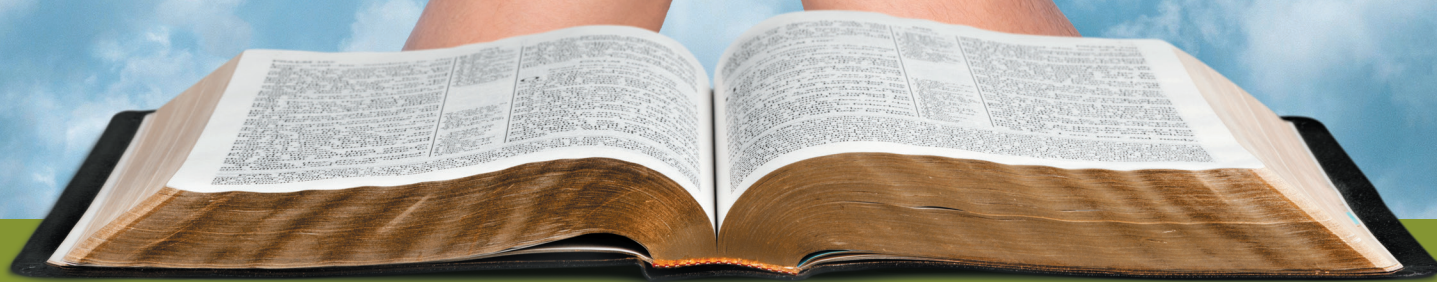


Defending the FAITH

“Always be ready to give a
defense to everyone who ask
you a reason for the hope
that is in you”

1 Peter 3:15



Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf
2024 International Lutheran Deaf Association Convention

July 11 - 14, 2024

Dearborn, Michigan

**Congratulations ILDA
on your 27th Convention!
May God bless you for many more years!**

DeafPah

DeafLITES



Interpreted
Ministry
Support

Ephphatha
Conference

**Lutheran Deaf
Mission Society**

www.DeafJesus.org

World
Missions

Deaf Institute of
Theology (DIT)

Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf

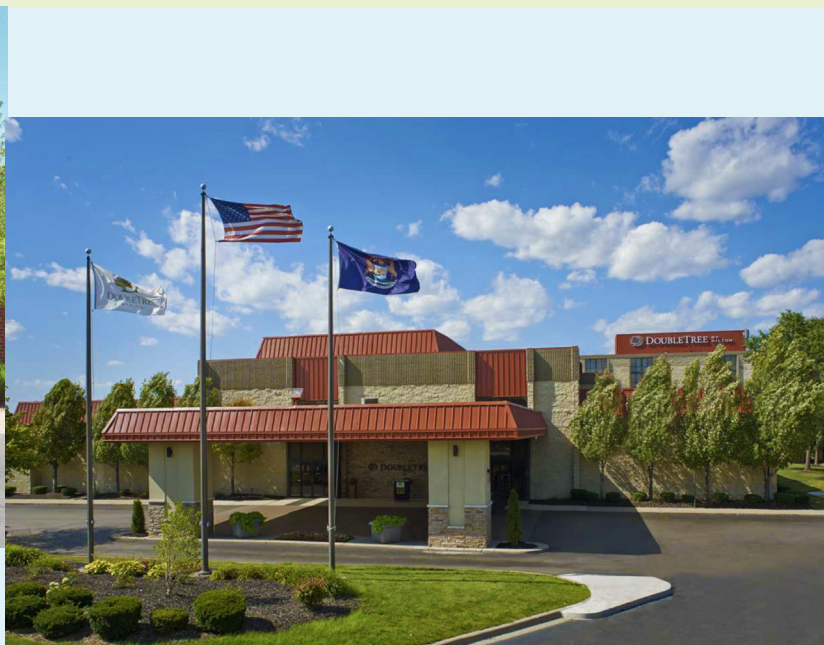
welcomes you to the

2024 International Lutheran Deaf Association Convention

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel
Detroit-Dearborn
July 11 - 14, 2024

Table of Contents

2	ILDA Convention Schedule	18	Biography of Speakers
4	Youth Activities Schedule	22	In the Hotel
5	Child Care	24	Things to do in Detroit/Dearborn
6	Welcome Addresses	25	Wineries and Breweries in Detroit/Dearborn
14	2021 - 2024 ILDA Officers	26	Locally Owned Detroit/Dearborn Restaurants
15	ILDA Committee	27	ILDA Order of Business
17	OSLCD Officers	28	History of ILDA Conventions



ILDA Convention Schedule

Date	Time	Function	Location
Thursday July 11, 2024	1 PM - 5 PM	Registration	Great Room
	5 PM - 6:30 PM	Dinner on your own	Listing of restaurants in the packet
	7 PM - 7:30 PM	Opening Ceremony	Superior
	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Banner/Choir/Skit Competition/ Photo Booth	Superior
	7 PM - 9 PM	Cash Bar and Reception	Superior

