumstances that make joy a difficult thing to embrace. It is almost like the movie, "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." The Grinch thought that he could dampen everyone's spirits, if he stole all the presents and decorations in the village. But he could not steal people's joy. In the end, the Grinch joins in the Christmas celebrations.

Some years ago I made a pastoral visit to a family. In my December shut-in visit, I shared with them the joy of Christmas. I said that we anticipate Christmas Day and welcome the Christ Child into our homes and our hearts. However, the family rebuffed my devotional message. They said that in their house Christmas is canceled. To do that they do not plan to put up a Christmas tree, no cards, no gifts, no special meal, no presents, no special worship service. Nothing. De Nada. Nyet. Nein. Cancel everything.

The family had a sad year. They had some unforeseen financial disasters, a few deaths, and a few funerals, friends who moved away, job losses, hospital stays, medical bills and the list went on and on and on. Things did not look good for them that year. They canceled Christmas.

Perhaps that family may be how you feel this year. You too may be feeling depressed for perhaps some of the same reasons. Perhaps you too are thinking of canceling Christmas 2008.

Years ago in Judea there were a lot of people who felt the same way. They too felt as if God had abandoned them and left them alone. The economy was not good. The government was awful. Religious life was the pits. Nothing happened that seemed to be good. On top of all that, the head of government was Caesar Augustus and he lived thousands of miles away in Rome. Caesar Augustus decided that everyone had to go to their own home town to register for the census. Everyone had to travel at the same time. Everyone had to register at the same time.

Luke 2:1-3 ***"At that time the Emperor Augustus ordered a census of the Roman Empire. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All the people went to register in the cities where their ancestors had lived."***

People and families were uprooted just to satisfy the tax increase plan of one man, Caesar Augustus, the Roman Emperor, who didn't care how this affected people and their lives.

One young lady was already nine months pregnant. Even she was not given a hardship waiver to avoid the trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Mary had to go – pregnant or not! God did this to put Mary of Nazareth into Bethlehem so that the Scriptures may be fulfilled.

Micah 5:2 ***"You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, are too small to be included among Judah's cities. Yet, from you Israel's future ruler will come."***

Those people in Judea did little know that in their unhappy country would soon welcome the Savior, Christ the Lord. Mary had her first born son in a stable. The angels announced the Good News to some shepherds working the night shift. The Good News delivered to and among unhappy people is the Good News for today.

Many have tried for years to cancel Christmas. Governments have tried to out-law Christmas. Religions have tried to ignore Christmas. Philosophers have tried to belittle Christmas. People have tried to focus on their own pain and problems. But Christmas always comes. Christmas always shines through their wrong laws, false religions, foolish ideas, and gloom. Christmas always transforms night into day.

Pastor Jerry Munz,
ILDA Pastoral Advisor



Our Savior
is Born



"... you shall call his name Jesus ..."

-Matthew 1:21



The President's Report...



Greg Desrosiers, ILDA
2007-2009 President

Greetings to all of you, my beloved subscribers in the name of Jesus Christ!

As you are aware, we have been getting a daily barrage on the news media about the ups and downs of stock markets around the world and how these swings are affecting our church and home budgets. Also, we see gang violence, drug trade, a blatant disregard for the law all over the place. The younger generation are exposed to immortality on TV, the internet and in the lives of their friends.

Locally, many parts of Canada have been warming at a rate that is twice the global warming. It is not hard to see the impact that climate change has already had on Canada: the storms that devastated forest trees, the floods of 2007, the wildfires of 2003 in Western Canada and California and the depletion of glaciers. These effects of global warming have taken a huge toll on our economy and livelihoods. It is clear that the global warming is hurting everybody in the world. It is time for all of us to take action.

What is the world coming to? Here are some observations:

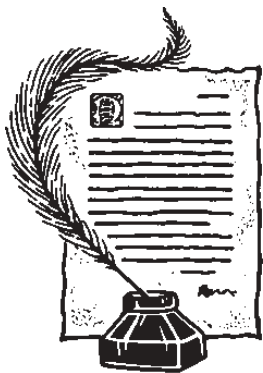
First, there is nothing new here.

Depression happened in the early 1930s. The local floods in the past were worse off than the 2007 floods. The wildfires in the early 2000s in the western United States were rampant. Check your Bible and world history and you will read about terrible famines in ancient Egypt and China, disasters in Europe (Black Bubonic Plague Death in the mid-1300s), wars (countless battles) and immortality (Free love in 1960s). The difference today is that we know them quickly. With 24/7 news stations and CNN news internet, every piece of information is scrutinized for readers and it is too engaging for them to listen to closely. We are too focusing on how everything is going on in the world.

