



The

# Deaf Lutheran



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

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## From the Pastoral Advisor Rev. Tyler Walworth

“Where is Jesus now?”



On Easter morning, many people were asking the same question! Mary, John, Peter and many more. Where is Jesus?

Did they steal His body? Of course, the questions are answered when Jesus shows Himself to His disciples. The same Jesus, who died for their sins, rose from the dead. He lives!

But what about us? Does Jesus appear to us today as the risen Lord?

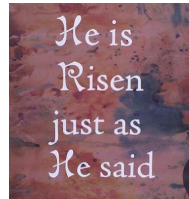
Most people think Jesus is stuck in heaven. Why? Because Jesus ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. If Jesus is stuck in heaven, then we are stuck without Jesus on earth. We do have the Holy Spirit. But if the Holy Spirit does not give us Jesus, then we still are stuck without salvation. Jesus is far away and we will not see Him again until the last day.

Jesus did not leave us. Jesus gave Pastors to the church. Pastors stand in the place of Jesus and give us the gifts Jesus won for us. (Luke 10:16) What do Pastors do? They preach, baptize and give the Lord’s Supper. (Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 11:23) Who can be a Pastor? Men who are trained in the true teaching of Jesus and who are called by a local church. (1 Timothy 3:1-13) Why do we need

Pastors? God tells us He will work through Pastors to give us the gifts of Jesus and to protect us from false teachers. (John 20:21-23)

Should someone who is not a pastor do the things that pastors do like preach, baptize and give the Lord’s Supper? No. (Jeremiah 27:14-15) If God gives us an order for the church, we are to follow His way and not create new order in the church. (There is an exception with baptism, but exceptions are never the rule.)

Jesus is not far away. Jesus is among us through Pastors who preach His Word, baptize and give His body and blood to His dear children. This is our great comfort, because the living Jesus is still among us actively working to bring us into eternal life. He is risen!



## ILDA Convention Update

ILDA 2019 in Topeka is only about 2.5 months away. This is both exciting and slightly terrifying for us on the planning committee! Rest assured that plans are well underway and we look forward to seeing you in Topeka.

A few things to remember:

- **Transportation:** Either as part of your registration or in a separate email (Kansas.Seed@gmail.com) let us know your flight information if you need transportation from the airport in Kansas City to the conference site in Topeka.
- **Dietary needs:** If you have special dietary needs make sure

those are marked on your registration so that we can coordinate with the hotel’s kitchen staff.

- **Childcare:** If you need childcare, make sure to include names and ages on the registration so we know who to expect. Please include information that caregivers might need regarding any needs your child might have.

“Whoever brings blessings will be enriched and one who waters will himself be watered.” Proverbs 11:25. We are directed to go out and make disciples of all nations, and so we are making mission work a focus of this ILDA. We plan to have both an in-house service project as well as a community based service project. Topeka is home to the Topeka Rescue Mission, which provides a multitude of services to both our sheltered and unsheltered homeless population and prides itself on being “Faith with its sleeves rolled up.” You can see more about their mission at <https://www.trmonline.org/>. Our in-house service project will be creating fleece blankets (you only need to be able to tie a knot) that can be distributed to both the sheltered and unsheltered homeless community in Topeka when the weather turns colder this fall and winter. If you have fleece cuts stored away you are welcome to bring those along to add to the fleece that we will have prepared and available for tying.

Please feel free to contact us with questions! God’s Blessings to you all!

2019 Topeka Host Committee

# In Memoriam

**Sigrid Ludwig**



Born: 9/18/1928  
Died: 2/17/2019  
Sigrid was the wife of Rev. William Ludwig from Seattle, WA.

**Helen Kraus**



Born: 10/16/1926  
Died: 4/19/2019  
Helen was the wife of Rev. George R. Kraus who served in various deaf congregations in the LCMS.

**Mary Schleicher**



Born: 9/16/1921  
Died: 3/26/2019  
Mary's husband was Rev. Curtis Schleicher who formerly served Sioux Falls, SD.