Friday July 12, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8:15 AM - 8:45 AM	Devotion	Superior
	8:45 AM - 9 AM	Break	
	9 AM - 9:10 AM	Business Meeting Orientation	Superior
	9:10 AM - 10:20 AM	Business Meeting	Superior
	10:20 AM - 10:30 AM	Break	
	10:30 AM - 11:10 AM	Business Meeting (continued) Unfinished Business Meeting will resume on Saturday at 9 AM	Superior
	11:15 AM - 12:30 PM	Lunch Buffet	Michigan
	12:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Tour of Trinity Lutheran Church Charter bus capacity 56 passengers	Off-site tour at Trinity Lutheran Church
	3:30 PM - 5:20 PM	Session #1 Workshop led by Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller	Superior
	5:30 PM - 6:45 PM	Dinner Buffet	Michigan
	7 PM - 7:30 PM	Devotion	Superior
	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Games - TBA	Superior
8:30 PM - 10 PM	Social Time/Snack	Superior	

Date	Time	Function	Location
Saturday July 13, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8:15 AM - 8:45 AM	Devotion	Superior
	9 AM - 10:30 AM	Deaconess/Deacon Workshop with Rev. Tim Eckert	Model T or Classic
	9 AM - 12 Noon	Business will resume at 9 AM if needed. Session #2 and #3 Workshop will be split equally allotted for each speaker. Rev. Gregory Desrosiers and Rev. Edwin Lot Bergstresser	Superior
	12 Noon - 1 PM	Lunch Buffet	Michigan
	1:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Session #4 Workshop by David Bush	Superior
	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Break	
	5:30 PM	Doors open for Banquet	Michigan
	6 PM	Banquet Program begins, Cash Bar opens	Michigan
	6:30 PM	Banquet dinner is served	Michigan
	7:30 PM - 10 PM	Entertainment	Michigan

Sunday July 14, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	District President of Michigan	Superior
	9:30 AM - 11 AM	Worship/Holy Communion/ Closing Ceremony 2026 ILDA Banner Hand-off Have a safe trip home!	Superior
	1:30 PM - 8 PM	Ephphatha Conference for Pastors and Church Workers	TBA by Pastor Gehlbach

Monday July 15, 2024	9 AM - 12 Noon	Ephphatha Conference	TBA by Pastor Gehlbach
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ILDA Youth Activities Schedule

Date	Time	Function	Location
Thursday July 11, 2024	1 PM - 5 PM	Pick up your Registration Packet with your Parents	Great Room
	5 PM - 6:30 PM	Dinner with your family	
	7 PM - 7:30 PM	Opening Ceremony	Superior
	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM	Banner/Choir/Skit Competition/ Photo Booth	Superior

Friday July 12, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8 AM - 8:45 AM	Board on bus to Detroit Zoo	Lobby
	9 AM - 1:30 PM	Zoo Time (Buddy's Pizza for lunch)	Zoo
	1:30 PM - 2 PM	Board on bus back to Double Tree Hotel	Hotel
	2 PM - 2:30 PM	Break time & visit ILDA booths	Lobby
	2:30 PM - 5 PM	Create witness bracelets for MOST Ministries and ILY gloves activities and swimming (Lifeguard or parent must be present)	Erie
	5:30 PM - 6:45 PM	Dinner Buffet	Michigan
	7 PM - 7:30 PM	Devotion	Superior
	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Games with family/friends and Photo Booth	Superior
	8:30 PM - 10 PM	Social Time/Snack	Superior

Saturday July 13, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8 AM - 9 AM	Work on witness bracelets and ILY gloves activities	Erie
	9 AM - 9:15 AM	Snack	Lobby
	9:15 AM - 9:45 AM	Board on bus to Science Center	Lobby
	10 AM - 2:30 PM	Mind blowing at Science Center	Science Center
	2:30 PM - 3 PM	Board on bus back to Double Tree Hotel	Hotel
	3 PM - 3:30 PM	Break time & visit ILDA booths	Lobby
	3:30 PM - 5 PM	Finish working on witness bracelets and ILY gloves activities	Erie
	6 PM	Banquet Program begins	Michigan
	6:30 PM	Banquet dinner is served	Michigan
	7:30 PM - 10 PM	Entertainment	Michigan

Date	Time	Function	Location
Sunday July 14, 2024	7 AM - 8 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Michigan
	8:30 AM - 9:15 AM	District President of Michigan	Superior
	9:30 AM - 11 AM	Worship/Holy Communion/ Closing Ceremony 2026 ILDA Banner Hand-off Have a SAFE trip home and SEE you in 2026!	Superior

Child Care **Information**

**“Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who ask you a reason for the hope that is in you.”
~ 1Peter 3:15 ~**

Child Care will be provided as noted in the schedule for each day.

Please remember the following:

1. Childcare will be provided in the Erie Room.
2. Children **MUST** be picked up timely. Our volunteers depend on the times between sessions to take a break, eat, use the restroom, and recharge.
3. With the exception of childcare during the banquet, parents are expected to manage meal times. Some snacks will be provided.
4. Please make sure your children have stopped at the restroom on the way to the childcare area.
5. You **MUST** sign in and out of each childcare session. It's important that our volunteers have a way to know exactly who is there at all times.
6. You **MUST** leave a cellphone number at which you can be reached in case of an emergency.
7. Most of all we are looking forward to getting to know your children and having a good time with them.



