



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

Fall 2014

St. Louis, MO

Vol. 103, No. 4

From the Pastoral Advisor



Greetings from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada!

It has become almost commonplace to note that Canada is not the nation it once was. You, fellow American neighbours may have been aware of the challenging change Canadians have faced politically, socially, and militarily up to date after one century five decades (150 years) of peace. The fact is, most Canadians were shocked and stunned by an Islamic-converted Canadian who shot an innocent soldier in front of Parliament Hill several days ago. Even, a number of young Muslim Canadians have sneaked to Middle East to join the militant and barbaric Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) army against the Christians, Kurds, and several different Islamic sects like Sunni and Shiites. The Canadian government has begun to revoke passports and to ban the returning Canadian Muslims home. Nevertheless, Christians in Canada are learning what it means to suffer for Christ. Here and there the rising tide of intolerance towards traditional Christianity is something we must learn to bear with God's grace. Time comes to us to defend the right of Christians to speak anywhere since Canada is changing undoubtedly. Even our past century has seen challenges but there is no point at looking back to a good old past. We have to wait for glorious good news as Christ promised! Let God keep our land, especially North America in our faith.

Aside of the above, I am thinking of a wonderful thing from God for writing down this report. When

Christmas is approaching fast, we must know that God gave us a pure and simple gift. Culturally, we are busy looking for the good Christmas gift for our loved one. Traditionally, Christians celebrate God giving the gift of His Son to save us from our sinful life. One time I stopped and snooped at a Christian sale vendor table in the shopping mall and a gentleman asked me if there was anything I needed, but I told him it is not necessary. Suddenly, the excited gentleman signed "JESUS-LOVE-YOU" to me clearly and I responded to him with my head bow, open-wide eyes, and a gentle smile. This is a simple gift from him to me. What we are dealing with here is an unmerited gift from God. One of my colleague pastors asked me whether I have thought about God calling us into His family. Imagine what would happen if I invited people whom I really do not get along with, to become part of my family, open my heart and love them as if they were my own children. That's nothing compared to what God did for us in Jesus Christ. Jesus is not interested in what we do but He is interested in who we are, whose we are and how our lives reflect *His* love, not our own love.

God's forgiveness that reconnects us with Him is a free gift. That's how God gives us a real gift. All we do is receive it since "God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him." This reading comes from John 3:16-17.

God bless you, all with His pure and simple love.

Rev. Gregory Desrosiers

gdesrosiers1@shaw.ca

From the President



President's Note:

Greetings from not so hot but sort of cooler, sunny Pflugerville, Texas!

Believe it or not, it is almost time for us to prepare for the holidays – Thanksgiving and Christmas!

Are you almost done with Christmas shopping yet? Not

me – I haven't started – maybe just a little, especially when I see some good sale on things I wish to purchase for gifts. By the way, I could hardly believe when I saw all the Christmas decorations and things for sale in September, way before Halloween!!!! As I recall, while I was growing up in Minnesota, Christmas commercials didn't start until a day after Thanksgiving. Are we losing the true meaning of Christmas?

Now, we are living in a troubled world, so full of sin, such as greed, hatred, illness (plagues, etc.), selfishness, envy, lies, killings, gossip, wars (ISIS fighters), rumors of wars, oppressions, poverty, etc.

I would like to add to Pastor Desrosiers' comment about the Ebola outbreak in W. Africa being a real threat to the world population that appeared in the Summer 2014 Deaf Lutheran newsletter. We have an endless list of world problems including terrorist attack, such as ISIS fighters, killing innocent people, war ravages countries leaving graves, widows and orphans, earthquakes and tsunamis leaving thousands of victims in their wake, etc. As I must admit, I am very astonished at our government for allowing people from W. Africa to come here, instead of banning them from traveling. Remember God wants true Christians like us not to panic but put our complete trust in Him and pray constantly! We need to walk by faith and live in confidence. Here is one of my favorite verses that continues reminding me every time when I become discouraged as God has made a promise in Roman 8:28: *"And we know that in all things God works together for good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."* This verse means that God will take care of all the events or situations in our lives, including bad things such as disasters, diseases, trials, etc. and bring out the good of them. We need to remember that those bad things do not come from God, but they are the results of our sins.