Second, we were told that the world will be ended in the future regardless of when we do not know exactly. The ancient Mayan calendar stated that the world would have been ended in 2012. Nostradmaus of old France predicted

The President's Report continued on page 8...

Editorial...



Greeting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As of this writing, we are almost to the end of the year 2008. Wow! some year we had this year... rain, hurricanes, flooding, high fuel prices, the stock market crashes, buy outs and bail outs, and over a year of political TV advertising.

Recently, I was informed by *The Deaf Lutheran* Business Manager, Larry Ginter, that our long time newsletter printer, Adam Pangrace & Sons Division of Fairview Park, Ohio has folded... out of business. We are in tough time in Ohio. As of this writing, Larry is searching for a new printer to carry us over until Larry and I retire as Business Manager and Editor at ILDA 2009 convention in

Rochester, New York. Adam Pangrace has been our printer since Larry and I took over the newsletter job back in 1997... eleven years. Adam Pangrace has done a wonderful job for us over these many year.

Please send all ideas, inquiries, and resumes (Editor and Business Manager jobs) to ILDA President Gregory Desrosiers, gdesrosiers1@shaw.ca.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

In Christ,

David G. Brown, Editor



www.lcmsdeaf.org

Host(s) wanted for 2013 ILDA Convention...

As stated in ILDA's Handbook, six (6) years is suggested for properly planning for a convention. Future host(s) are asked to submit their request on their church's letterhead. 2009 convention will be hosted by Rochester, New York, and 2011 convention will be hosted by Columbus, Ohio. Hopefully a midwest or western location would host. See www.lcmsdeaf.org/ilda/Handbook/Article20 and scroll to "Section C-Time and Place of Next Convention" for information. Or contact ILDA President Greg Desrosiers for more information at: gdesrosiers1@shaw.ca.

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Christmas, 2008

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Please send articles, stories and pictures to: David G. Brown, 4134 Sarasota Dr, Parma, OH 44134-6242. FAX: 440-886-2906. e-mail: TheDeafLutheran@yahoo.com

NW-ILDA Conference...

Northwest ILDA Region conference hosted by the Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf was held at Camp Luther on August 8-10 in Mission, British Columbia. A total of twenty people registered including four from USA enjoyed touring at the Mission Abbey, meeting, two workshops on Wonders and Miracles of God presented by Gregory Desrosiers, the bonfire and excellent meals.



All of the re-elected officers are: Richard Sharp of Washington, President; Rolph Foster of Montana, President-Elect; Linda Desrosiers of British Columbia, Secretary; Gary D. Wilson of Washington, Treasurer and

Rev. David Nielsen of British Columbia, Pastoral Advisor. Next NW ILDA Region conference 2010 will be at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Big Fork, Montana hosted by Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf.

MW-ILDA Conference...

The 2008 Autumn Midwest ILDA Conference at Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center, Indianola, Iowa was hosted by Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf on Sept. 12-14 with 72 attendees and 5 pastors. The theme “*Never Stop Praying*” was inspiration weekend with Welcome speaker, IA District West President Paul Sieveking Friday night along with Banner Show/Skit by Calvary Host Committee, door prizes, and reception. On Saturday Business Meeting & officers election. After the fun afternoon wagon ride, naturally we’re very hungry, the banquet dinner was unbelievable delicious big & thick Iowa pork chop, baked potatoes, etc. We’re so full and enjoyed our evening so much with Rev. Bud Palmer, the banquet speaker, with good laughs, and had more door prizes. Again we ate a beautiful cake with design of hands prayer and punch after the program. Farewell after morning Worship and lunch. Kansas will host the 2009 Retreat. Minnesota’s Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf will host the 2010 Midwest



Left to right: Ronald Nester, President; Bill Zimmerman, Vice-president; Glenda Haefner, Secretary; Brian Byers, Treasurer; and Rev. Mark Anderson, Pastoral Advisor.

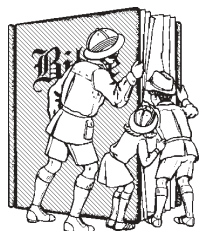
Conference and 2011 Retreat.

President, Ron Nester, CO; VP.*Bill Zimmerman, IA; Secretary, Glenda Haefner, KS; Treasurer, *Brian Byers, IA; and Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Mark Anderson.

** new officers*

Deaf Bible Studies...

I’m planning on holding the first 60 lessons until the other 80 lessons are ready. Will send these lessons all together to Reinke in the spring for duplication and preparation for distribution. Then next summer at the ILDA convention in Rochester, I’ll present all the lessons and release them to the attendees. At that time, the lessons will be distributed to everyone in time for fall of 2009.