**Ted Hines**



Born: 3/10/1932  
Died: 4/21/2019  
Ted was a member of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Spring Lake Park, MN.



**Jesus Signs workshop participants at Jackson, MO in April 2019. Presenters were Rev. Dr. John Reinke, Rebecca Catchpole and Carol Seeger.**

### 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 (2018-20)

President – Albert Moore  
 V. President – Mike Ford  
 Secretary – Rebecca Catchpole  
 Treasurer – Tim Kearney  
 Pr. Advisor – Rev. Bud Palmer

#### Midwest Region (2018-20)

President – Sara Hale  
 V. President – Dorene Sell  
 Secretary – Nola Gray  
 Treasurer – Barbara Zimmerman  
 Pr. Advisor – Rev. Daryl Gehlbach

#### Northwest Region (2016-18)

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

#### Great Lakes Region (2018-20)

President – Larry D. Ginter  
 Pres. Elect – Nancy Bergstresser  
 Secretary – JoAnna Rushton  
 Treasurer – Karen Beiter  
 Pr. Advisor – Rev. Edwin Bergstresser

### DeafLEAD announces videophone crisis line for the Deaf community

DeafLEAD is offering a 24/7/365 crisis videophone hotline 321-800-DEAF (3323) for the Deaf community available to anyone in any state. Crisis line advocates fluent in sign language are trained to provide immediate emotional support, recognizing that trauma can have an ongoing impact on an individual's life, regardless of when the event occurred.

The crisis line focuses on meeting the needs of Deaf individuals who are victims of crime (past or present) including: domestic and sexual violence of adults or children, bullying (cyber, physical, or verbal), teen dating violence, burglary or robbery, child abuse or neglect, elder abuse, drunk driving or other vehicular victimization, human trafficking, any hate crime, identity theft or other financial crime, any form of mass violence, terrorism whether domestic or international, and a violation of a court order.

[Editor's note: Many thanks to Pat Monroe and Rev. Tim Eckert for sharing this press release with *The Deaf Lutheran*.]

**2019 Interpreted Ministry Conference** will take place at the same time as the ILDA convention in Topeka, KS. For more information you can go to the [www.deafjesus.org](http://www.deafjesus.org) website, click on "ILDA conventions" and scroll down the list to the Interpreted Ministry Conference. Click on that link and you will be able to print up the registration form. Any questions should be directed to Sara Hale. Her email, text and VP numbers are on the registration form.

**Lutheran Friends of the Deaf** has written Bible Story books for deaf children that are signed stories with English text, sign language drawings, DVD in sign language, with key words and a signed song. For more info check out the website: [lutheranfriendsofthedeaf.org/bible-story-books/](http://lutheranfriendsofthedeaf.org/bible-story-books/)

**Higher Things Youth Conference** will be July 2-5, 2019 at Concordia University Chicago at River Forest, IL. This conference will be deaf friendly and interpreted by Chris Hamilton and Rev. Steven Cholak. There will be several pastors to the deaf attending, presenting breakout sessions or hosting a booth at the conference. For more information see the website: <https://higherthings.org/conferences/concordia2019/>.

## WANTED:

Host congregation for the 2021 ILDA convention. This will be the 50th Anniversary of ILDA.

hello  
 SPRING

**ILDA Executive Council minutes  
July 20-21, 2018**

A copy of the full minutes is available to read online in the ILDA website and will also be available to those people attending the ILDA convention in Kansas in July. Below is the continuation of the minutes that were not able to be printed in the Winter 2019 issue.

**2019 Host Committee Report:**

1. Reported the Kansas District has a contract with the Capital Plaza Hotel which provided better rates for the convention. Walkway to the convention area is long and will try to figure out some options.
2. Four deaf-blind interpreters are being contracted for the 2019 convention. Lynda Nix is the lead interpreter.
3. Business meeting will be held on Friday and workshops on Saturday.
4. Would like a service project done on Saturday.
5. Thursday night is the ice breaker event and Friday will have more games.
6. All meals included in the combo cost.
7. ILDA membership is separate and handled by David Brown.
8. Discussed the cost of God's 1000 Club. It was recommended to be \$20.00.

