



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

Christmas, 2000

St. Louis, MO

Volumes 92, No. 4

DEAF LUTHERAN DEVOTION



Rev. Mark Anderson,
ILDA Pastoral Advisor



Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ our Savior. Once again, the joyous time of celebration is about here. Last year I wrote an article on the correct signing of Christmas. I wonder if any of you can remember the exact signing I strongly recommended for us Lutheran Christians as God's witnesses of love to use for those still celebrating secularly (worldly, not Christianity). The signing I strongly advocate is this:

CHRIST-BORN-CELEBRATE!

When I received the ILDA newsletter (issued on December 1999, Volume 91, No. 4) last year with this article, I could not help it but smile and start laughing so hard as soon as I saw a photocopy of "Santa Claus" printed right under the bold words of CHRIST-BORN-CELEBRATE. I was rather amused that such a picture did indeed catch my attention much quickly than my own article! Ha! I am more than willing to bet that it happened to you all readers as well. Yes, it is true that a picture of any kind can, and still unfortunately does, accomplish much more than a well-written article to get our full attention. Sigh! After all, we always look at pictures before words. Sigh again!

Nevertheless, our Heavenly Father, who is always full of mercy and ever-patient with His children, sends the Holy Spirit to remind us over and over again to know the real and correct understanding of the celebration of His love for us sinners. Thankfully, He did not just leave us with only just written promises of our deliverance from the bond of sin, the rule of Satan and the sting of death. He did definitely send us His "Picture" of His wonderful love so that His written promises could become very alive and inspiring for all

of us. What Picture, we ask? The very Picture God gave us is no other than the BABE Himself. Yes, Jesus assumed the human nature so that He could become a human being just like us. As we know from the second article of the Apostle's Creed, Jesus was conceived by (became man through) the Holy Spirit and born of (from) the virgin Mary. That is the Picture which should be more than enough to catch and keep our full attention forever and ever that God really did live with and among us people here in the world. Yes, Jesus was born to live and die as a man to save us sinners.

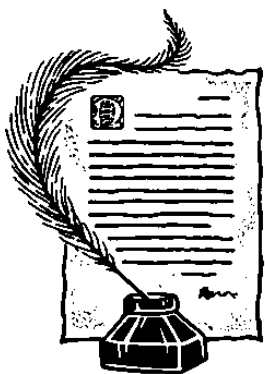
Brothers and sisters in Christ, we can now note at the end of this article the Picture from our Heavenly Father of the BABE, not that of Santa Claus. Smile!

ILDA Pastoral Advisor

CHRIST-BORN-CELEBRATE!



Editorial...



Merry Christmas!

Come January 1st, 2001 will be the true next millennium year. The year 2000 came and will be gone without any hitch that was feared in 1999.

There are several reminders I would like to remind you of. First, the **ILDA membership drive** has taken place in September. Karen Beiter, ILDA Treasurer, has mailed out notices in September. Have you remember to renew your 2000-2002 membership due? If not, see the back page. Please note that there was a slight error in the brochure that was printed last January. The membership due is **\$20 per person per 2-year**, not \$10 as shown in the brochure that was printed and mailed last January.

Second, November/December is *The Deaf Lutheran* newsletter renewal months. Larry Ginter, *The Deaf Lutheran* business manager, has mailed renewal invoices in November.

We appreciate your support and we try our best to produce interesting newsletters with Christ's help. If you are under the blanket plan, contact your church for payments.

Third, Dennis Konkell, ILDA past president and presently the Nomination chairperson, has asked me to remind your regional presidents and churches to submit names for new President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer. The nominated names will be brought up at the ILDA 2001 Indianapolis convention for your votes. Nominated names need to be checked before the convention.



Fourth, Indianapolis ILDA 2001 Convention registration forms and informations were printed and distributed with your Fall *Deaf Lutheran* newsletter. **If you are in need of forms and/or information, contact your home church for copies or write to Peace Lutheran Church.** Peace Lutheran Church's address is on page 6 of this newsletter.

Fifth, Don't forget the ILDA Mission Project. A few months are left to meet our \$55,000 goal. It is estimated that \$30,000 to \$35,000 is still needed to meet the goal.

Your Deaf Lutheran Editor and Business Manager wishes you all a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year!

David G. Brown, Editor

Nominations...

A reminder from Dennis Konkell... each Region please send the nomination list to Dennis ASAP! Dennis is Chairperson for 2001-2003 ILDA Officers nominations (names for new President elect, Secretary, and Treasurer).

During your regional conferences last summer, you were suppose to submit a list of nominations to Dennis.

Due to no response, Dennis ask each churches to send him names for officer positions.

Please send names to: Dennis Konkell, 8 Founders Way, St. Louis, MO 63105.

Thank you, Deaf Lutheran Editor



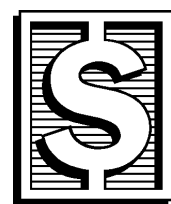
1999-2001 ILDA Mission Project Goals...