*Thanks and Blessings-
Jennifer Ceyanes*

Editor’s Note... This project is supported by ILDA’s Mission Project Goal for a number of years. This is a large project and Jennifer Ceyanes of Texas is hard at work on it.

2009 Uriel C. Jones “Right Hand” Award...

Now is the time to think of whom you would like for 2009 Uriel C. Jones Right Hand Award. As of this writing, the editor doesn’t have information on who will be the chairperson for this award at Rochester convention.



**THE
TRUE LIGHT,
WHICH
ENLIGHTENS
EVERYONE,
WAS COMING
INTO
THE WORLD.
— JOHN 1:9**



*“I bring you good news of a great joy...”
— Luke 2:10*

News from around the Regions...




 1 TREE
 +
 3 NAILS
 =
 4 GIVEN
 ARE YOU?


Northwest Region...

Cross of Christ, Edmonton, BC... Our Lord Jesus has called home **Mrs. Wong, Robert Buckry, and Glen Bennett.** Trinity, Vancouver, BC... **Joe Skidmore and Lillian Dagg** has tied the knot on August 30th, 2008.

Midwest Region...

Calvary, Des Moines... **Joyce Andre, Bob Locke, Viola Malcolm, and Richard Albee** has joined Jesus in Heaven.

Central Region...

E-mail from Illinois... **Evelyn Niemeyer** has joined Jesus in Heaven. Holy Cross, Delavan... **Patricica Hycnar** reported that train trip to ILDA Rochester 2009 is cheaper than flying. Contact her at taphyc@aol.com for web site information. Our Savior, Madison... **Shirley Blaney** has left Earth for Heaven.

Dixie Region...

Lakeland, FL... Rev. Munz's father, **Carl Munz**, has joined Jesus in Heaven in October. He was 93 and joined mom **Ruby** whom joined Jesus earlier this year.

Great Lakes Region...

Christ Deaf, Cleveland... our Lord Jesus Christ has called home **Marjorie Wing** on October 14th. Good Shepherd, Toledo... **Jack Lombard and Mike Barry** has left Earth to join Jesus in Heaven.

Eastern Region...

Christ, Silver Spring... former ILDA Secretary **Alice Hagemeyer and Ted** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 10th in Puerto Rico. Our prayers continue to be with **Mark Friedrich** for his number of trips to the hospital.

Christian Youth Retreat 2009...

at Camp Lakodia, Madison, SD

Hosted by ELDA – Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association on August 3-6, 2009. Cost... \$160 before Dec 30th or \$250 after April 17th. For more information, voice: 800-340-4508, email: markangela@iw.net, or VP: markangela.no-ip.info



VBS 2008...

Newspaper article about Rev. Mark Seeger's Vacation Bible School this summer. Visit the newspaper's web site: <http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/stories/local/09/01/0901deaf.html> to read the story.

This is the VBS that Rev. Seeger announced on page 4 of Christmas 2007 issue of *The Deaf Lutheran*.

D.I.T. News...

Friends,
I wanted to share a bit of good news!



Two deaf women, Pat Hycnar (from Delavan) and Linda Russell (from Milwaukee), went thru their "theological interview" at the South Wisconsin District. I wanted to share that both Linda & Pat passed and are going to be "highly" recommended for the Deaconess program thru DIT. The committee said "it was a no brainer and that the ladies really knew their stuff." Another comment made was it was a real "cultural" experience for the committee to learn about deaf culture.

Both Linda & Pat completed all of the Deaf PAH courses to prepare for entering the seminary program. I think these recommendations are a great endorsement of the Deaf PAH curriculum!

By the way, Pat is 74 years old — will be 80+ when she graduates from DIT!

Please continue to remember Linda & Pat in your prayers!

*Pastor Reinke
Missionary-at-Large/Deaf
South Wisconsin District — LCMS*



ILDA Regional Conferences...

Northwest Region...

Was held at Camp Luther, Mission, BC, Canada on August 8-10, 2008. New officers are: **Richard Sharp**, President; **Rolph Foster**, President-elect; **Linda Desrosiers**, Secretary; **Gary D. Wilson**, Treasurer; and **Rev. David Nielsen**, Pastoral Advisor. Next NW-ILDA Conference 2010 will be at Big Fork, Montana.



Pacific Region...

Was held at Memorial Lutheran Chapel for the Deaf, Fremont, California on October 16-19, 2008. The theme was *"Teach me YOUR way, O LORD, so that I may live in YOUR truth."* Psalm 86:11. New officers are: **Jack Burns**, President; **Mary Ann Laudis**, Vice-President; **Charis Ames**, Secretary; **Lee Ann Kotal**, Treasurer; and **Decon Charlie Kotal**, Pastoral Advisor.