As Thanksgiving Day is approaching quickly, let us say, "Thank you, God!" – not only for our bountiful feast on that day, but every day in our life! We should always show our gratitude to Him for all

His blessings including our basic needs (food, home, clothing) that we receive. But, the most important of all, we are most thankful for the best Christmas gift from Him, His only Son, Jesus! It is about God's loving gift of His only Son – about His forgiveness, peace, joy, hope, and most of all, love. His gift for us is His life, death and resurrection in this life and the next, which is eternal life!

Our 23rd Biennial ILDA Convention will be held in 2015 in Madison, Wisconsin. Don't miss the registration form and schedule in this newsletter. I'm strongly encouraging you all to plan on attending and our prayers are with the host committee that God's blessings may go with them as they work hard to prepare for the convention!

Let us celebrate Christ's birth with joining together joyfully,

"Rejoice! Our Savior Is Born! Rejoice!"

May our Loving Lord Jesus so richly bless you all!

Carol Seeger, ILDA President

cseeger@utexas.edu

Necrology Report

If you know of any ILDA members who have passed away since the 2013 Austin, Texas convention please send pictures and obituaries to:

Diane Francisco

13320 E. Mission Ave. Apt. 252
Spokane Valley, WA 99216-2770



Photo taken at the Executive Board Meeting in Madison, WI in June 2014. Pictured are: Rev. Daryl Gehlbach (Pastor Advisor pro tem for Rev. Greg Desrosiers who was unable to attend), Patrick Sell, Rev. Tim Eckert, Carol Seeger, Becky Jungklaus and John Mason.

ILDA Officers

International Officers (2013-2015)

President – Carol Seeger
Pres. Elect – John Mason
Secretary – Becky Jungklaus
Treasurer Pro Tem – Patrick Sell
Pastor Advisor – Rev. Greg Desrosiers

Central Region (2014-2016)

President – Dawn Polzin
V. President – Albert Moore
Secretary – Betty Jo Lucero
Treasurer – Paul Lucero
Pastor Advisor – Rev. Tom Phillips

Midwest Region (2014-2016)

President – Ronald Nester
V. President – Janet Gehlbach
Secretary – Dorene Sell
Treasurer – Bill Zimmerman
Pastor Advisor – Rev. Daryl Gehlbach

Northwest Region (2014-2016)

President – Richard Sharp
President Elect – Patricia Jenkins
Secretary – Diane Francisco
Treasurer – Gary Wilson
Pastor Advisor – Rev. David Nielsen

Dixie Region

Not active

Great Lakes Region (2014-2016)

President – Deacon John Rushton
President Elect – Stephen Rute
Secretary – Karen Beiter
Treasurer – JoAnna Rushton
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Gary Lawson

Eastern Region

President – Carolyn Mason
V. President – vacant
Secretary – Lorrey Padon
Treasurer – vacant
Pastor Advisor - Rev. Ron Friedrich

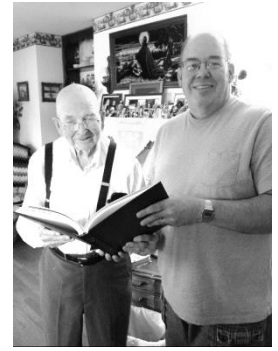
Pacific Region

Not active

Please send any corrections or updates to the editors.



Donald and Mary Mowl



Donald Mowl handing over bound copies of the Deaf Lutheran to Rev. Daryl Gehlbach, Deaf Ministry Historian

ILDA Memberships dues

If you would like to renew your ILDA membership please contact Patrick Sell, 531 First St, Story City, IA 50248-1129 or VP 515-337-0766.