The International Lutheran Deaf Association

PO Box 434038, St. Louis MO 63143

LutheranDeaf.org



2021-2024 Officers

President

Carol Seeger
cseeger@utexas.edu

President-Elect

Brian Byer
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Secretary

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Historian

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Right-Hand Award Chairperson

Janet Gehlbach
jgehlbach@aol.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the 27th Biennial International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) Convention hosted by Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Beverly Hills, Michigan.

The convention theme is “Defending the Faith” which aligns beautifully with the verse from 1 Peter 3:15 and is sure to inspire and encourage those in attendance by attending workshops, devotions, worship, praying and having fellowship with our Christian brothers and sisters.

On the behalf of ILDA executive board and members, we want to show our great appreciation for the host committee to bid the convention site, especially when we were in an extremely desperate need for it. As we were approaching closer to the 26th ILDA convention in 2021, the host committee of this convention came up to bid to host. It took this committee a little more time to plan and prepare for a convention, including an effort to find a hotel. They have finally managed to book this beautiful hotel in such a short time. **So, let us show our hands in our gratitude to Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf and their hard work to make it a BIG SUCCESS!**

The state of Michigan is located in the Great Lakes region of the Upper Midwestern United States. Michigan shares its borders with Wisconsin to the northwest (in the Upper Peninsula and Indiana and Ohio to the south in the lower Peninsula). Additionally, it's surrounded by Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie to Minnesota (my native home state!), Illinois and the Canadian province of Ontario. Michigan is the home of Henry Ford who built his auto empire here, Automotive industry in Detroit, Great Lakes and Outdoor adventures, restaurants, coffee shops and cuisines and many, many more! Lansing is the state capital. If you have any free time, you can visit several places such as museums, festivals, and exploring cultural tapestry that makes Michigan unique! Enjoy!

We are happy to see you all here at this convention and also hope to see you all again at 2026 ILDA convention! May the Lord bless and be with you while you are here and as you leave this convention to head for home.

Warmly and sincerely in Christ's Love,

Carol L. Seeger

2021-2024 ILDA President



International Lutheran Deaf Association
27th Biennial Convention
11th-14th July 2024



May 1, 2024

Greetings to you, Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Welcome to the 27th Biennial International Lutheran Deaf Association convention as we celebrate this special weekend of the first in the past 53rd year of hosting the convention by the Detroit Deaf congregation of Michigan, which is the first one of the conventions hosted by Michigan.

As we were thrilled to commemorate the 27th biennial of ILDA and the 129th anniversary of Deaf Ministry in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (ILCMs). Our beginning can be traced back to 1873 when the Evangelical-Lutheran Orphanage and Deaf Institute was established in Detroit.

We pray for God's blessings on us as we come together from various parts of the country to gather together to enjoy fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ worshipping praising God and serving Him. Our theme: "Defending the Faith" is taken from the Bible, The New Testament, "Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you", 1 Peter 3:15. {NKJV}

I would like to thank my committee for all their hard work in helping to plan for this convention to make it a successful one. We wanted to make sure everyone had a memorable and enjoyable experience of what Detroit-Dearborn had to offer during your stay.

Enjoy the convention and all of the things that have to offer in devotions, workshops, business meetings, a tour of Trinity Lutheran of Detroit, a banquet, and entertainment.

May God bless you all and keep you safe during your travel to Detroit-Dearborn and back to your home.

Brian Byer
2024 ILDA Convention Chair

St. Barnabas, *Apostle*, A.D. 2024
July 11, 2024

International Lutheran Deaf Association
c/o Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf
16935 W. 14th Mile Road
Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025



THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

Office of the President

The Reverend Doctor Matthew C. Harrison
President of the Synod

Grace and peace to you, dear brothers and sisters
in Christ!

As you gather together for this year's International Lutheran Deaf Association convention, please receive these warm greetings from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and from the president's office.

Our Lord rejoices when His people come together in His name and with the purpose of furthering the work of the kingdom of God.

For 129 years, the LCMS has included in her mission a focus on deaf ministry in the Synod, and this anniversary is a reason to celebrate. Our Lord's Gospel continues to be proclaimed in deaf communities and churches internationally, and for nearly 13 decades the LCMS has had the honor of contributing a uniquely Lutheran perspective to that ministry. What joy!

This year's convention theme focused on defending the faith couldn't be more timely as our churches exist in areas that are increasingly hostile to the Christian faith. But even if they were not hostile, still we are called to be ready to share our faith – in many and various ways – and to witness to Christ's work in our lives. Each of you who are attending this convention know struggle, but you also know deeply the hope that is found only in our Lord Jesus Christ. Articulating that faith and hope is made possible by the work of the Holy Spirit, who “calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith” (Explanation of the Third Article of the Creed).

We give thanks alongside you for Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Beverly Hills, Mich., for their kind hospitality in serving as convention host, and we pray that our Lord would bless the work of their hands as they serve the convention in this way.

