



The DEAF LUTHERAN



Official Publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association & the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society

Winter 2018

St. Louis, MO

Vol. 107, No. 1

From the Pastoral Advisor Tyler Walworth



God's Work

Many times we wonder where God is in our life. We think about all of the pain

and suffering around us and we wonder why God has not fixed it. Yet, God is at work! This work that our God does on earth does not eliminate sin, but it keeps it in check.

When sin entered the world, darkness covered the earth. Yet, God established the Law on earth to maintain order and continued to bless us because He wants to save us. This order on earth is the everyday vocations of: family, government and church.

In these orders God maintains all things in the world. In the family He establishes father and mother for protection and providing. He gives children for serving and honoring. In the government He establishes ruler and citizen. He gives the ruler for punishing evil and the citizen for supporting the ruler. In the church He establishes preacher and hearer. He gives the preacher to apply the Gospel of Christ crucified in Word and through baptism and supper.

It is true, these orders of God experience much tension and many are broken. Yet, somehow we live in a nation that is free. There are other nations that are

free and maintain justice. These nations work against other nations that harm their people or commit acts of terror. On the home front, the family is still intact. True some communities suffer from broken homes, but overall children are born and raised and become parents themselves. The church still proclaims that Jesus is Lord and gives His gifts, even when evil men take the office of preaching.

All of this is an example of God's law on earth, still controlling all things. Yes, God controls all things in heaven and on earth.

The good news for us Christians is that He works all things for our good. We know this because we believe in Jesus Christ and are connected to the Holy family of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God works through all walks of life to love us and give us what we need. May this give you strength as you continue on your journey home. God works for you!



begins February 14

NEW OR RENEWAL ILDA MEMBERSHIPS

can be sent to:

David G. Brown
ILDA Treasurer
Holy Cross Deaf Lutheran Church
360 Morse Rd.
Columbus, OH 43214
brown.dg330@gmail.com

Check the ILDA website for a copy of the membership form.
<http://www.deafjesus.org/ilda/memberinfo.html>

WANTED

If you have copies of the 1973 (Kansas City), 1977 (Spokane), 1979 (Memphis), 1985 (Milwaukee) or 1991 (Toledo) ILDA convention minutes, **PLEASE** contact Janet Gehlbach, ILDA Secretary, at JGehlbach@aol.com. Thank you!

WANTED

Host congregation for the 2021 ILDA Convention. Please send your bid or letter of interest to ILDA President Gregory Werth, worthlesswiz@yahoo.com

In Memoriam



Arvin Massey

B: 6/17/1946

D: 10/16/2017

Arvin was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Sioux

Falls, SD.



Wilma Phillips

B: 4/14/1939

D: 1/16/2018

Wilma was an active member of ILDA, the Midwest Region Conference and

KansaSEED Deaf Ministry in the Kansas District.

Rev. Mark Winkelman was installed as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Freeport, IL, on January 7, 2018. He serves a hearing congregation but travels to Elgin, IL, once a month for deaf worship. God's blessings to Rev. Winkelman as he begins his new ministry.



Front l. to r.: Adam, Lydia and David. Back l. to r.: Rebekah (Moody) Winkelman, Rev. Mark and John

Higher Things Conference

Higher Things (HT) will have all four conferences sites deaf-friendly. All worship and catechesis events will be interpreted in ASL. Various Deaf activities will also be planned. HT is focused on youth and their Lutheran identity but it is a great experience for all confirmed Lutherans. Day passes and scholarships are available. Dare to be Lutheran....it's still all about Jesus.

The schedule is as follows:
 July 3-6, 2018 – Carleton College, Northfield, MN
 July 10-13, 2018 – Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL
 July 24-27, 2018 – The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
 July 31 – Aug 3, 2018 – Pacific Lutheran Univ., Tacoma, WA

Download more information about the conferences at: <http://higherthings.org/conference/sanctified2018>



Pastor Steven Cholak and Chris Hamilton interpreting a Higher Things Conference.



Lynda Nix, wife of Rev. Matt Nix, Sioux Falls, SD, (pictured above, lower right corner) interprets a weekly message from Main Street Living based in Sioux Falls, SD, which has videos produced and posted by congregations of the South Dakota District of the LC-MS. She recently interpreted the Christmas message from LC-MS Synod President Matthew Harrison. Check out <http://mainstreetliving.com> then click on the link to "Watch Main Street Living."