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

Total \$55,000

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

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



Your help is greatly needed...

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

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

Thank you! The Deaf Lutheran Editor

New Building, New Name...

Christ Lutheran Church-Deaf, Cleveland, Ohio has finally moved and also the Congregation has voted to officially change the church's name to **Christ Deaf Lutheran Church**. The new location is **2203 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44114**. Phone numbers are 216-781-8571 v/tty and 216-781-0590 FAX. When you are in this area, please visit the new church building. Sunday School starts at 9:30 am and Worship at 10:45 am every Sundays.

Christ Deaf Lutheran Church had its open house on Saturday evening, October 14th. **The Dedication Celebration** for the new building was held on Sunday morning,

October 15th, 2000. The church had around 180 visitors on Sunday morning and around 130 visitors for the Sunday afternoon **Community Praise Celebration**. Rev. Ed Bergstresser of Holy Cross Deaf Church, Columbus, OH was the guest preacher for the Sunday morning service ("**Church for? for?**"). Members from Holy Cross also visited. Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt visit the afternoon event along with his wife and Good Shepherd, Toledo, OH church members. Mary Mowl of Pittsburgh signed the song "**Jesus**" "**Jesus**".

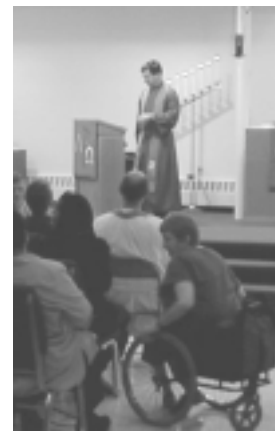
Please refer to *The Deaf Lutheran* Summer 2000 issue, page 3, for more photo on this new church building.



Mary Tingler of Christ Deaf, began the Sunday morning event with announcements.



Christ Deaf choir perform!



Rev. Ed Bergstresser



Rev. Shirrel and Janet Petzoldt of Good Shepherd Deaf, Toledo, Ohio, performed their signs.



Mary Mowl



Sunday evening crowd!



The choir of Good Shepherd of Mentor, Ohio, (hearing church) performed their signs.



News from around the Regions...



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

Northwest Region...

Cross of Christ, Edmonton, Alberta... Congregations to **Joanne** and **Jerry ???** in receiving their certificates for completing the second course in the D.I.T program. On October 8th, **Pax Natura Ranch/Society** celebrated its 25th anniversary. **Pastor and Mrs. Bauer** celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary!

Western Washington Lutheran... announced plans for opening **Auburn** area church services. Contact Pastor Blesi (253) 639-9921 w/tty for more information.

Pacific Region...

Pilgrim Lutheran, LA... **Jim McLaughlin** has entered God's Kingdom in June. **Dr. John Steinhaus** was called from this earth to his heavenly home. **Pastor Brian Smith** has accepted call to Rochester, NY beginning in October, 2000 for a hearing church, but will do some deaf ministry for the area deaf.

Midwest Region...

Calvary Lutheran, Des Moines... **Iowa District West** has a new president, Rev. Paul Sieveking. **Emma Mappes** is now 99 years young!

Prince of Peace, Minneapolis... **Anna Kosmalski** has joined Jesus in Heaven on August 23rd.

Rev. John Reinke has accepted call as Missionary-at-large for the deaf in Southern Wisconsin District. **Bruce Hein** was installed as Missionary-at-large for the deaf in the Rocky Mountain District (Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah). **Rev. Bill Wrede** (formerly Vicar) was installed as Mission Field Developer of the Deaf in Greater New York City-Atlantic District.

Central Region...

Peace Lutheran, Indianapolis... members are working hard for the coming ILDA 2001 Convention!

Latest unofficial date: retired Deaf Mission counselor **Rev. Rodney Ryneearson's** wedding to Velma Lubbert is on November 18th, 2000 in St. Louis. On October 26, 2000, a group of selected deaf lay persons and pastors meet in St. Louis for a new Counselor of Deaf Ministry LCMS and D.I.T Director.

Dixie Region...

Jesus, Austin... celebrate their 40th anniversary (1960) of organization and 20th anniversary (November 16, 1980) of their church building on December 5th.

Great Lakes Region...

Christ Lutheran, Cleveland... had an open house event in their new building on October 14th & 15th. Approx. 300 people came.

Holy Cross, Columbus... **Katherine Jordonson** and **Charles Wolford** has departed to be with the Lord in everlasting life.

Deaf Family Camp met at Wildcat Ranch Christian Outreach in Bolivar, OH last July. Bible studies and devotions were performed— Luke 5:12-26, Luke 8:40-56, Mark 10:46 and Hebrew 9:14. Thank you to those who support ILDA missions to help make family camp possible! Christians from Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania attended.