Midwest Region ILDA

Was held at Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center, Indianola, Iowa on September 12-14, 2008. The theme was *"Never Stop Praying"* 1Thessalonians 5:17. New officers are: **Ron Nester**, President; **Bill Zimmerman**, Vice-President; **Glenda Haefner**, Secretary; **Brian Byers**, Treasurer; and **Rev. Mark Anderson**, Pastoral Advisor.

Central Region...

Was held at Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Jacksonville, Illinois on May 15-18, 2008. The theme was **"Jesus Pah!"**. *"With God all things are possible."* Mark 10:27. New officers are: **Albert Moore**, President; **Wayne Kester**, Vice-President; **Dawn Polzin**, Secretary; **Jeraldine Chapman**, Treasurer; and **Rev. Alan Rork**, Pastoral Advisor. Next CR-ILDA Business Conference 2010 will be at Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dixie Region...

Was cancelled for October 24-26, 2008.



Great Lakes Region...

Was held at Christ Deaf Lutheran Church, Cleveland, Ohio on April 25-27, 2008. The theme was **"Light Shows"** Matthew 5:14. New officers are: **Pam Kane**, President; **Scott Fife**, President-elect; **Larry Ginter**, Secretary; **JoAnna Rushton**, Treasurer; and **Deacon John Rushton**, Pastoral Advisor. Next GLRC Business Conference 2010 will be hosted by Rochester, New York.

Eastern Region...

Was held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of the Deaf, New York on October 16-19, 2008. The theme was **"The Lord is your strength"** Nehemiah 8:10. New officers are: **Wayne Borngesser**, President; **James Cheese**, President-elect; **Earnestine Harris**, Treasurer; **Gerald Ahrens**, Secretary; and **Rev. Ron Friedrich**, Pastoral Advisor. Next ER-ILDA Business Conference 2010 will be in Maryland.

2007-2009 ILDA Mission Projects Report...



The 2007-2009 Mission Project Fund has collected the total of \$3,046.91 in three months! That is a blessing!!! The total of our Mission Project Fund is **\$24, 976.82** as of October 31, 2008. Praise the Lord!

Our goal is to collect \$40,000 in time of our next convention in the summer of 2009 so we need about **\$15,000 to meet our goal**. The last three projects definitely will need funds as soon as possible. The Youth Service Project's next trip will be to Rochester, New York so your support for the youths to see the part of ILDA convention is so important!!! It will be ideal to consider a contribution especially for the celebration of our Savior's birthday and to pray for the success of all the projects! Your contribution will be much appreciated.

The following list of prioritized projects is as:

1. Christian/Bible Lessons for Deaf Children \$7,000
2. D.I.T. (training materials) \$6,000
3. Africa Leadership Training (materials) \$6,000
4. Rev. Leber's Deaf Camp \$3,000
5. Youth Service Project \$7,000
6. Starfish Deaf Learning Center \$5,000
7. India Leadership Training (materials) \$6,000

If you wish to give a donation in celebration of Savior's birthday, please make your check or money order payable to **"ILDA 2007-09 Mission Project"** and mail to **John Krause, ILDA Treasurer, 9905 Madison St. NE, Blaine, Minnesota 55434-4207**.

May the love of our Savior bring even greater joy to your heart and home at Christmas and in the New Year!

Linda Desrosiers
ILDA Mission Project Chairperson
ldesrosiers1@shaw.ca

Nominations...

A reminder for all Regional Conference leaders this year... each Region please make nominations and send nomination list to Pam Kane, ILDA's Past President. Pam is Chairperson for 2009-2011 ILDA Officers nominations (names for new President elect, Secretary, and Treasurer).



Please send nomination names to: **Pamela Kane, ILDA 2009 Nomination, 6433 Lockwood Drive, Mentor, OH 44060-2460**. Any questions, please contact Pam by VP: 440 205-1777 or e-mail: pkane@oh.rr.com. Deadline for turning in nomination list is February 2009.

For other who want to volunteer as an officer, you may submit your name along with a summary of who you are and your church's name. Please refer to ILDA Handbook at: <http://lcmsdeaf.org/ilda/Handbook/Handbook.html>.

PR-ILDA Conference...

Memorial Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Fremont, California, hosted the Pacific Region International Lutheran Deaf Association Conference from October 16-19, 2008.

The theme for Bible study, song, and prayer was Psalm 86:11- **"Teach me your way, O Lord, so that I may live in your truth."**

Daily devotion sessions reviewed God's word with four topics:

1. "Live In the Light",
2. "We Ask God to Lead Us",
3. "God Guides Us With HIS Word", and,
4. "God's Word Teaches Us How to Live."