Please know that all of us, your brothers and sisters in Christ in the LCMS, are keeping you in prayer and thanking God for this opportunity for you to learn and discuss His exhortation to always be prepared “to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15).

May this time you spend together be to His glory.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



P.S. I know “the fields are white for harvest” (John 4:35) in the deaf community! God bless your witness! And I'll keep my mustache trimmed! MCH



Michigan District

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

People of Hope ... Vigorously Making Known the Love of Christ

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome to Detroit, the birthplace of the first Deaf Institute in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. You have much to celebrate this year: the 27th biennial celebration of the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) and the 129th anniversary of Deaf Ministry in the LCMS. We are honored that you chose to celebrate it in Michigan.

- In 1873, the Evangelical Lutheran Orphanage and Deaf Institute was established in Detroit.
- The first pastor was Rev. G. Speckhardt.
- Within ten months of him settling in Royal Oak, 15 Deaf children were brought to him.
- Because an orphanage had been built in the Chicago area, the Detroit Institute became dedicated exclusively to the Deaf.
- The Deaf students were taught German until 1899, when the switch to English took place.
- The Institute stayed abreast of the newest educational methods—it was one of the first to use the oral method, teaching the children to speak and read lips.
- Lutheran services for the Deaf in the Detroit area started in 1896. One member invited others and the number increased to twelve. By 1910, a congregation of 16 voting members (then shepherded by Rev. Arthur Boll) was officially organized under the name *Congregation of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf*.
- By 1917, under Rev. Otto Schroeder, membership had increased to 50.
- Our Savior reached its peak in the 1950s, with more than 300 communicant members.
- The ministry to the Deaf was eventually moved out of Detroit to St. Paul, Royal Oak in 1990.

As I read through this history, I can't help but notice the themes of relationships, service to others, and God's faithfulness. Which brings us to the theme of your convention: *"For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake" (1 Peter 3:15 NKJV)*. Thanks be to God that so many Deaf people have been brought to faith through these ministries in Detroit and around the United States and the world.

May God bless your time together here, strengthening you to keep *Defending Our Faith* in all languages and all nations.

Rev. David A. Davis
President, Michigan District, LCMS





STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

GARLIN GILCHRIST II
LT. GOVERNOR

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

July 11-14, 2024

Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf
16935 W 14 Mile Rd
Beverly Hills, MI 48025

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the State of Michigan, I would like to offer my warmest greetings and recognition to Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf for their decades of service to their community. May this special occasion celebrate the church's pastor and compassionate members who have demonstrated a strong devotion to faith and dedication to serving others.

Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf has provided many services to its members, including worship, teachings, and guiding words. A leading example of compassion, the church also provides their local community with the resources they need to thrive. The church and its members have gone above and beyond through their service to others.

Over the years, the church has served as a place to connect countless people to their faith, valuable resources, and opportunities to serve their community. I am grateful for the members' tireless efforts to bring hope, support, and a greater sense of community to those around them and I have no doubt that they will continue to leave a positive impact.

Again, on behalf of the State of Michigan, I would like to congratulate the Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf on its decades of outstanding service to countless people. I send my best wishes for their continued success in every endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gretchen Whitmer".

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF DEARBORN

ABDULLAH H. HAMMOUD
MAYOR

Dear friends,

As Mayor, it is my honor to welcome the attendees and organizers of the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) convention to the great city of Dearborn. As you know, this will be the first ILDA convention to be held in Michigan in more than 50 years.

This truly inspiring convention is made possible by the efforts of our regional neighbor, Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Beverly Hills. We are thrilled to host the convention and its visitors in our city at such a historic juncture for the Deaf Ministry in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, now in its 129th year, as well as for the ILDA, which commemorates its 27th bicentennial.

The ILDA has been an essential organization for members of the faith community that are deaf and hard-of-hearing across the nation and the world. The mission's roots can be traced all the way back to 1873 in Detroit with the Evangelical-Lutheran Orphanage and Deaf Institute.

While in Dearborn, I hope you find time to explore all our city has to offer, including its world-famous cultural institutions like the Henry Ford, Greenfield Village, and the Arab American National Museum, our world-class dining options, and our scenic trails and public parks like Ford Field.

We wish you a successful event and hope you will choose Dearborn for the ILDA convention in the future.

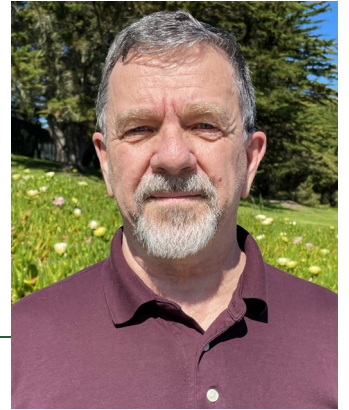
Yours in service,
Abdullah H. Hammoud, Mayor



LDMS

Lutheran Deaf Mission Society

PO Box 434038 • St. Louis, MO 63143-4078 • www.DeafJesus.org



Welcome to ILDA 2024

The Lutheran Deaf Mission Society wishes you a great gathering this weekend as we celebrate God's gracious love. His love inspires us to trust the Lord God almighty. Because of His goodness, He gives us faith. Therefore we defend the faith. Together we are here to get our faith built up stronger. We can share the faith with other people who do not know God's love for them. Let's do it.