Trinity Lutheran, Pittsburgh... a new interpreted worship service began at Redeemer in Oakmont, PA (1261 Pennsylvania Ave.). 2nd & 4th Sundays at 10:45.

Alpha Lutheran, Rochester... **Karen** (ILDA Treasurer) and **John Beiter** gave birth to Kyle John on October 18th. Now they have a son to join their three daughters!

Good Shepherd, Toledo... hosted a fund-raising project called POBLO (People Of the Book Lutheran Outreach). Pastor and Janet Petzoldt also has a deaf tour to Israel in plan. *See page 6 for info.*

Eastern Region...

Christ Lutheran, Silver Spring... **Alice Hagemeyer** (former ILDA Secretary) was named to the National Library Advocacy Honor Roll during the American Library Association's Annual Conference on July 7th in Chicago.



55th Wedding Anniversary...

Mr. & Mrs. Lyman Smiley celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary in June. They are members of Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Austin, TX. The couple are resident of LaVista, a retirement community for Deaf Senior Citizens, San Marcos, TX.

Regional Conference Reports...



Northwest Region Report...

NW-ILDA 2000 Conference and Montana Deaf Camp, Big Fork, MT

This summer was the presence of the worst western firestorm since 1910. But, seventy-nine people bravely drove across the smoky mountains and valleys to enjoy a pleasant four-day weekend fellowship during August 17-20 at Trinity Lutheran Camp on Flathead Lake in western Montana. It was hosted by the great members of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Great Falls, Montana as the ILDA Northwest Region Conference was included with the plans of the Montana Deaf Camp.

Along with the daily devotions and Bible studies, there were enjoyable times for fun in playing cards, canoeing, swimming, ping pong, etc. The regional conference and the Christ Lutheran Church voters meeting were planned at different dates.

Paster Bill Ludwig led an inspirational Bible Study: "Who is God." Some 87 people attended from the four state/two province area Deaf Lutheran churches.

Greg Desroisers from Vancouver, B.C., Canada stepped up as new regional President from out-going President Gary Anderson from Edmonton, Alberta, Canada and will be assisted by newly elected officers. They are:

President - Greg Desroisers, Vancouver, B.C.
President-elect - James Allen, Missoula, MT
Secretary - Linda Desroisers, Vancouver, B.C.
Treasurer - Elmer Francisco, Spokane, WA
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Hank Drummond,
Great Falls, MT

Rev. Hank Drummond was raised in a family working in their restaurant business. He and his valuable cooks/volunteers did a wonderful job planning the meals. The members of Christ Lutheran Church for the Deaf did a wonderful job planning the weekend! Thanks be to God!



Photos sent by Larry Gorton from the Northwest Region Conference.

Midwest ILDA Report...

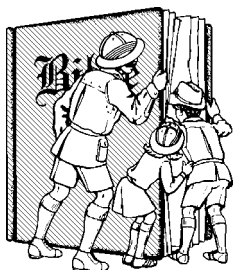
Held at Black Forest Camp in Colorado Springs, CO on June 23-25. 70 people from Colorado, South Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and other attended. Rev. Clark Bailey (now living in California) was guest speaker. "Faith, It's The Way To Life", "Mountain Top Experiences" and other lessons were given.

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

President - Glenda Haefner, Kansas
Vice-President - Barbara Zimmerman, Iowa
Secretary - Sherri Johnson, Colorado
Treasurer - Ron Nester, Kansas
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Cory Eckstrom
Archivist Historian - Glenda Haefner, Kansas

Latest Breaking News...

Dr. Mark Prowatzke was selected to receive the prestigious "Seeds of Hope" Award, which is awarded annually by Wheat Ridge Ministries, on December 5th, 2000.



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

- Sail on the Sea of Galilee
- Visit Nazareth, Bethlehem and Capernaum
- Wade into the Jordan River
- Swim in the Dead Sea
- Tour the Old City of Jerusalem
- See the place David and Goliath fought
- Walk on the Mount of Olives
- Enter the Garden Tomb
- See the Place of the Skull where Jesus was crucified
- Worship God at the Temple Mount in Jerusalem
- plus many more sites!!

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

If interested, please contact:

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



The Church Elder...

What is a church elder? Does it mean someone who is older than anyone else? No. A church elder is someone who is spiritually strong and has a good understanding of the Bible. Our church constitution says, "The elders will assist and support the pastor in ministering to the spiritual needs of the congregation and its individual members. Under the pastor's direction, the elders have the duties of supervision of public worship, church discipline and church publications."

The elders are available to help you:

- 1) with any spiritual problems you may be facing,
- 2) make peace among members of the congregation,
- 3) with understanding the Bible,
- 4) start a small group Bible study in your home.

Please feel free to contact your church elders if you think they could be helpful to you.

*From Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf,
Austin, TX September-October newsletter*





Looking for something?

1-888-THE-LCMS
(Toll-free 1-888-843-5267)

e-mail:
infocenter@lcms.org

Church Information Center



Organizations...