Devotions and meeting sessions started with a lively song, "Listen, God Is Calling" (Hymnal Supplement 98 #872).

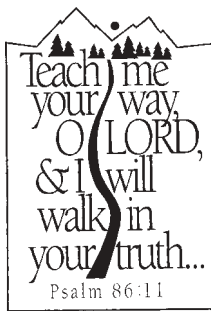
"Listen (attention) God is calling;
With HIS word inviting;

Offering forgiveness, comfort, and joy."

The song was fun for gathering the group together.

Registration packets included special booklets of Bible verses and songs. Friday tours traveled to Jack London (yep, the famous author) Square at Oakland on San Francisco Bay. Interpreted tours were provided on The Potomac, the historic "Floating White House" owned by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. We all joined for dinner at Tony Roma's on the square.

Saturday was our day for meeting. After lunch at Hometown Buffet in Newark, we went to Fremont Oak



Gardens or FOG for a guided tour. Everyone enjoyed Tom Hunter's guidance through the great facilities there. Several people were given a tour of her apartment by Rachel Ruwet.

Deacon Charles Kotal from Los Angeles preached God's word in the Sunday morning worship. New officers were installed: Jack Burns (President), Mary Landis (Vice-president), Charis Ames (Secretary), Lee Ann Kotal (Treasurer), and Deacon Charles Kotal (Spiritual Advisor). After a delicious lunch at church' everyone parted for their travels home... looking forward to the 2010 PRILDA Conference in the Los Angeles area.

Reported by Mrs. Rebecca Dahmann

Thanksgiving

From Word of God's Sign Post November/December issue

Created on <http://wordsearch.armoredpenguin.com/>

S U G O S H P I S L S A N E G
 S R N G R E I E E G S D W E D
 B L E S S K S H I F N G S T A
 V G M N N O P V S A N H H P R
 P S I O G A E E M I S I S G E
 E A W I S T S E V T H E N N E
 O N H T H I G I R H O D E I A
 P T U A A D G U R F U R N T R
 L R N R P S O N N U T H S S E
 E K P E K C G O I L E L I A R
 S S E N D N I K G N I V O L O
 E H A E E C E O E E G S R R E
 S H R G L A D N E S S S S E D
 T K T H O G A T E S S K E V S
 S L H N T V M V N S E S A E I

Your help is needed...

The Florida-Georgia District is setting up a Task Force on Deaf Ministry. The goal is to envision the Future of Deaf Ministry in the two states. Pastor Jerry Munz is the Task Force Chairperson. As chair, one task is to collect names. Your help is needed. The Task Force needs names and addresses of Deaf Lutherans living in these two states. Also the T.F. needs names and addresses of Deaf Lutheran Snow Birds who come to Georgia and Florida to escape the bitter cold winters. Can you help?

Please send names and addresses to: **Rogate Lutheran Deaf Church, % Rev. Jerry Munz, P.O. Box 6223, Clearwater, Florida 33756**

Florida Worship Locations...

1 - **Rogate Lutheran Deaf Church** worships on the first and third Sundays at 9:15 AM and a Bible Class at 10:30 AM. The deaf worship at First Lutheran Church, 1644 Nursery Road, Clearwater, Florida 33765.

2 - The third Thursday of each month at 1 PM and 6 PM are two Deaf Bible Study groups in Lakeland, Florida, at **Christ Lutheran Church**, 2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd.

3 - **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church**, 1515 S. Semoran Blvd., Orlando, has interpreted worship at 10:45 every Sunday.

Word List

Psalm 100 is a song of praise and thanks to God. Find the underlined words from Psalm 100.

Shout joyfully to the LORD, all the earth.

Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before Him with Joyful singing.

Know that the LORD Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him; bless His name.

For the LORD is good; His lovingkindness is everlasting. And His faithfulness to all generations.

LDMS Is Changing...

For many years LDMS has been a part of ILDA. God has richly blessed LDMS as Deaf people (you) have raised money for many Deaf Mission projects. Right now ILDA is trying to raise \$40,000.00 for LDMS to use for mission projects listed regularly in **The Deaf Lutheran**.

We thank you for your gifts to LDMS.

Oh, what is LDMS? It is the **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society** which started way back in the late 1940s. During those years it raised money every time there was a fifth Sunday in a month. That money was used to 1) survey Africa, 2) survey the Orient, 3) support Pastors Reinking and Pastor Jasper as they worked in Hong Kong, etc.

In 1971, LDMS was made a part of the exciting ILDA. God has greatly blessed many Deaf people through your gifts.