Deaf Youth Service Project

(By Rev. Mark Seeger)
 "Deaf Students Still Thirst For The Word of God"

In this day and age when most Sunday Schools are getting smaller and church attendance is down, deaf students in central Texas still want to learn about Jesus. Every Wednesday evening during the school year you can find students from Texas School for the Deaf and from other local schools at Deaf Youth Ministry of Texas (DYMT), the youth ministry of Holy 3-in-1 Lutheran Church for the Deaf. Every year we have around 200 students attending, wanting to learn more about Jesus, forgiveness, salvation and eternal life.

One of the projects of DYMT is the annual youth service trip. For several years, ILDA has supported these service trips with their mission grants, where a group of deaf teenagers travel to a different city to spend a week serving other people.

Pastor Mark Seeger has been leading the deaf youth ministry for nearly 20 years, and now Pastor John Reinke is helping to teach these precious children of God. DYMT has served more than 1,300 students since its beginning and it is our prayer that many, many more deaf youth will be lead to the cross of Christ.



ILDA Officers

International Officers (2017-19)

- President – Gregory Werth
- Pres.-Elect – John Mason
- Secretary – Janet Gehlbach
- Treasurer – David G. Brown
- Pr. Advisor – Rev. Tyler Walworth

Central Region (2016-18)

- President – Mike Ford
- V. President – Wayne Kester
- Secretary – Becky Catchpole
- Treasurer – Donna Madewell-Smith
- Pr. Advisor – Rev. Bud Palmer

Midwest Region (2016-18)

- President – Sara Hale
- V. President – Dorene Sell
- Secretary – Nola Gray
- Treasurer – Barbara Zimmerman
- Pr. Advisor – Rev. Paul Tessaro

Northwest Region (2016-18)

- President – Richard Sharp
- President Elect – Patricia Jenkins
- Secretary – vacant
- Treasurer – vacant
- Pr. Advisor – Rev. David Nielsen

Great Lakes Region (2016-18)

- President – Larry D. Ginter
- Pres. Elect – Nancy Bergstresser
- Secretary – Diane Francisco
- Treasurer – Karen Beiter
- Pr. Advisor – Rev. Gary Lawson

Martin Luther Movie and German Dinner Fundraiser held by Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Silver Spring, MD

On October 28, 2017, members of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf (CLCD) hosted a movie and dinner on this date. The fundraising event was established by co-hosts John Mason and Carolyn Snyder-Mason. The purpose was to raise funds for CLCD and the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA). Funds were divided 50/50 to CLCD's General Fund and ILDA's officer's expenses.

The movie shown was "Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed The World." In the spring of 2017, John Mason, ILDA President at that time, contacted the movie company to ask them to add captions to the movie. He advised them to check with their legal department about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and how it applies to captioning movies for the deaf.

Around the same time ILDA Secretary Janet Gehlbach had contacted the company, too, to see if it was possible to get the movie captioned. She received a message from the company that they were trying to get a hold of John Mason and she was able to relay that message back to him in time so that he could get a copy of the movie to show at the 2017 ILDA convention in Indianapolis, IN.

John and Carolyn were expecting about 20-25 people to see the movie and enjoy a German dinner. They were surprised when 48 people signed up. Final count was 40 people who came to enjoy the movie and

the meal. Those in attendance were able to learn more about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

The German dinner was bratwurst, roasted red potatoes, braised red cabbage and cool cucumber salad. Apple juice and cider were also provided. After dinner, various desserts were served along with coffee and tea.



Photographer for the event was Mark Friedrich, Pastor Ron and Georganne's son. Many thanks to Mark for taking the pictures.



SAVE THE DATES

Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI)

June 25 – July 6, 2018

Fort Wayne, IN

For more information:

lutheranfriendsofthedeaf.org/citi

Great Lakes Region Conference

July 13-15, 2018

Good Shepherd Deaf Lutheran Church, Toledo, OH

More information will be provided in the May issue of the *Deaf Lutheran*.

Midwest Region Conference

July 27-29, 2018

Hosted by Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Spring Lake Park, MN. The conference will be held in Austin, MN at the Holiday Inn. For more information contact Janet Gehlbach, jgehlbach@aol.com or VP 612-424-4747.

2019 ILDA Convention

July 18-21, 2019

Hosted by KansaSEED at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka, KS. Registration form and hotel information will be printed in the Fall (November) 2018 issue of the *Deaf Lutheran*.

Check out these websites:

www.deafjesus.org

www.jesusdeaf.org

www.jesusdeaf.org/learn

www.tinyurl.com/LDMSYouTube

www.facebook.com/lutherandeaft

www.deafjesus.org/ilda

The deafjesus.org/ilda website has photos of the ILDA officers and you can print a copy of the ILDA Constitution and Handbook as well as reading the minutes of the 2017 ILDA convention.