Mill Neck...

The Mill Neck Family of Organizations exists to enhance the quality of life for people who are Deaf, or who have other special needs, through excellence in individually designed educational, vocational or spiritual programs and services. We have been offering love, care and assistance for generations. <http://www.millneck.org>

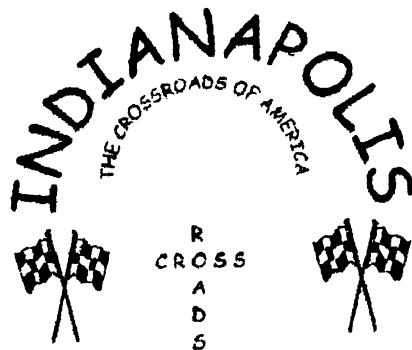
Wheat Ridge...

New ministries can be seeded in many ways. At Wheat Ridge, resources are invested in three seeding activities. A variety of grant programs assist congregations and agencies who are beginning new health-related ministries. Wheat Ridge also engages people with similar interests in conversation and activities related to health ministry. Last, but not least, Wheat Ridge provides and supports activities which equip people for involvement in health ministry. <http://www.wheatridge.org>

CCPD...

Christian Council on Persons with Disabilities can be contacted through **CCPD, 7120 W. Dove Ct., Milwaukee, WI 53223** for information, membership, and newsletters. CCPD is open to individuals and organizations who support CCPD's Evangelical Statement of Faith.

**Indianapolis
2001 ILDA
June 21-24,
2001**



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

For more information or registration forms, contact: Peace Lutheran Deaf Church, 6404 E. 46th St., Indianapolis, IN 46226.



Lutheran Deaf Camp 2000...

...was held in two separate weeks at two separate camps. All together we had almost 80 children in camp. The first week of camp was held at Camp El Camino Pines near Frazier Park. The second week of camp was held at Camp Yolijsa near Yucaipa. Pastor Brian Smith, Pastor Roy Dahmann, and Pastor Don Leber led the camps. Also the following staff assisted with the teaching of the children: Ms Denise Manning, Mr Charlie Kotal, Mrs LeeAnn Kotal, Mr Cliff Combs, Mrs Louise Ellison, Mr Jared Ellison, Ms Stephanie Ellison, Mrs Susan Longoria, Mrs Kathy Perkins, and Mr Leo Perkins.

The children enjoyed such activities as Bible Study, Singing, Archery, Water Balloon Volleyball, Swimming, Hiking, Crafts, Snacks, etc.

Every day snacks were provided by Cathy and Leo Perkins. Snacks included a cold drink and a candy bar. Our deepest thanks go to Cathy and Leo and all the other people that made donations to make this year's camp a great success.

*If you would like to help with Lutheran Deaf Camp 2001, send your donations to: **Lutheran Deaf Camp 2001, 15416 Faith Street, Fontana, CA 92336.***



Editor's note: The above photos were downloaded from the web site. They are of very low resolution, so this is the best I could do.

For a better view of the photos, please visit...

<http://www.psw.lcms.org/Deaf%20Ministry/Pilgrim%20Torch.htm>



Lutheran Deaf Camp 2001...

Lutheran Deaf Camp Week

Aug. 5-10, 2001 at Oak Glen, CA

ONE FUN FILLED PACKED WEEK FOR DEAF CHILDREN AND HEARING CHILDREN WITH DEAF PARENTS OR ONE HEARING SIBLING OF THE DEAF CAMPER.

The camp is sponsored by the Lutheran Churches of the Deaf. This year we will require a \$50 Registration Deposit. We will try to find scholarships for those children needing them. It costs us \$225 per child for the week of camp. Every deaf child will be accepted. WE HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF BEDS, so please register NOW! **DEADLINE IS MAY 1, 2001.**

Lutheran Deaf Camp 2001, 15416 Faith Street, Fontana, CA 92336.

Lutheran Deaf Camp...

We are searching for camp sponsors for the deaf children who will be attending our camp program next summer. The cost for one child to attend the week of camp is \$200. During the week of camp we will take a picture of the child that you sponsor and have that child send you a nice Thank You note along with our Camp brochure. Our all volunteer staff want to make it the best camping experience for the children so we will again be soliciting the input from the children that attend and their parents at the end of camp. *If you want to be a Camp Sponsor, then contact Pastor Leber at: 15416 Faith Street, Fontana, CA 92336. (909) 823-2468.*



Pastor and Mrs. Leber Enjoy a Cruise to Bermuda...

Bermuda is a small island about 700 miles from New York City in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Bermuda is so nice because the warm waters of the Gulf Stream keep the temperature at a warm degree. We sailed on the Nordic Empress cruise ship. It was a beautiful trip for 1 and 1/2 days to Bermuda. We spent four days on the island and took in some of the sights.

We discovered that other countries are not ready for handicapped people as the United States is. Bermuda had narrow streets and very narrow sidewalks. Most stores had tall steps to get into them.