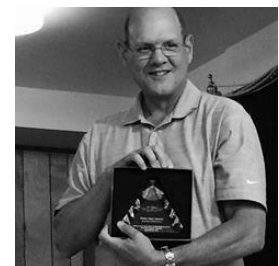
Letters to ILDA members informing them their dues expire were mailed out a couple months ago. Patrick would appreciate you sending your dues to him before December 31, 2014. As always donations to ILDA Mission Projects would be greatly appreciated.

Great Lakes Region honors pastors

Revs. Bergstresser, Lawson, Petzoldt and Deacon Rushton were presented with trophies at the Great Lakes Region conference in September in honor of their years of service in Deaf Ministry. Congratulations and God's blessings to you all!



Rev. Edwin Bergstresser
30 years



Rev. Gary Lawson
30 years



Rev. Shirrel Petzoldt
39 years



Deacon John Rushton
13 Years



23rd Biennial Convention of International Lutheran Deaf Association

July 23-26, 2015 In Madison, Wisconsin

YOUR INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____
 CHURCH: _____

METHOD OF RECEIPT (CHECK ONE)

EMAIL U.S. MAIL
(INCLUDE STAMPED SELF-ADDRESS ENVELOPE)

BRINGING CHILDREN UNDER 18YRS OLD?

YES (HOW MANY? _____) NO
 CHILD CARE? YES NO

SATURDAY BANQUET DINNER CHOICE (CHECK ONE)

- PRIME RIB SALMON
- WELL-DONE CITRUS BUTTER
- MEDIUM CRANBERRY BUTTER
- RARE DIJON BUTTER

NEED INFO BOOTH? YES NO

WANT SPECIAL TOURS? YES NO (SEE CONVENTION INFO)

PLEASE READ THE OTHER PAGE BEFORE SELECTING EARLYBIRD

PLEASE SELECT ONLY WHAT YOU NEED. (IF YOU WANT COMBO, SELECT ONLY FULL COMBO.)	RECEIVED BY 12/31/2014	RECEIVED BY 02/28/2015	RECEIVED BY 04/30/2015	RECEIVED BY 06/15/2015	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> FULL COMBO PACKAGE	\$ 155.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 175.00	\$ 185.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED)	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> THURSDAY DAY EVENT	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 35.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FRIDAY DAY EVENT	\$ 50.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 65.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> SATURDAY DAY EVENT	\$ 75.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 90.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> SUNDAY DAY EVENT	\$ 40.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 55.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> LUNCHEON FOR GOD'S 1000 MEMBERS (OPTIONAL)			ADD	\$ 40.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> ILDA MEMBERSHIP (IF YOU WISH TO BECOME A MEMBER OF ILDA)			ADD	\$ 30.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> OR NON-ILDA MEMBER (IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF ILDA)			ADD	\$ 45.00	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> DONATIONS FOR ILDA ONLY (OPTIONAL)					\$
ENTER THE AMOUNT IN THE "TOTAL" COLUMN, THEN ADD YOUR TOTAL HERE >>					GRAND TOTAL
					\$

BY SIGNING, I HAVE CONFIRMED I HAVE READ THE REGISTRATION POLICY, PAYMENT AND CONVENTION INFORMATION.
 I AM AWARE OF THE CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 15, 2015

TRANSPORTATION

TRAVELING BY

- AIR FLIGHT INFO? _____
WHICH AIRPORT? _____
- CAR
- BUS WHICH TERMINAL? _____
- OTHER _____

NEED SHUTTLE? YES NO

ACCOMMODATION REQUEST?