To God be the glory!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edwin Lot Bergstresser".

Edwin Lot Bergstresser

Executive Director of LDMS



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires your salvation and delivers this to you in His Gospel and Sacraments.

I am so pleased you will be joining Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf as we grow in Christ during this year's ILDA convention. It is a joy to host fellow brothers and sisters and to provide what we can to support you as you endure in the faith.

This year's theme of Defending the Faith is a good theme for our time. The Lord has told us to watch and pray for His return. Part of this watching involved learning to know our Lord better so that we can give an answer for the hope that we have.

It is a blessing to continue this tradition of the Lutheran Deaf community gathering together to support one another and the shared desire to proclaim the Gospel to all of the Deaf community. It is prayer that the Lord will continue to equip you with a strong faith in Christ and a great love that flows from Him to serve your neighbor.

May the Lord bless your travel and your time among us.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pr. Walworth".

Pr. Walworth



16935 W. 14 Mile Road, Beverly Hills, Michigan 48025

2021 - 2024 ILDA Officers



Carol Seeger
President



Brian Byer
President-Elect



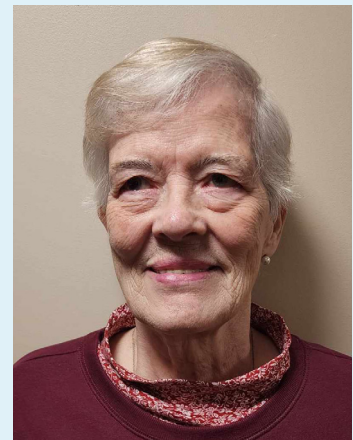
Denise Pulfer
Secretary



John Mason
Treasurer



Rev. Daryl Gehlbach
Pastoral Advisor



Diane Francisco
Historian



Carolyn Snyder-Mason
Deaf Lutheran Business Manager
Missions Projects Chairperson



Janet Gehlbach
Right Hand Award
Chairperson



Rev. Edwin Bergstreser
Executive Director

2024 ILDA Committee



Brian Byer
Chairperson



Cynthia Smith-Byer
Co-Chairperson



Mark Loehr
Treasurer



Richard Carlson
Assistant



Kathy Johnston
Assistant



Michelle Osterhout
Assistant



Deaconess Diana Rice
Workshop Coordinator



Judy Loehr
Registration



Deaconess Becky Catchpole
Registration

2024 ILDA **Committee**



Lika Rau-Reece
Program Book



Roxanne Carlson
Youth Volunteer



Tim Johnston
Master of Ceremonies

Tiernan “Seb” Herlihy
Healthcare & Lifeguard

Lynda Nix
Convention Interpreter

Matthew Butler
Tour Interpreter

Danielle Kubutia
Tour Interpreter

Hannah Fecher
Youth Volunteer

Karen Foder
Youth Volunteer

Judy Ostroski
Youth Volunteer

Laura Schindel
Youth Volunteer

Kaye Wolff
Youth Volunteer

Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf **Officers**



Brian Byer
President



Mark Loehr
Treasurer



Cynthia Smith-Byer
Secretary



Rev. Tyler Walworth
Pastor

Biography of **Speakers**



Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller

Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller is pastor of St. Paul and Jesus Deaf Lutheran Churches in Austin, TX. He is the author of *Lord, Teach Us to Pray* (2023), *And Take They Our Life: Martin Luther's Theology of Martyrdom* (2019), *A Martyr's Faith for a Faithless World* (CPH, 2019), *Has American Christianity Failed?* (CPH, 2016) and *Final Victory: Contemplating the Death and Funeral of a Christian* (CPH, 2010). He is host of *What-Not, The Podcast*, posts videos on YouTube at [wolfmueller1](https://www.youtube.com/user/wolfmueller1), and has a number of other theological projects that all end up on his blog, www.wolfmueller.co. Bryan is a member of the Doxology Collegium. He and his wife Keri live with their children in Round Rock, TX.



Rev. Tim Eckert

Rev. Tim Eckert is a native of Collinsville, Illinois, in the St. Louis Metro-East area. He graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis in 1996 with a Master of Divinity degree. Before entering the seminary, he graduated from Concordia University, River Forest, with a degree in computer science and mathematics and worked for several years as a computer programmer/assistant scientist at Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago.

Rev. Eckert's first call in 1996 was to Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Rochester, New York. Since 1999, Rev. Eckert is called to serve the Deaf in Iowa District East. Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf is located in Cedar Rapids with preaching stations in Davenport, Dubuque, Burlington, and Waterloo. He is currently also the vacancy pastor for Calvary Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Des Moines. As a board member of the Lutheran Deaf Mission Society, he is responsible for working with Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, to make classes accessible for Deaf pastoral and deaconess students.

Rev. Eckert is married to Susan (Friedmann), a native of Peosta, Iowa. God has blessed them with three children, Stephen, Rachel and Sarah.