The dolphin show was wonderful as well as the glass bottom boat tour. We enjoyed several trolley train rides around the island. Ask Karen to show you her anniversary gift. I enjoyed the treatment as a king on the ship.

I would recommend a cruise in the future, if you are ever planning a vacation. And I would give high praises to the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines for their service.

From the Pilgrim Torch, by Pastor Leber

<http://www.psw.lcms.org/Deaf%20Ministry/Pilgrim%20Torch.htm>

Mill Neck Manor Deaf Camp

During the last full week of August, the minds of 18 campers were far away from going back to school. Not quite ready to write those, "What I Did Over My Summer Vacation" essays, children attending Mill Neck Deaf Camp swam, fished, canoed, and got down and dirty – not just from making S'mores, but also from hiking and so much more. The camp, held from August 20 to 26,



Campers go exploring on the last day of camp, at Mill Neck Deaf Camp in Bear Mountain, NY.

at Camp Ma-He-Tu in Bear Mountain, New York was sponsored by Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry.

Aside from campers and some counselors being Deaf, this camp was like any other sleepaway experience. The first afternoon of camp began with a hike around the campsite to orient campers with the campground. After settling in, campers cooked hot dogs and S'mores around a bonfire to kick off the week of activity. Campers and the five counselors then went around and introduced themselves, their name sign, and said what they wanted to be when they grew up.

The campers, ages 8-12, were from schools for the Deaf, including Mill Neck Manor and White Plains School for the Deaf. This was the eighth year of operation for Mill Neck's Deaf Camp and its third summer at Camp Ma-He-Tu.

Over the week, campers did arts & crafts, played games and did team building activities. Building community was one of the major goals of the camp. Campers were divided into four groups,

where each group took turns setting-up and cleaning-up for meals and other tasks, to promote teamwork. "We wanted to show that the focus is that you're here as part of a family," said Barbara Lanman, the camp's director.

Campers played team-building games like "Amoeba" where students, tied together in a huddle with string, had to get from place to place without falling. They also used "Buddy Walkers." Pairs of campers moved in cooperation with one another in order to transport themselves on two planks the size of skateboards without wheels.

The other goal of the camp, in which part of the curriculum is to teach Christian values and beliefs, was to spotlight on forgiveness. For many campers, Mill Neck Deaf Camp was their first time away from home and the first time they spent a significant amount of time with a large group of other people. Campers' nerves and patience were tested at times, but Lanman and Pastor William Wrede, Deaf Mission Developer for the New York Metro area, went over the meaning of forgiveness with campers. One evening, learning more about forgiveness, campers wrote their "sins" on pieces of paper and threw them into a lit fireplace. Throughout the night, while other activities and games went on, campers returned to the fire with more and more pieces of paper to be thrown in.

The end of camp came too quickly. On the last full day of camp, a beautiful clear and sunny day, campers and counselors hiked into the mountains. The kids quickly discovered the freedom and joys of exploring, as they, cautious at first, but then more freely, turned over rocks, climbed, played with bugs and splashed in streams.

Contrasting to the day's energetic activity, the last night was a time of reflection. Campers gathered around a bonfire by the waterfront, and each had a candle standing in a pie plate. Lit with fire from the bonfire's flame, the candles were sent off floating across the water. Symbolic of the campers' "lights" going forth for others to see Lanman hopes that campers will be like the candles and "take what they learned at camp to go out and touch other people's lives."

Campers certainly had much to share about what they learned. On the first day of school at Mill Neck Manor, students readily talked about what they did at camp. Of course, with such a fun-filled week, who wouldn't?

Web Sites to Visit...

LCMS Deaf Ministry Locations: <http://members.aol.com/revrmoody/deafministriesFrameSet.html> (This page links to Deaf ministries of the the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) and/or Congregations that serve deaf people and/or a deaf service organizations of the LC-MS. You can find out about their services and much more: links to maps for that church, E-Mail addresses and WEB Home pages.)

The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod's homepage: <http://www.lcms.org>

Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Los Angeles, CA web site: <http://www.psw.lcms.org/Deaf%20Ministry/Pilgrim%20Torch.htm>

For Bibles: www.americanbible.com and [www.bible tutor](http://www.bible tutor.com)

ILDA Cleveland 1999 Convention: <http://hometown.aol.com/thedeaf Lutheran/CleveILDA/Cleve99.html>

AAL's homepage: www.aal.org

Check your credit history for a fee of \$8.00: www.experian.com

Social Security news and information: www.ssa.gov



Update on Counselor for Deaf Missions

Recently, **Pastor Ron Friedrich** (TX) took over, on a part-time interim basis, Dr. Ryneason's position as Counselor for Deaf Missions. His first memo to the pastors in the field noted that "there is a lot of pain, some from you who are facing uncertainties either in your congregations or in your Districts. Synod staff is also experiencing the pain of cut budgets, reorganization, and layoffs."