In the past few years, Synod's Board for Mission Services has focused all its energy and money on Ablaze! which is a huge goal to share the Gospel with 100,000,000 new people. It is a wonderful program and we pray God's blessings on it. Share Jesus with your friends.

But that big project has not left any money for the leadership of Deaf Missions or any funds to support the ministry among us.

We thank Pastor John Reinke and Pastor Bud Palmer for all the leadership they have given these past few years. We also thank the South Wisconsin District for their support of these two pastors.

As the North American Districts have supported work with many new people groups (Hmong, Sudanese, etc) it has become more difficult for the Districts to support their long time Deaf Missions.

Dr. Bob Scudieri of Synod's Board for Mission Services has asked that Deaf people create a society that would focus on two areas: 1) giving leadership to Deaf

Missions in North America, and 2) raising money for that Mission work.

ILDA has kindly given permission for LDMS to serve as that Mission Society. Is ILDA's work finished? No, sharing Jesus continues to be a growing need and blessing with the Deaf communities in North America. ILDA will be a partner with LDMS especially in the areas of 1) raising money for the Zacharias' scholarship fund to help more Deaf individuals become Pastors or Deaconesses and 2) continue to encourage mission work in other nations (Ghana, India, etc.)

Dr. Scudieri has asked Pastor Rynearson to help in organizing the expanded LDMS. He will be working on organizing it. As LDMS changes he will be the ad hoc leader. Pastor Dennis Konkel and Pastor John Reinke will assist him in the process.

Right now LDMS has some money that has been given for specific projects. We don't yet have money for anyone to travel. If you would like someone to visit you, please offer to pay that person's travel and other expenses.

The goal of LDMS is to help more Deaf persons see Jesus as their Lord and Savior, so that we all will serve Jesus in our daily activities.

We will share more stories of the changing LDMS in coming issues of *The Deaf Lutheran*. Any questions you might have, please direct to Pastor Rynearson. His e-mail address is rodryn@sbcglobal.net. His cell phone is 989-400-9404. He has a video phone. Drop him an e-mail and he will share that number with you.

Please pray that God continue blessing the changing LCMS.

Rodney R Rynearson
LDMS Ad Hoc Leader
9/17/2008



Deaf Ministry Continues in New York City...

On 8 June 2008, Rev. William Wrede became the pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church and School in Glendale and Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Elmhurst. Both congregations are in Queens, part of New York City. This is the beginning of a new opportunity for one hearing and one deaf congregation to work together.

After serving Saint Mark (Manhattan), Saint Matthew (Queens), and the Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry (Long Island) since 2000, there was a need to evaluate Pastor Wrede's role and the future of ministry among the deaf in New York. Faced with difficult decisions, both Saint Mark and Saint Matthew prayed, had meetings, and made decisions.

Working with the Atlantic District and Redeemer, the people of Saint Matthew decided they were willing to set up a new partnership that will help ministry continue and grow. Both Redeemer and Saint Matthew make decisions and accept the responsibility to make things happen.

After years of being subsidized by the Atlantic District, sometimes more than 12 years without having a pastor, this new opportunity brings new hope and a future for deaf ministry in New York City.

Saint Mark voted not to become involved with this new ministry. Some of the members of Saint Mark worship with the people of Saint Matthew. Lay people lead the services at Saint Mark on Sunday.

One change is moving worship for the deaf from Sunday (when Redeemer meets) to Monday. So far, attendance is a little above the number of people attending before this change. Sometimes, Saint Matthew joins the people of Redeemer for worship. When the ER-ILDA convention happens in October, the Sunday worship service will happen at Redeemer.

Accepting change and accepting new ways to do things will not only continue the life of ministry at Saint Matthew but will also allow two congregations to work together to make missions and ministry happen. Please join us as we thank God for these blessings and also pray God the Holy Spirit will bless our plans and the ministry He gives us to do in New York City.

The President's Report continued from page 2...

that the world would be finished around 1993 but he was wrong at that. We are responsible for the global warming because we use gas-powered vehicles and our lenient laws allow factories and industries pollute air and water as dangerously as they are expected. We can see the earth being decayed along with repeated hurricanes, tornadoes, mountain slides, mudslides, oil spills in oceans, polluted air in China and so forth.

Third, Jesus already warned us this would happen. Check out the Gospel records. He told the people the world was headed toward a dead end but he did not know when. He clearly told them that he will return to the world and to end the world. Life will become hard but we are warned of growing persecution for our faith. We, Christians have nothing to worry about. Most importantly, we keep the faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior as we know how we will spend eternity. Are you ready for the world change?