Rev. Gregory Desrosiers

Rev. Gregory Desrosiers has worked in the Bible Study and personally worked with people in the Bible Study from time to time. He is very passionate about the Biblical images in both of PowerPoint and Keynote for decades and he lectured the 500th Year Celebration of Reformation in several churches and The Ministry of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther and Religious signs in the American Sign Language workshop classes. He is a gifted communicator in American Sign Language and eventually, his passions for God's Word led him to become a pastor.

Gregory and his wife, Linda have been blissfully married since July 29, 1979. Both are actively serving Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada since 1996. Gregory has worked as an associate pastor to Rev. David Nielsen since Gregory was ordained in 2013. As dual citizen of Canada and the United States, he taught History, Government and Social Studies at the secondary level in the Iowa School for the Deaf for fourteen years and the British Columbia School for the Deaf until 2021. He taught at the schools and universities for forty-three years. Additionally, as a full-time retiree, he has been called to teach, to preach and to listen to and advise the unfortunate and desperate deaf people in a capacity of mentor and client in spiritual ways.

Edwin Lot Bergstresser was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on April 4, 1955. He was born deaf and attended the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf in Philadelphia from 1961-1970. He transferred to the Model Secondary School for the Deaf in Washington, D.C. and graduated in 1974. He went to Community College of Philadelphia for two years and then transferred to Gallaudet University. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work degree in 1979. He went to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, to become a pastor to the deaf. He graduated with a Master of Divinity degree in May 1984. He was a student pastor under Rev. Roy Dahmann in Bay Area, California during 1982-1983. He married his wife, Nancy, who is also deaf on August 23, 1980. He and his wife had a foster son, Anand Victor Raj from India. They had four sons, Daniel, John, Matthew and (an adopted) Aaron. Pastor Ed was a pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 1984 to 1994. Now he is a pastor to Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Columbus, Ohio from 1994 to present. He is now semi-retired. He is an executive director of Lutheran Deaf Mission Society since 2023.



Rev. Edwin Lot Bergstresser

Biography of **Speakers**



David S. Bush

David (73) was born in 1950, on a crop and sheep farm near Tecumseh, Michigan. His father is the late Rev. Leland E. Bush (a minister to the deaf), and his mother, Margaret I. Bush (95). David attended, *Concordia*, Ann Arbor (A.A.), *Concordia*, Chicago (B.A. in Elementary Education), *Concordia Theological Seminary* in Springfield/Fort Wayne (M. Div. 1978). His vicarage supervisors were the Rev. Robert Muller in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore and the Rev. Dr. Daniel H. Pokorny at *Gallaudet University*. David met Barbara J. Actis (his wife) at *Gallaudet*. He also had a hearing vicarage under Rev. Philip Yang at *True Light Chinese Mission* in Chinatown, New York City. David served as pastor to the deaf at *Eternal Mercy Church for the Deaf*, Memphis (1978-89); *St. John Church for the Deaf*, Fort Wayne (1989-2004). He also served two hearing churches, *Good Shepherd* (Memphis) and *Holy Cross* (Fort Wayne). He taught “Deaf Ministry and Missions” at *Concordia Theological Seminary*, Fort Wayne, (1989-2004). He was on the staff of the Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI, 1986-2004). David just retired from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod OIM (2014-2024) as a career missionary to the deaf in Asia spending most of his time at the Lutheran School for the Deaf in Hong Kong. David served as a chaplain in the Air National Guard for twenty years and retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He taught at two other colleges. He continues to serve as president of the board for *Concordia School for Special Education* in Macau. He plans to finish his Doctor of Ministry at *Concordia Theological Seminary*, Fort Wayne.



Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf
16935 W. 14 Mile Road - Beverly Hills, Michigan



DOUBLETREE
by Hilton™

DETROIT - DEARBORN
5801 Southfield Expressway - Detroit, MI



Welcome Guests and Attendees of the International Lutheran Deaf Association!

We are delighted to have you staying with us at our Award-winning Doubletree by Hilton Detroit-Dearborn! We prepared our hotel to make sure your experience with us is enjoyable.

In order for us to make your stay a perfect 10, below is some information you should know:

Food & Beverage

Our breakfast buffet is served in our Grille from 6AM-10AM, 7AM-11AM Saturday and Sundays. We are sure you will enjoy our wide array of breakfast items. Selections to include hot cereal, fresh fruits, Pastries/Muffins/ Croissants, Scrambled eggs, Breakfast meat, potatoes, grilled item and Juice, Coffee, tea, decaf.

Dinner is available from 4:30 PM -10 PM.

Our Lounge is open until 11 PM for evening.

Housekeeping

Our staff is available for you. Should you need any need extra linen, towels or toiletries, please contact front desk.

At any time, if I may be of service or assist in any way to make your stay a perfect 10, please contact me directly at extension 3983.