Then he requests your prayers, and I think we, as a congregation, should join in these prayers...

"Please pray for each other. And pray for the Church with whom we serve. Paul instructs us to pray for kings and all in authority.' This would also include prayer for leadership in the church.

Pray for upcoming District Conventions.

Pray that God would send badly needed volunteer staff for deaf VBS and children's camps.

Pray for your flock.

Pray by name for those who do not yet confess the name of Jesus.

Pray for our students in training for deaf ministry. Pray that more students will become interested in serving the deaf.

Pray for the brothers whose ministries have been curtailed due to physical disabilities.

Pray for the deaf congregations and Districts seeking pastoral leadership (New Jersey, St. Augustine, Rochester, Madison, Des Moines, Maryland).

Pray for guidance to those in authority for the selection of the new Counselor for Deaf Missions."

In September, the Task Force on Deaf Missions met in St. Louis to discuss candidates for the office of Counselor for Deaf Missions. This Task Force presently consists of Rev. Jerry Munz (IN) as Chairman, Rev. Davis Carstens (OR), Mrs. Paula Willig (Interpreter), James Swalley (ILDA President-elect) and Don Peterson (representing teachers). Eight men had been nominated. Several declined. The Task Force debated the merits of each candidate and submitted its recommendations to the Board for Missions. Now this Board will select 2 or 3 candidates to be interviewed, and then a final selection will be made (hopefully soon). What complicates matters is that the person getting this position must not only serve as Counselor to pastors to the deaf throughout the nation, but must also direct the Deaf Institute of Theology (D.I.T.). As D.I.T. Director, he answers to the Seminary, while as Counselor, he answers to the Board for Missions. Pray for him.

Another memo came from **Rev. Daryl Gehlbach**, concerning Eric Plunkett, the student who was killed at Gallaudet recently. Pastor Gehlbach's church had hosted the Minnesota School for the Deaf's baccalaureate service last June, and the victim took an active part in that service. He was a very well-liked young man. Pray for him, and also for the person who killed him.

By Don Peterson, Editor, Mustard Seed, November 2000
Christ Lutheran Church-Deaf, Silver Spring, MD

News from Macau...

From: Sara McKinney

Hi! The time has flown by since I've returned from the States. It's great to be back. Concordia School for Special Education (CSSE) is in its full swing of a new school year in our brand new school. The students are really liking the school. They all say it is so much cleaner and bigger than the old one. We had a nice opening service led by Rev. Mike Paul on the first day of the school (Sept. 4th). Ribbon cutting has been put off until sometime in November. We want an official from the Macau Government to be here for it and some former missionaries to witness the celebration. Thanks to everyone who contributed and said prayers for the new school.

Please continue to pray for some of the students who have problems at home. For some students it seems to have gotten worse. They have problems communicating their wants and needs to their parents. And they feel they are not important in their family. I have a student who has been asking me if she could move to America and live with a Christian Family and finish school at a Deaf School. If any of you have any ideas about this, please contact me. In the meantime keep them all in your prayers.

A lot of people have asked me about how Diana Lei is doing at Gallaudet. She is doing real good in the English Language Institute. She seems to be enjoying her classes. Diana says she's learning lots and slowly getting used to the American Culture and food, although she says she could do without the college cafeteria food. :o) If you wish to contribute to her college fund, please contact Rev. Thomas Dunseth at tdunseth@juno.com or Diane Meyer, DCE, at djmeyer@uslink.net.

We have started a new Sunday School program at our St. Paul Mission Station church. Another step of achieving our goal of making St. Paul an independent church in Macau. We've had a lot of new people joining the Sunday school classes. Pray for the church to continue growing.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support and pray for me. Your support has enabled me to teach God's words to the Deaf Children in Macau. If you wish to send monetary donations you may do so to:

**First Evang. Lutheran Church
% Macau Mission
735 NE 1st. Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744**

(Macau is a former Portuguese colony off the coast of China. It is now under Chinese rule. Jennifer Kaack served there before Sara. **Who is next??**)

From Mustard Seed, November 2000
Christ Lutheran Church-Deaf, Silver Spring, MD



What Money Can Buy & Can't...

Money can buy a house, but not home.
Money can buy medicine, but not health.
Money can buy fun, but not happiness.
Money can buy sex, but not love.
Money can buy a church, but not heaven.

By Mary Etta Mowl

Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI)

Dear Friends of Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI)

We are happy to announce that Concordia Theological Seminary (CTS), Fort Wayne, Indiana has a deaf man as a student. There is a great need for pastor to the Deaf. The LCMS has 14 vacancies. Some gentlemen are getting close to retirement. Several have taken calls to hearing churches. There is also a need to train the Deaf to Pastor the Deaf.

Here at CTS, there is three courses in Deaf Ministry which consist in a lot more than just sign language. Deaf Culture and special skills as required for the Deaf are just a few things which are taught in addition to sign language.