ILDA 2015 CONVENTION SCHEDULE



WEDNESDAY JULY 22

8:30AM - 5:00PM - EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AT OUR SAVIOR DEAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

THURSDAY, JULY 23

8:30AM - 1:00PM - EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING WITH REGIONAL OFFICERS OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES AT OUR SAVIOR DEAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

1:00PM - 7:00PM - REGISTRATION AT CROWNE PLAZA

4:00PM - - CHECK IN BEGINS AT CROWNE PLAZA

5:00PM - 6:30PM - DINNER ON YOUR OWN AT A LOCAL RESTAURANTS NEARBY

7:00PM - 7:30PM - OPENING DEVOTION BY *DEACONESS DAWN POLZIN*
WELCOME ILDA COMMITTEE / OFFICERS

7:30PM - 8:30PM - BANNER/SKIT COMPETITIONS

8:30PM - 10:00PM - SOCIAL NIGHT "TASTE OF WISCONSIN" AND SELFIE PICTURES
(BRING YOUR CAMERA!)

FRIDAY, JULY 24

7:00AM - 8:00AM - REGISTRATION / BREAKFAST AT CROWNE PLAZA ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

8:10AM - 8:30AM - OPENING DEVOTION BY *DEACONESS LOREENA STENNES*

8:30AM - 9:15AM - BUSINESS MEETING

9:15AM - 9:30AM - BREAK WITH SNACKS ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

9:30AM - 11:45AM - BUSINESS MEETING

12:00PM - 12:50PM - GOD'S 1000 MEMBERS LUNCHEON AT CROWNE PLAZA OR LOCAL RESTAURANTS ON YOUR OWN

1:00PM - 2:15PM - BUSINESS MEETING

2:15PM - 3:15PM - BREAK WITH SNACKS ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

3:30PM - 5:00PM - WORKSHOP ON SPIRITUAL WORLD WITH SPEAKER

5:00PM - 6:45PM - DINNER AT CROWNE PLAZA OR LOCAL RESTAURANTS ON YOUR OWN

6:45PM - 7:00PM - EVENING DEVOTION BY *DEACONESS PAT HYCNAR*

7:00PM - 10:00PM - QUESTION AND ANSWERS WITH SPEAKER / SOCIAL TIME

SATURDAY, JULY 25

7:00AM - 8:15AM - BREAKFAST AT CROWNE PLAZA ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

8:15AM - 8:30AM - OPENING DEVOTION BY *DEACONESS BECKY KING*

8:30AM - 10:00AM - KEYNOTE SPEAKER FROM CREATION MUSEUM (*TBA)

10:00AM - 10:15AM - BREAK

10:30AM - 12:00PM - KEYNOTE SPEAKER FROM CREATION MUSEUM (*TBA)

12:00PM - 1:30PM - LUNCH AT CROWNE PLAZA OR LOCAL RESTAURANTS ON YOUR OWN

1:30PM - 2:30PM - SHOW AND TELL WITH SPEAKER FROM CREATION MUSEUM (*TBA)

2:30PM - 4:30PM - QUESTION AND ANSWER WITH SPEAKER FROM CREATION MUSEUM

4:30PM - 6:00PM - FREE TIME ON YOUR OWN

6:00PM - 10:00PM - EVENING DEVOTION BY *DEACONESS LINDA DESROSNIERS*

BANQUET AND GAME NIGHT / SURPRISE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE OR COLLEGE

FOOTBALL JERSEY! ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

HERE IS SOME OF THE TOPICS FOR THESE WORKSHOP OFFERED BY CREATION MUSEUM AS OUR KEYNOTE SPEAKER ON THIS DAY ARE "WHAT WAS LIFE LIKE DURING CREATION?", "WHY PEOPLE DO NOT BELIEVE THE BIBLE?", "WHY PEOPLE NOT FOLLOW CHRISTIAN VALUES?" & "WHY IS THE WORLD CHANGING?"
FINAL TOPICS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT LATER DATE.