**2017 Indianapolis Financial Report (Mike Ford, absent)**

1. Financial report handed out. No written report received.
2. Income was \$21,566.00 and expenses was \$18,546.38. Profit of \$3019.62 was sent to Karen Beiter.
3. Some questions remained about the financial report. Gregory Werth will following up with those concerns.

**Missions Projects Report:**

1. No mission project report given.
2. Any mission project papers from Dorene Sell are to be given to Becky Jungklaus.
3. Discussed the ranking process for the mission projects.
4. Deadline for mission projects requests is April 15, 2019.
5. Mission projects motions made during New Business at the next ILDA convention will be considered.
6. Executive Council agreed to put Kenya and India mission projects on hold for now.

**Right Hand Award Report:**

1. President Werth asked Dawn Werth to be chair for the

Right Hand Award. Deadline for nominations is May 31, 2019 and are to be sent to Dawn.

**Old Business:**

1. John Mason moved to drop the idea of opening up LFCU accounts for ILDA. Passed.

**New Business:**

Motion #1: John Mason moved to approve the transfer of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Silver Spring, MD to the Great Lakes Region Conference. Passed.

Motion #2: Rev. Ron Friedrich moved to authorize the treasurer to pay \$4,000 to WLDO (2017-2019) Mission Project. Passed.

Motion #3: Janet Gehlbach moved to give KansaSEED \$200 to reimburse them for the food for the Executive Council meeting on July 20. John Mason moved to amend the amount to \$250.00. The original motion as amended passed.

Motion #4: John Mason moved that \$80,000 be appropriated as: \$40,000 (Mission Projects), \$10,000 (DIT), \$10,000 (Youth), \$10,000 (ILDA expenses), \$10,000 (fellowship/conventions) effective immediately. The remaining \$40,000 will be put into reserved funds. Passed.

Motion #5: John Mason moved that Executive Council expenses be paid as full mileage, based on IRS rates, and the hotel room rate on the road be paid as one-half, and the hotel room rate at the conventions be paid in full, effective immediately. Passed.

President Werth asked John Mason to take the floor.

Motion #6: President Werth moved to set up an ad hoc committee (John Mason and Gregory Werth) to restructure the ILDA regions and present the proposed changes to the ILDA membership at the Kansas convention in 2019. Passed.

Motion #7: President Werth moved that ILDA set up a website domain and establish Google accounts to be set up solely for ILDA. Passed.

John Mason gave the floor back to President Werth. No announcements were made.

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m. on July 21, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Gehlbach, ILDA Secretary (2017-2019)



**ILDA Handbook changes**, as approved July 13, 2017 at the Board meeting at the 2017 Indianapolis convention, are printed below. All changes are in **bold** font.

Article I, Section A, 1

1. The ILDA shall build and support lay leadership among deaf Lutherans ~~to~~ **in** all areas of faith and life.

Article I, Section C – Solicitations

The ILDA shall solicit funds from the deaf members of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod for the accomplishment of its purposes and shall be a self-financing, non-profit association, and it shall conduct its activities without financial profit to any individual. For mission projects and programs, it shall work in cooperation with the ~~Board for Mission Services~~ **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society** of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Article I, Section D, 2

2. The ILDA shall cooperate with the LCMS, ~~report to it,~~ **report and coordinate to it through the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society**, and shall coordinate its mission and ministry with that of the LCMS.

Article IV

**DIRECTORY**

The Lutheran Deaf Mission Society or the ILDA Board of Directors can be contacted for the directory of deaf churches and/or fields **or the directory can be printed off the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society website:**  
[www.deafjesus.org](http://www.deafjesus.org).

Article V, Section B, 14

14. The regional president shall communicate with the ILDA president each quarter, preferably on March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>, by letter, email, fax or ~~TTY~~ **video communication device**.