This year we have 9 persons in the Deaf ministry class. This is double compared to previous years. We have two others who are planning to take the class. We have four sure committed to being pastors to the Deaf. Our deaf student being one of them.

As you know, Seminary education is expensive. Synod, though established with the objective to train pastors, now regularly cuts the amount given to the Seminaries. At the rate it is going, soon there will be no monies from Synod. Something should be done about this but that is another letter.

I would like to invite any of you, if the Spirit so moves you, to pray about sending a contribution to the Interpreter's Fund c/o CITI, to Concordia Theological Seminary. There are two of us on staff who are interpreters, but we work in other jobs most of the time. Hence we are needing to hire a third person to assist with the interpreting for the Deaf student. Next year we hope to have two Deaf people taking classes. There is a NEED for funding the interpreting at the Seminary.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely in Christ,
The Rev. David S. Bush, Director CITI
Pastor/Missionary to the Deaf

Via Snail Mail: CITI Interpreter's Fund, Concordia Theological Seminary, 6600 N. Clinton Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. 219-452-2181

Outreach Bible Study...

St. John's Lutheran Church for the Deaf begins outreach Bible study in the home of an unchurched family.

St. John's has been trying to come up with ways to get people to church. However, getting them to church has not been very successful. After Pastor Bush attended the Church Planning Seminary in Texas the past February, St. John's began to plan different strategies. The home Bible study is not underway. We pray that this new endeavor will expand the kingdom of God to the Deaf in the greater Fort Wayne area.

DEAF MAN Attends Fort Wayne Seminary.

Mark Eherlichmann has been taking Greek for the first semester this fall at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Pastor Bush and Gail Quick, the interpreters, had to learn to fingerspell in the Greek language. Mark is married to Anne and as of yet, has no children. Mark, deaf but raised oral, is hoping to become a pastor to the Deaf.

Mark moved to Fort Wayne from St. Paul Minnesota after assisting with Pastor Gelhback for several years. Mark was as student at Concordia, St. Paul where he will have a bachelor's degree in the area of Deaf studies.

Though the Greek lanugo is difficult, Mark is doing well and enjoys attending class and St. John's Lutheran Church for the Deaf where is presently doing his field work under the supervision of the Rev. David S. Bush.

CITI: Another year of Success...

CITI had another good year and is now planning the 2001 Summer program which will begin at the end of June. Dates to be announced soon. Professor Seleska, who has been doing the Christology Course is retiring this year and may not be able to assist us at CITI. He has taught for CITI for almost 15 years. This past year, Rev. Bud Palmer and his wife, Johanna assisted at CITI along with Pastors Robert Wurst (Evansville, IN), Jerry Munz (Indianapolis, IN), Prentice Marsh (Chicago, IL). Gail Quick and Heidi Mueller assisted the Rev. David S. Bush, Director with the planning and execution of this past year. Deaconess Jennie Waters also assisted with instruction for two weeks.

For 2001, Pastor Bush hope to involve others from the rosters of Pastors for the Deaf. CITI will be providing some of the interpreters for the ILDA convention in 2001 in Indianapolis. The goal of CITI is to train lay people and pastors to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Deaf and to assist the pastors of churches to reach out to Deaf people.

Kansas Deaf Ministries...

by Glenda Haefner, Task Force

LOST - Many Deaf people have quit going to church for lack of interpreted service or a pastor that can sign. The Deaf Ministry Committee for the Kansas District is looking for deaf people and also CODAs (Children of Deaf Adults). We are hoping you can help us find some of these people especially in the Kansas City and Wichita areas. If you know of any deaf people in your community pay them a visit- remember to always have a pad and pencil handy so you can communicate with them.

St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 330 N Sunset, Manhattan, KS had their first deaf interpreted service on Saturday, September 30th at 11:00 am. From 12:00-4:00 the deaf socialize at the Food Court in the Mall. They plan on having services once a month on the last Saturday of the month. The month of November the services will be on the 18th and in December on the 16th due to the holidays.

Ernest and Nila Haefner have been working on getting more churches to start interpreted services. Please feel free to contact them if you know of any deaf people. You can reach them at 785-396-4483, FAX: 785-396-4462, or by e-mail: eohaefner@bluevalley.net

Kansas District LCMS

Homes for Deaf History and Awareness...

By Alice L. Hagemeyer, Founder

Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action (FOLDA)

On October 26 and 27, 2000, the Friends of Libraries for Deaf Action (FOLDA) and also the Nebraska Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing had their booth during the library conference in Omaha. FOLDA used the theme "Let's Take Deaf History Seriously" for its exhibition.

During the two busy days, many booth visitors took the opportunity to gain insight into and appreciation of the many fine books and ASL videotapes related to deaf history and awareness. A few visitors did take deaf history seriously asking many questions.