SUNDAY, JULY 26

7:00AM - 8:15AM - BREAKFAST AT CROWNE PLAZA ***(COMBO INCLUDED)***

8:30AM - 9:30AM - BIBLE STUDY "ASK A PASTOR"

9:30AM - 10:00AM - FELLOWSHIP/RESTROOM BREAK

10:00AM - 12:00PM - WORSHIP WITH LORD'S SUPPER / INSTALLATION NEW ILDA OFFICERS

12:00PM - - CHECK OUT ROOMS / GOOD-BYES ***(PREFER SEE YOU LATER!)***

OPTIONAL LOCAL TOURS MAY BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 25 FROM 1:30PM TO 4:30PM (*TBA)

(MAY BE SUBJECTED TO CHANGE AT A LATER DATE)

**TBA = TO BE ANNOUNCED*

23RD ILDA BIENNIAL CONVENTION

REGISTRATION POLICY

EVENTS INFORMATION

FULL COMBO - INCLUDES ALL DAYS LISTED BELOW AND THE REGISTRATION FEE.

THURSDAY - INCLUDES RECEPTION / SOCIAL NIGHT

FRIDAY - INCLUDES BREAKFAST, MEETINGS, SNACKS, AND WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY - INCLUDES BREAKFAST, ALL DAY WORKSHOPS AND BANQUET

SUNDAY - INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND WORSHIP

ALL OF THESE ABOVE TICKETS INCLUDE A PROGRAM BOOK PER PERSON.

OPTIONAL - LUNCHEON FOR GOD'S 1000 IS FOR FRIDAY ONLY AT NOON TO SUPPORT OUR OFFICERS' EXPENSES

DONATIONS - THIS MONEY WILL BE USED SOLELY FOR ILDA'S EXPENSES

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

FOR COMBO TICKETS, CANCELLATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BUT REFUNDS ARE GIVEN IN FULL BEFORE FEBRUARY 28TH, 2015, 50 PERCENT REFUND BEFORE APRIL 30TH, 2015 AND NO CANCELLATIONS AND/OR REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN AFTER MAY 1ST, 2015. THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS GIVEN FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL DAY TICKETS.

BADGES

YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO USE YOUR BADGE THROUGHOUT THE CONFERENCE.

SCHEDULE

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MODIFY THE SCHEDULE, AND MAKE PROGRAMMING CHANGES.

PAYMENT INFORMATION

YOU CAN PAY BY CHECK, MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER'S CHECK BY MAIL OR PAYPAL IN US DOLLARS.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE JUNE 15, 2015
IN ORDER TO REGISTER, PLEASE SEND:

1) A REGISTRATION FORM
(USE ONE FORM FOR EACH PERSON)

2) YOUR PAYMENT CHECK, MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER CHECK PAYABLE TO

OSLDC - ILDA 2015

(FAMILIES MAY COMBINE ALL PAYMENTS ON ONE CHECK, MONEY ORDER OR CASHIER'S CHECK)

3) IF YOU WANT A RECEIPT, ENCLOSE ONE STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

4) MAIL TO THIS ADDRESS BELOW

ILDA 2015 MADISON
C/O DAWN POLZIN
512 FEMRITE DRIVE #16
MONONA, WI 53716

PAYPAL METHOD

YOU MAY USE PAYPAL TO MAKE A PAYMENT, PLEASE USE THIS EMAIL ADDRESS TO MAKE THE PAYMENT TO

ILDAD2015MADISON@GMAIL.COM
AND MAKE SURE YOU ADD 3% TO YOUR TOTAL PAYMENT WHEN SENDING A PAYMENT THROUGH PAYPAL. SCAN YOUR COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND EMAIL TO ILDA2015MADISON@GMAIL.COM FOR PROCESSING YOUR REGISTRATION.

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL
DAWN POLZIN AT 608-234-4674
OR

GREGORY WERTH AT 713 893-5138

CONVENTION INFORMATION

TOURS

SPECIAL TOURS CURRENTLY HAVE A GREEN BAY LAMBEAU FIELD TOUR ON TUESDAY, JULY 22, 2015 BASED ON TOTAL AVAILABILITY OF ATTENDEES. IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CHECK ON REGISTRATION FORM. OR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT JEFF PADON AT 410-608-8053 VP.