Deadline for the next Spring issue of the *Deaf Lutheran* is April 15, 2018

Please send photos, articles and items of interest to:

Rev. Daryl & Janet Gehlbach

305 Liberty St. NE

Fridley, MN 55432

Voice: 612-386-4824

Videophone: 612-424-4747

dgehlbach@aol.com

jgehlbach@aol.com

Lutheran Deaf Mission Society (LDMS) announces new project leader

(by Rev. Tim Eckert)



Rev. Ron Friedrich has been chosen as the new project leader for DeafPah.

DeafPah (which roughly translates as “Deaf success” or “Deaf achievement”) is a set of courses in lay leadership, Bible instruction, teacher training and doctrine. These courses prepare deaf individuals to better serve their congregation or to prepare for seminary coursework.

Rev. Friedrich is the pastor of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Silver Spring, MD, and is active as the chaplain for Gallaudet University and also in prison ministry.

He brings a wealth of expertise into overseeing this project and has been busy editing the classes to make them more user friendly and meaningful as well as updating the website. You can see the classes online at <http://deafjesus.org/courses>.

Rev. Dr. John Reinke travels for World Lutheran Deaf Outreach (WLDO)

Rev. Reinke has presented the first ever training sessions with the Deaf in Latvia and taught the Jesus Signs workshop in Rochester, NY.



The Latvia group



The lady on the left from Latvia is in training to become a deaconess.



The Jesus Signs workshop/Sunday morning attenders from Alpha, Rochester, NY.

If your church would like to offer a Jesus Signs workshop please contact Rev. Reinke at LutheranDeafOutreach@gmail.com or call 608-436-9600.

Pray that God will guide more and more people to become equipped with sharing His word!

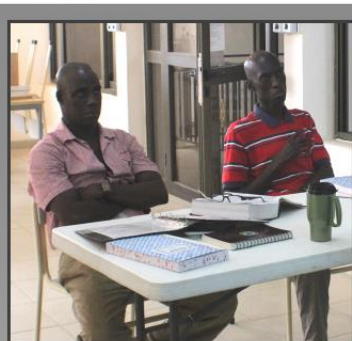
REPORT FROM THE SCHUMACHERS

SERVING THE LORD IN
GHANA

Steven.schumacher@lcmsintl.org



January 2018



Akorful and Ernest Studying at the Lutheran Seminary

PASTORAL FORMATION

Our two Deaf Ghanaian Evangelists, Akorful and Ernest, travel to the ELCG Lutheran Seminary in the Greater Accra area for their pastoral training classes. Akorful is serving in the Greater Accra area in the village of Adamorobe and at House of Grace Deaf School in Apaluka. Ernest serves in the Kumasi area of central Ghana.

The ILDA grant helps to provide transportation costs, personal items, food service and training materials several times a year for two weeks of intensive study.

WE THANK GOD FOR ILDA AND THE GRANT PROVIDED TO DO OUR WORK WITH AND AMONG THE DEAF IN GHANA! Because of your love for the Gospel and the generosity of your hearts, we are able to serve the Lord and His people here.

THANK YOU SO MUCH ILDA!



How Your Gifts through ILDA are used in Ghana



Rev. Schumacher visiting and leading Worship in Kumasi

The ILDA grant assists us with traveling to Kumasi to meet with the Deaf members and Evangelist Ernest. During this visit we discussed many of the needs the Deaf face in their daily life. Daily they are challenged with communication, work to provide food and education costs for their families, providing for their worship leaders, and their search for a permanent church home.

The grant also helps us in our ministry with Evangelist Akorful in the village of Adamorobe. Our ministry reaches out to many Deaf families and individuals in and around the village. On one Sunday, we had four young mothers bring their baby boys to be washed in the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism.