Aside of these above issues, the last ILDA board meeting was full of collegiality and thoughtfulness in St. Louis Concordia Seminary College on August 22-23. We were grateful to Pastors Jerold Munz and R. R. Ryearson for their visionary advice during our meeting. It was with interest that the board supported an overhaul of ILDA convention handbook with deletions and additions subject to seven regional presidents' approval. Pastor Ryearson headed to see a lawyer for organization "restructure" with the board's unanimous approval. Of course, the ILDA is still existent, so it will be going to

merge with the previous organization LCMS under the future deaf executive director (we pray). We are continuing to seek a replacement for Mary Tingler who resigned last year as a chairperson of the Right Hand Award Committee. We will keep two potentials in contact to replace two newsletter editor and publisher (business manager), so please give us time to catch them in a right time. However, any replacements for Brother David Brown and Brother Larry Ginter are open, so please email Gregory Desrosiers at gdesrosiers1@shaw.ca. The St. Louis Lutheran Church of the Deaf under Pastor Moody was full of marvels as the board members mingled with the local congregationists spiritually on Sunday morning. We were awed by the media technology in that church. With much surprise, the St. Louis LWML group was generous to donate a huge sum to the ILDA for DIT scholarship and Deaf Missions. That weekend was an air of wonderful get-together with the board and churchgoers.

December 25 is our biggest Christian day to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ who is our Savior to forgive sinners and to judge all the living and dead people when everyone will face Him at the end of the Last Judgement. God gave us a gift of Jesus to understand why Jesus was here.

Have a very Merry Christmas to all of the North Americans in the name of Jesus Christ. Keep the faith.

*Gregory Desrosiers,
ILDA 2005-2007 President
gdesrosiers1@shaw.ca*

**ILDA 2009
Convention—
July 23-26, 2009
Rochester, NY**



**JoAnna Rushton,
Chairperson
jrushton@rochester.rr.com**



R·I·T·I·N·N
CONFERENCE CENTER

www.ritinn.com



**Instruction for
Registration Form
on Page 11...**

ILDA Membership Due (required:

If you **haven't** paid your membership due for the year of 2009, then add a \$20" in the subtotal box.

Saturday God's 1000 club Luncheon:

If you **haven't** paid your God's 1000 membership due for the year of 2009, then add a "\$20" in the subtotal box.

If you have any question:

Please contact JoAnna Rushton @ 585-529-3826 TTY/VP or email - jrushton@rochester.rr.com

Reminder...

Combo package deadline is December 31st, 2008. Mail early and save!!!!



INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

20th Biennial Convention
RIT INN Conference Center
West Henrietta, NY
July 23 - 26, 2009
www.alphadeaf.org/ilda.html



1. Registration...

To get your registration form(s), visit one of following websites and look for the registration PDF link:

www.alphadeaf.org/ilda.html

Fill out this form on your on your computer and print using your printer, then mail to the address shown on the form with your payment. (Blank forms may also be printed and copied for those who do not have web access using the same PDF link.)

Mail form(s) before December 31, 2008 and save \$25 on combo package!!!

- Combo package includes the following...**
- Registration Fee (required to enter convention)
 - Friday Breakfast
 - Saturday Breakfast
 - Saturday Snack
 - Saturday Banquet
 - Sunday Breakfast

Don't forget to select your tour plan (optional)...

- Wine Tour
- Erie Canal Cruise
- NTID Campus Tour

Information on tour plans can be found on the web site www.alphadeaf.org/ilda/tour.html

3. See you in Rochester...
Set Your Minds On Things Above
 2009 ILDA Convention
 July 23 - 26, 2009

2. Hotel Registration...

Stay at the RIT Inn and Conference Center during the convention. For your convenience, a block of rooms has been reserved for our attendees. Mention ILDA to get the special rate when you make your reservation. This rate is the same for 1-4 persons, plus state and local taxes (14%).

RIT INN Conference Center



RIT Inn Conference Center
5257 West Henrietta Road
West Henrietta, NY 14586

ILDA Special Rate (1-4 persons): \$99/night + 14% state & local taxes
Registration deadline: June 30, 2009
Reservation phone: 585-359-1800 (voice)
Website: www.ritinn.com

Reservation Form:
<http://www.ritinn.com/forms/reservations/>



2009 ILDA Convention Schedule

RIT INN Conference Ctr, 5257 West Henrietta Rd., West Henrietta, NY 14586
www.alphadeaf.org/ilda.html

Thursday, July 23

1:00 - 5:00pm Registration
5:00 - 7:00pm Dinner - on your own
7:00 - 9:00pm Opening Devotion
Skit/Choir/Banner Competitions
9:00pm Reception