Article VI, Section A – Election

2. ~~The~~ **His** term of office of the regional pastoral advisor shall be (2) years.

3. ~~If the regional pastoral advisor he~~ **he** accepts a call outside his region or for any reason vacates his office, the candidate who received the next largest number of votes in the election shall fill out the remainder of the term ~~of the regional pastor advisor~~ **of his duties**.

Article VI, Section B – Responsibilities

1. ~~He~~ **The regional pastoral advisor** shall develop a peaceful and harmonious relationship in his region among the ministry with deaf persons, the ~~Board for Mission Services~~ **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society**, persons involved in pastoral ministry, congregations, fields and the ILDA by helping coordinate the efforts of all.

2. The regional advisor shall serve as pastoral advisor

to the ILDA branch in the region.

a. He shall review all proposed programs, plans and activities of the ILDA in the region that are separate from those of the ILDA and ~~advise on their consistency~~ **give advice as to their consistency** with the doctrines of the LCMS.

5. He shall meet at least once a year with all the pastors serving deaf congregations and/or fields in the region and the ~~Counselor for Deaf Mission~~ **Director of the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society** for the purpose of coordinating all efforts.

Article IX, Section A – The President

1. ~~The president may serve only one term of two years, but may be re-elected as president-elect for one additional term.~~

6. The president may poll the Board of Directors or the Executive Council in writing and/or by email/fax/TTY **or video communication device** at any time for directions essential to the operation of the ILDA.

Section A to be re-numbered.

Article IX, Section B – The President-Elect

2. ~~The president-elect's term of office shall be for one term of two years.~~

Section B to be re-numbered.

Article IX, Section D – The Treasurer

4. The treasurer shall open a checking account in the name of the ILDA and keep an accurate accounting of all deposits and withdrawals.

a. The treasurer **and/or president-elect** shall be the only person authorized to make deposits or sign checks in the account.

**b. The bank shall have at least one (1) other officer's name, address and signature as backup if the treasurer is unable to perform his/her duties.**

**b. c.** Audits of all accounts shall be made annually by two (2) auditors. These auditors shall be ILDA members nominated by the treasurer and approved by the president. They may not be members of the Finance Committee. They shall meet with the treasurer before the Board meeting to do their work. They shall report their findings to the Board of Directors and the ILDA.

Article XI, Section B – Responsibilities

2. He shall review all the proposed programs, projects and plans of the ILDA and ~~advise on their consistency~~ **give advice as to their consistency** with the doctrines of the LCMS.

Article XV, Section C — Responsibilities

1. The Finance Committee shall plan programs and projects of raising funds that are agreeable with the financial

policies of the ~~Board of Mission Services~~ **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society**, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and its districts, provided that these methods of raising funds will not conflict with or be operated in a manner that competes with other funding or fund-raising efforts of the ~~Board for Mission Services~~ **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society**, the ~~LCMS~~ **Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, its districts or its auxiliaries.

Article XVI, Dues

4. Upon receipt of dues, the ILDA treasurer will give a new membership card to the ~~payee~~ **member**.

Article XX, Part II Section H, 4

4. Whenever the host committee receives any membership dues, they should be sent to the ILDA treasurer with the names of ~~payees~~ **members** as soon as possible in order to keep the membership list current.

Article XXV, The Deaf Lutheran, Section B – Editor  
The editor is responsible for:

d. Work closely with the ILDA President and the ~~Board for Mission Services~~ **Lutheran Deaf Mission Society** representative in planning news stories and articles of interest.

Article XXVI

~~3. Written permission from ILDA Board of Directors must be presented to the Concordia Historical Institute (CHI) before anyone may look up any ILDA documents.~~

Article XXVI to be re-numbered.