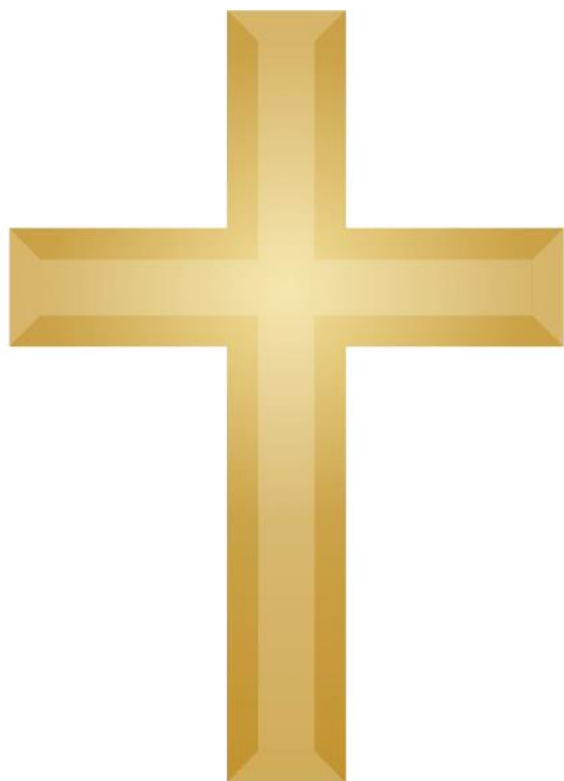


Bringing their children to be Baptized



14 Deaf Students receive the sign of the Cross at their Baptisms

In 2014 the ELCG was asked to provide religious instruction and worship for the students of House of Grace Deaf School in Apaluka, a village along the coast east of Accra. Akorful and I have been working with these students, ranging in ages 10-18 years old. This past October we gave thanks to God as He brought 14 of these students to be baptized through the work of the Holy Spirit.



JULY 18TH – 21ST, 2019

2019 ILDA CONVENTION

HOSTED BY: KansaSEED

God Above Gold

“Therefore I love your commandments above Gold, yes above fine gold.” - Psalm 119:127



WORKSHOPS



DEVOTIONS



FELLOWSHIP



PRAYERS



WORSHIP

**TOPEKA, KS
CAPITAL PLAZA HOTEL**

<p>The Deaf Lutheran Subscription (Print Edition)</p> <p>One-year Subscription - \$10.00</p> <p>Please Select: _____ Renew _____ New</p> <p>All subscriptions should be sent to Carolyn Snyder-Mason, Business Manager of <i>The Deaf Lutheran</i>, at her address below. Make your check or money order payable to "ILDA" and put <i>Deaf Lutheran</i> in the memo line. Thanks!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carolyn Snyder-Mason 6721 Deep Run Parkway Elkridge, MD 21075</p>	<p>Attach mailing label or fill in:</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City _____</p> <p>State _____ Zip Code _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p>Phone/VP/Fax _____</p>
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Update on Macau/Hong Kong

David and Barbara Bush are serving at the Lutheran School for the Deaf (LSD) in Hong Kong. This year is the 50th Anniversary of the school, so the school is getting prepared by taking pictures for publications and planning special events. It is an exciting time for the School.

David teaches sign language classes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays and Barbara joins him on Fridays. On Thursdays David teaches English to 5th grade students at Holy Cross Lutheran School and on Saturday mornings he teaches English classes at Lo Ming Choi Lutheran College.



Twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, they travel to Macau to meet more deaf people as many of the deaf living there are scattered all over. Diana Rice, formerly from Macau, will help kick off the first Bible study with a group of deaf people in February.

They want to thank ILDA for the support and prayers. If anyone wants a copy of their newsletter please send your request to: david.bush@lcmsintl.org and your name will be added to their mailing list.

Update from Rev. Ryan McDermott serving in West and Central Africa

Rev. McDermott and his family have been in Africa for nearly a year and a half. They have lived in Ghana, Burkina Faso and Togo. In March 2017 he transitioned to a new role as Area Facilitator for Deaf Ministry. In November 2017 they moved to Dapaong, Togo, where he teaches on the faculty of the Centre Lutheran d'Etudes

Theologiques (CLET) – the Lutheran Center for Theological Studies.



Rev. McDermott with Deaf youth in Pointe Noire, Republic of Congo

Beginning in February he and his family will be back in the United States for home service. When they return to Africa he will be teaching a course on ministry with people with disabilities and focusing on Deaf ministry specifically.

He thanks ILDA for your partnership and encouragement in the Lord's work.

(Editor's note: His full article and pictures will be printed in the next issue)

The DEAF LUTHERAN

Janet Gehlbach, DL Co-Editor
305 Liberty St. NE
Fridley, MN 55432

Winter Issue 2018

RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

In this Issue:
2019 ILDA
Convention Flyer



Mission Projects for 2017-2019

Deaf Youth Service Project	\$ 8,000
Missionary Support	
Rev. Ryan McDermott	\$ 2,000
Rev. Steven Schumacher.....	\$ 2,000
David Bush	\$ 2,000
India	\$ 8,000
Kenya	\$ 8,000
World Lutheran Deaf Outreach	<u>\$ 4,000</u>
TOTAL	\$ 34,000

Donations for the ILDA 2017-2019 Mission Projects can be sent to ILDA Treasurer, David G. Brown, c/o Holy Cross Deaf Lutheran Church, 360 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43214. Make your check payable to "ILDA" and put "Mission Projects 2017-2019" in the memo line. Your prayers and donations help ILDA to continue our work in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the U.S. and foreign countries.