Friday, July 24

7:00 - 8:00am Breakfast Buffet
7:30 - 10:30am Registration
8:00 - 8:30am Opening Devotion
8:30 - 11:00am Business Meeting

11:30 - 5:00pm Wine Tour
11:30 - 5:00pm Erie Canal Tour
11:30 - 5:00pm NTID Campus Tour

5:00 - 7:00pm Dinner on your own
7:00 - 8:00pm Devotion

Saturday, July 25

7:00 - 8:00am Breakfast Buffet
8:00 - 8:30am Opening Devotion
8:30 - 9:45am Workshop #1
9:45 - 10:15am Break
10:15 - Noon Election of ILDA Officers
Noon - 1:00pm God's 1000 Club Luncheon
(or on your own)
1:00 - 2:15pm Workshop #2
2:15 - 2:45pm Break
2:45 - 4:00pm Workshop #3
4:00 - 6:00pm Free Time
6:00 - 10:00pm Banquet & programs

Sunday, July 26

7:00 - 9:00am Breakfast Buffet
9:00 - 10:00am Morning Bible Study
10:15 - Noon Worship Service
Installation of Officers
2011 ILDA Preview
ILDA banner given to 2011 Host

NOTE:
This schedule may be subject
to changes as needed.

Friday Tour options...

Wine Tour

You will experience an educational and entertaining guided tour at the New York Wine and Culinary



Center in Canandaigua, New York. You will also enjoy a sampling of some of New York's excellent wines. You will also have ample time to shop or enjoy lunch on your own in this small town.

Erie Canal Cruise Tour

You will enjoy a relaxing cruise down the historic tranquil waters of our famous Erie Canal on a boat called the "Colonial Belle". You will also enjoy lunch/snacks on your own on the boat or in one of several canal-side shops.



NTID Campus Tour

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) is the world's first and largest technological college for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is one of eight colleges of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). RIT was founded in 1829, and NTID was formally established by Congress in 1965. It became one of RIT's colleges in 1968. NTID currently has over 1,100 students enrolled in various disciplines across campus. Come and see our campus and all the new changes that have occurred since your last visit to Rochester. This will be a guided walking tour and you will be given ample time to eat lunch or shop at various places around campus. (Transportation to the campus will be on your own.)





INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION

20TH Biennial Convention
RIT INN Conference Center
W. Henrietta, NY

July 23 - 26, 2009

www.alphadeaf.org/ilda.html



Convention Registration Form

One Registration Form Per Person

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone: [] TTY [] Voice [] VP _____

Check all that apply: [] Deaf [] Hearing [] Please send me information about Jr-ILDA / child care.

Pick one

...or apply 1 or more

Pick one

	Cost	Subtotal
ILDA Membership Due (required) (see back for details) *	\$20	
COMBO		
Mail Postmarked on or before Dec. 31, 2008	\$160	
Mail Postmarked on or before April 15, 2009	\$175	
Mail Postmarked on or before July 10, 2009	\$180	
NON-COMBO <small>All "non-combo" events are included With "combo" registration</small>		
Registration (required for non-combo)	\$35	
Friday Breakfast	\$30	
Saturday Breakfast	\$30	
Saturday Break	\$20	
Saturday Banquet	\$40	
Sunday Breakfast	\$30	
OPTIONAL ITEMS <small>Optional events are NOT included With "combo" registration</small>		
Thursday night reception	\$20	
God's 1000 Club Membership Due	\$20	
Saturday God's 1000 Club luncheon (see back for details) *	TBA	
FRIDAY NIGHT (select only one)		
Wine Tour	\$50	
Erie Canal Tour	TBA	
NTID Campus Tour	\$0	
Donations to ILDA Missions		
	TOTAL	\$

* See page 8 of this newsletter!!

Send registration form with check or money order payable to: "ILDA"
Mail to: Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Attn: ILDA, 1969 Clinton Ave. S., Rochester, NY 14618

ILDA Membership Due

Membership for two years.

Please select: Renewal New

Please select: Active Member Associate Member Supporting Member

Membership Due @ \$20 per person. Qty. ___ x \$20 = \$____.00

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

God's 1,000 Club @ \$20 per person. Qty. ___ x \$20 = \$____.00

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 \$____.00

Please make your check or money-order payable to: **ILDA TREASURER** and mail to: **John Krause, ILDA Treasurer, 9905 Madison St NE, Blaine, MN 55434.**

Your Name _____ Spouse Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone/Fax/e-mail: _____

Thank you for your support.

For D/L Subscription

Please select: Renewal New

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**Larry D. Ginter
D/L Business Manager
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...Reminder December is D/L subscription renewal month...



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