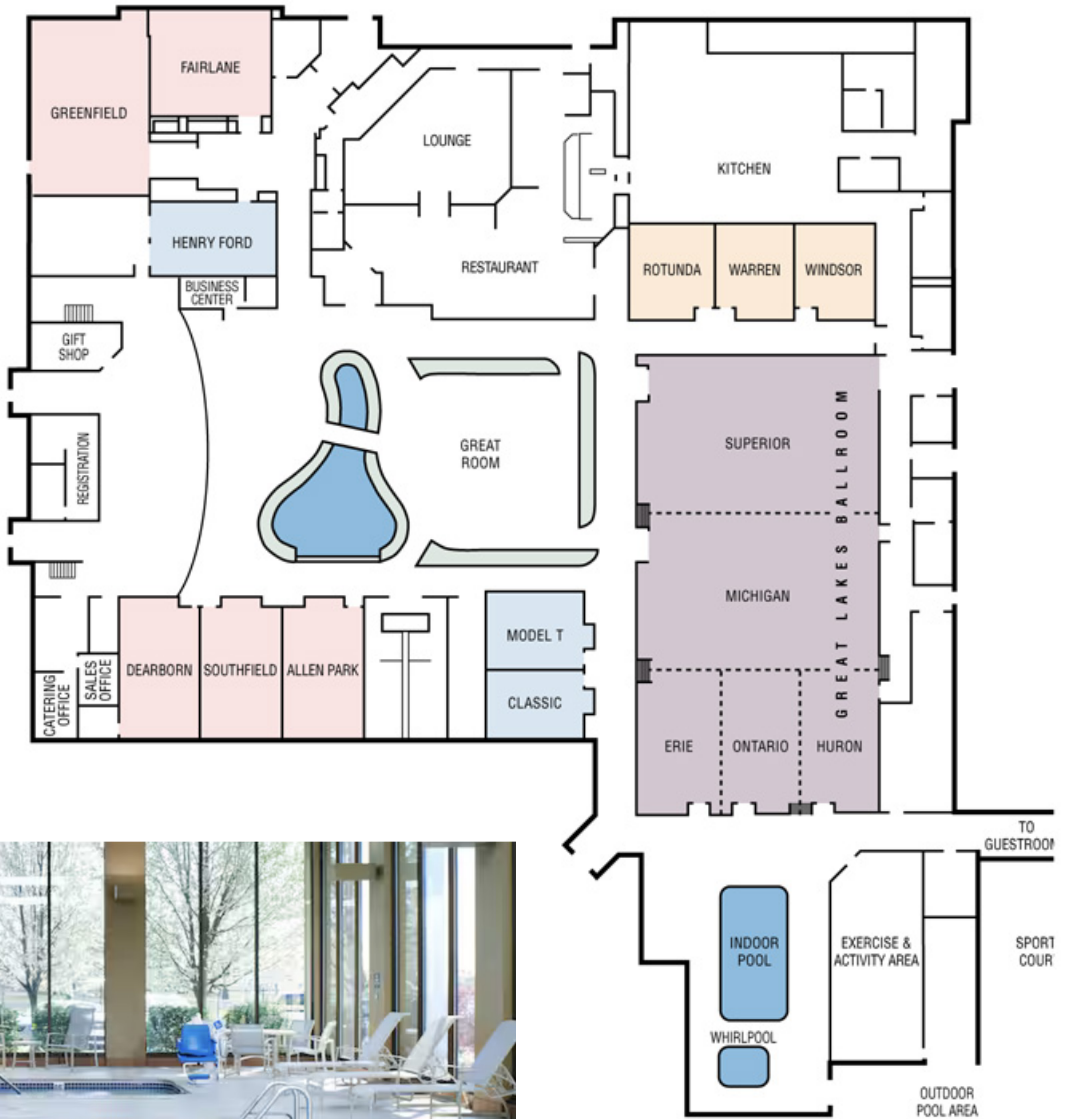
Our Fitness Center is open from 5AM –Midnight and pool from 8AM – 10 PM.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our front desk concierge or any of our associates to assist you.

Thank you,

Mimi Sion

Director of Sales and the Management Team of the Doubletree by Hilton Detroit/Dearborn



Things to do in Detroit/Dearborn Area **Sightseeing Tours**

Greenfield Village

20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI
Daily: 9:30 AM - 5 PM
General Admission: \$39.00
Seniors (62+): \$35.00
Youth (5-11): \$29.25
thehenryford.org

Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation

20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI
Daily: 9:30 AM - 5 PM
General Admission: \$36.00
Seniors (62+): \$32.50
Youth (5-11): \$27.00
thehenryford.org

Fair Lane, Home of Clara and Henry Ford

1 Fair Lane Dr, Dearborn, MI
Daily: 8 AM - 6 PM
Free Admission
henryfordfairlane.org



Dearborn Historical Museum

McFadden-Ross House - 915 S Brady St,
Dearborn, MI
Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 5 PM
Commandant's Quarters - 21950 Michigan
Ave, Dearborn, MI
Thursday - Saturday: 2 PM - 6 PM
thedhm.org