LOCAL TOURS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT WWW.ILDA2015.COM.

GROWNE PLAZA HOTEL

THIS HOTEL HAS A BLOCK OF ROOMS RESERVED FOR OUR ATTENDEES AT GROUP RATE OF \$109.00/PER NIGHT IN ALL TYPES OF ROOMS AT YOUR OWN EXPENSES.

THE ROOM CAN BE BOOKED ONLINE AT WWW.ILDA2015.COM AND LOOK FOR BOOK HOTEL LINK OR CONTACT HOTEL AT 608-244-4703 AND USE THIS GROUP CODE "INTERNATIONAL LUTHERAN DEAF ASSOCIATION".

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE HOTEL CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.CPMADISONHOTEL.COM.

OTHER HOTELS

IF YOU WANT TO STAY AT A DIFFERENT HOTEL IN THE AREA, GET MORE INFO FROM OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.ILDA2015.COM. YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN YOUR HOTEL AND THE CONVENTION.

RESTAURANTS

THE MEALS THAT ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION. THERE ARE MANY RESTAURANTS NEARBY WHICH CAN BE FOUND LISTED AT WWW.ILDA2015.COM.

WEBSITE

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ANY FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CONVENTION.
WWW.ILDA2015.COM

**The Deaf Lutheran Subscription
(Print Edition)**

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_____ New

ILDA Mission Projects

Donation\$ _____

Payable to: ILDA Mission Projects

Attach mailing label or fill in:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zipcode _____

Email _____

Phone/VP/Fax _____

Mail to: **Patrick Sell, ILDA Treasurer, 531 First Street, Story City, IA 50248**

(cut on the dotted line)

Deadline for Future issues

Winter 2015 – January 15, 2015

Please send photos, articles and items of interest for future issues of The Deaf Lutheran to:

Rev. Daryl and Janet Gehlbach
305 Liberty St. NE
Fridley MN 55432

Voice: 612-386-4824
VP: 612-424-4747 (Sorenson users)
651-964-3124 (Purple users)

TTY: 763-561-0767

dgehlbach@aol.com
JGehlbach@aol.com



Gregory Werth and Dawn Polzin announce their engagement! Congratulations! The wedding is set for October 10, 2015.



Kevin Catchpole and Rebecca Gentz announce their engagement! Congratulations!



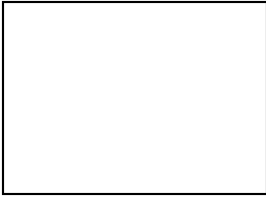
Rev. Gregory Desrosiers was given the “Educator of the Year” award by the Canadian Association Education for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – British Columbia (CAEDHH-BC) on October 24, 2014. Congratulations!



Rev. Bud Palmer (30 years) and Rev. John Reinke (25 years) were honored at their congregations for their many years of service in Deaf Ministry. Congratulations!

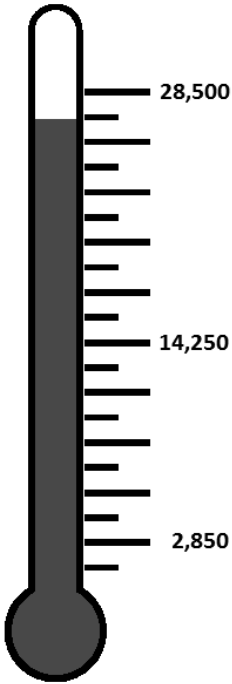
The DEAF LUTHERAN

7910 Severn Tree Blvd.
Severn, MD 21144



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**2015 ILDA Convention
registration, schedule and
information page**



ILDA Treasurer Report
by Patrick R. Sell, Treasurer Pro Tem

The money collected for ILDA mission projects 2013-2015 is now \$ 26,888.78 as of September 30, 2014. This is about 94% of the total needed. Three projects have met their goal. Two more to go. There are 7 months left to raise our goal of \$ 28,500. Deadline for donations is May 31, 2015.