They all agreed that library systems in Nebraska, as well as in other rural states, should be encouraged to help preserve deaf history and to show the importance of American Sign Language to the public. Brent Welsch, president of the Nebraska Association of the Deaf, has said that the time is now

for the deaf community to show support for local public library systems. Linsay Darnall, Jr, president of the Nebraska School for the Deaf Alumni Association, recognizes the timely urgency of this since the Nebraska legislature recently closed the Nebraska School for the Deaf. Such school students are now mainstreamed with sign language interpreters in their home area.

Actually, it is up to the people of Nebraska to ensure that their local public library systems provide quality resources on these topics and that they effectively serve ALL people in their jurisdictions, regardless of hearing status.

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Nebraska Library Commission are interested in cooperating to further these goals.

The White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services Task Force (WHCLIST) and the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) are also counting on both deaf and library communities to come up with practical solutions for the nation's public libraries, to assist them in providing quality library and information services to all people connected with hearing loss and ASL.

FOLDA will keep both deaf and library communities posted.

Incidentally, FOLDA will have its exhibition (Table 147) in the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. during the annual midwinter meeting of the **American Library Association on January 11 through 15, 2001**. Three FOLDA-USA members, myself, Karen Steffer-Tucker, and Chris Wixtrom, will be exhibitors. Hope to see you there!

TAKING AIM

A young lady named Sally, relates an experience she had in a seminary class, given by her teacher, Dr. Smith. She says Dr. Smith was known for his elaborate object lessons.

One particular day, Sally walked into the seminary and knew they were in for a fun day. On the wall was a big target and on a nearby table were many darts. Dr. Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone that they disliked or someone who had made them angry, and he would allow them to throw darts at the person's picture. Sally's girlfriend drew a picture of a girl who had stolen her boyfriend. Another friend drew a picture of his little brother. Sally drew a picture of a former friend, putting a great deal of detail into her drawing, even drawing pimples on the face. Sally was pleased at the overall effect she had achieved.

The class lined up and began throwing darts, with much laughter and hilarity. Some of the students threw their darts with such force that their targets were ripping apart. Sally looked forward to her turn, and was filled with disappointment when Dr. Smith, because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats. As Sally sat thinking about how angry she was because she didn't have a chance to throw any darts at her target, Dr. Smith began removing the target from the wall.

Underneath the target was a picture of Jesus...

A complete hush fell over the room as each student viewed the mangled picture of Jesus; holes and jagged marks covered His face and His eyes were pierced.

Dr. Smith said these words, "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." No other words were necessary; the tear-filled eyes of each student focused only on the picture of Christ.

"And the King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.'" Matthew 25:40

— **Author Unknown**

Dear Editor...

You mentioned that the first "Star and Stripes" was made by Sara Austin and the Ladies' Aid Society of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Philadelphia? It was presented to John Paul Jones and received the first salute to the Star Spangled Banner in Europe. It is now in the National Museum in Washington, D.C.

I am a docent at the American History Museum for eight years. I give public tours for the hearing and deaf visitors. When you are in Washington, DC., I will be glad to give you a tour.

However, I am obligated to straighten out the error related to the American Flag. What the American Flag housed in the American History is the Star Spangler Banner whose Francis Scott Keys dedicated the poem to the battle flag in Fort McHenry near Baltimore, MD. This flag was made by widow Mrs. Pickersall and her daughter at the request of Army Major George Armistead who wanted to show the British Navy how strong our Country was by flying the huge flag on the hill by the sea. The original poem was changed to the tune of song we sing. The American Flag is now in American History Laboratory to clean and re sew the stitches very fragile material and will be display in the glass case in 2002.

Very truly yours, Bonnie H. White

Editor's note: *Bonnie is referring to the column "Did You Know That..." in The Deaf Lutheran, Summer 2000 issue, page 3.*

Detroit Deaf Lutheran School Class Reunion...

David Naumann (class of '62) of Houston, TX and I (class of '62) drove from Cleveland, OH to South Higgin Lake, Roscommon, MI, for the Lutheran School's reunion weekend camping on June 30-July 2, 2000. About 17 former students has attended this reunion.

On the way to camp, David and I stopped at the old school building in Detroit. The whole area has changed. We met our old friend, Allan Powell (class of '63) in Bay City, MI.

We all had a great time, chat and look at old pictures!

By Larry Ginter, Deaf Lutheran Business Manager



Group on boat ride.



*Below left to right:
Sonja Lyon Miller '64,
Larry Ginter '62, Bonnie
Taylor Kasper '64 and
David Naumann '62.*

Want Clean Healthy Air?

Our homes contain carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, formaldehyde (kitchen counter tops) and fumes from cooking. To clean up these pollutants, the NASA suggests that the hardy spider plant, among other plants, can help produce cleaner, healthier air. Foliage from plants can reduce the formaldehyde in a typical house up to 85% over a 6 hour period, while also absorbing carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide pollutants in the house. So go out and get some of those healthy plants for your home.

(If you have cats, watch out! They like to play with this plant. Editor)

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