### **Statistics of Deaf Ministry in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod gathered by Rev. Tim Eckert and Rev. Ron Friedrich**

**29 Deaf congregations**

**36 Preaching Stations (3 pastors account for 21 of these preaching stations)**

**49 Hearing churches interpreting worship**

3 Pastors receive full District support

4 Pastors receive partial District support

1 Pastor receives support from Mill Neck

2 Pastors serve both Deaf and Hearing congregations (dual parish)

3 Pastors serve bi-vocationally (they support their families with non-church employment)

7 Deaf congregations or fields are being served by “retired” pastors

4 Deaf congregations are shepherded by Deaf pastors

3 Deaf congregations are shepherded by Deaf deacons

1 Deaf congregation is lay led without a pastor or trained deacon

1 Deaf dual parish – 1 pastor serves 2 deaf churches every Sunday

2 Deaf churches are lay led with a hearing pastor who does not sign

4 Pastors of hearing churches serve Deaf preaching stations monthly

6 Deaf congregations have been absorbed into hearing churches with interpreters

Presently we have 2 DIT pastors, 1 SMP pastor, 5 DIT Deaconesses and 1 DIT vicar

Worship attendance by location: Average 14, Minimum 1, Maximum 36

Worship attendance by ministry: Average 21, Minimum 1, Maximum 70

<p><b>The Deaf Lutheran Subscription</b> (Print Edition)</p> <p>One-year Subscription - \$10.00</p> <p>Please Select: ___ Renew ___ New</p> <p>Make your check or money order payable to "ILDA" and put <b>Deaf Lutheran</b> in the memo line.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">PAY TO <b>ILDA</b></td> <td style="width: 40%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">DATE _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Deaf Lutheran</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="font-size: small;">1234 5678 9101 2345</td> <td style="font-size: small;">_____</td> </tr> </table> </div> <p>All subscriptions should be sent to the address below. Thanks!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Carolyn Snyder-Mason</b> <b>6721 Deep Run Parkway</b> <b>Elkridge, MD 21075</b></p>	PAY TO <b>ILDA</b>	DATE _____	Deaf Lutheran	_____	1234 5678 9101 2345	_____	<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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1234 5678 9101 2345	_____						

## **It's time to register for the 2019 Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI) Program**

**What:** CITI is a distinctive program, teaching students to interpret the Word of God accurately, which is God's means of life and salvation for His people.

**When:** June 13-16, 2019

**Where:** Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, IN.

**Courses:** ASL linguistics; Facial and Body Expressions; Religious Vocabulary; Deaf Culture; Biblical Studies; Interpreting Scripture; Liturgy, Hymns and Songs.

**Who:** All levels welcome, beginner to certified!

**Staff:** Rev. Thomas Dunseth (co-director), Deaconess Heidi Sias (co-director), Peggy Krueger (RID certified), Stacy Wyant (RID certified), Deaconess Diana Rice, Dr. Carl Fickenscher

**Cost:** \$200 (commuters) and \$350 (residential).

RID CEUs for nationally certified interpreters are in process.

**Registration and Scholarship info:** [lutheranfriendsofthedeaf.org/citi](http://lutheranfriendsofthedeaf.org/citi)

**Contact:** Deaconess Heidi Sias [hsias@millneck.org](mailto:hsias@millneck.org)

**Registration deadline: May 24, 2019**

*The Deaf Lutheran*  
Janet Gehlbach, Editor  
305 Liberty St. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432

Spring Issue 2019

**RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED**

### **ILDA Mission Projects for 2017-2019**

Deaf Youth Service Project	\$ 8,000	paid
Rev. Ryan McDermott (Africa mission)	\$ 2,000	paid
Rev. Steven Schumacher (Africa mission)	\$ 2,000	paid
David Bush (Macau mission)	\$ 2,000	paid
India mission	\$ 8,000	not paid
Kenya mission	\$ 8,000	not paid
World Lutheran Deaf Outreach	<u>\$ 4,000</u>	paid

**TOTAL \$34,000**

**UPDATE: \$10,214 is  
needed to meet the  
mission projects goal  
of \$34,000 before the  
July 2019 Kansas  
convention.**

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.