Automotive Hall of Fame

21400 Oakwood, Dearborn, MI
Thursdays - Sundays: 10 AM - 4 PM
General Admission: \$10.00
Seniors (62+) & Students (13-18): \$6.00
Youth (5-11): \$4.00
Groups (8 or more): \$6.00
automotivehalloffame.org

Ford Rouge Factory Tour

20900 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI
Daily: 9:30 AM - 5 PM
General Admission: \$24.00
Seniors (62+): \$21.50
Youth (5-11): \$18.00
thehenryford.org



Wineries and Breweries in Detroit/Dearborn Area

Ford's Garage Dearborn

21367 Michigan Ave, Dearborn, MI
Monday - Thursday: 11 AM - 10 PM
Friday - Saturday: 11 AM - 10:30 PM
Sunday: 10:30 AM - 9 PM
fordsgarageusa.com

Downey Brewing Company

13121 Prospect St, Dearborn, MI
Tuesday - Saturday: 4 PM - 10 PM
downeybrewingcompany.com

Dearborn Brewing

21930 Michigan Ave, Dearborn, MI
Monday - Thursday: 4:30 PM - 10 PM
Friday - Saturday: 4:30 PM - 12 AM
dearbornbrewing.com

Motor City Brewing Works-Midtown

470 W Canfield St, Detroit, MI
Sunday - Tuesday: 12:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Wednesday - Thursday: 12:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Friday - Saturday: 12:00 PM - Midnight
motorcitybeer.com



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Restaurants near DoubleTree by Hilton Detroit/Dearborn

Chili's Grill & Bar

5707 Southfield Rd, Detroit, MI
313-271-2339
Sunday - Thursday: 11 AM - 10:30 PM
Friday - Saturday, 11 AM - 11:30 PM
chilis.com

Ford Patio Bar & Grill

18490 Ford Rd, Detroit, MI
313-406-4351
Monday: 10 AM - 8 PM
Tuesday: 10:30 AM - 9 PM
Wednesday - Thursday: 9 AM - 9:30 PM
Friday 9 AM - 5 PM
Saturday 9 AM - 4 PM
fordrdpatio.bar

Grille 39

5801 Southfield Fwy, (DoubleTree by Hilton),
Detroit, MI
313-336-3340
Monday - Friday: 6 AM - 10 PM
Saturday - Sunday: 7 AM - 10 PM
hilton.com

La Thai Cuisine

16351 Ford Rd, c108, Dearborn, MI
313-914-5846
Monday - Saturday: 11 AM - 8 PM

Leo's Coney Island Dearborn

5575 Greenfield Rd, Dearborn, MI
313-253-0200
Sunday - Saturday: 6 AM - 10 PM
order.leosconeyisland.com

Olive Garden

16151 Ford Rd, Dearborn, MI
313-240-6100
Sunday - Thursday: 11 AM - 10 PM
Friday - Saturday: 11 AM - 11 PM
olivegarden.com

Pizza Place

18950 Ford Rd, Detroit, MI
313-336-4600
Sunday: 11 AM - 12:30 AM
Monday - Thursday: 10 AM - 12:30 AM
Friday: 10 AM - 1:30 AM
Saturday: 11 AM - 1:30 AM
mealage.com

Shish Palace

16351 Ford Rd (in Fairlane Meadows Mall),
Dearborn, MI
313-789-8866
Sunday - Saturday: 10 AM - 8 PM
shishpalacefordrd.com

Zaytoona Mediterranean

5700 Mercury Dr Suite B, Dearborn, MI
313-441-4000
Monday - Sunday: 11 AM - 9 PM
zaytoonalebansesgrill.com

2024 ILDA Convention **Order of Business**

ILDA Business meeting agenda

1. Welcome (president, host chairman, honored guests, local Chamber of Commerce, etc.)
2. Necrology
3. Invocation or devotion service
4. Call to Order: The president shall introduce the agenda for adoption.
5. Introduction of the:
 - a. Parliamentarian
 - b. Assistant to the Secretary
 - c. Tellers
 - d. Other Committees
6. Introduction of Interpreters
7. Resolution Committee:
 - a. Introduction of committee members
 - b. Deadline of handling in resolutions
8. Nominating Committee's Report:
 - a. Introduction of candidates for offices
 - b. Election of new officers and pastoral advisor
9. Minutes from previous convention: the secretary will give out copies of the minutes of the previous convention. The minutes must be accepted by the proper motions before going into the records.
10. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Given at the first business session of the convention. The treasurer will distribute copies of the financial report from the last convention including status of previous mission projects.
 - b. Treasurer will name the auditors of the report.
 - c. The report of the auditors.
 - d. The treasurer's report must be accepted by the proper motions before going into the records.
11. President's Report
12. Pastoral Advisor's Report
13. Synodical Representative's Report
14. The Deaf Lutheran publication report:
 - a. The editor
 - b. The business manager
15. The Finance Committee's Report
16. The adoption of the new budget. Presented to the convention by the treasurer.
17. The Law Committee's Report
18. Voting on any proposed changes
19. Introduction of Mission Projects:
 - a. Mission Projects Chairman's Report
 - b. Voting on mission projects
20. Other Committee's Reports
 - a. Previous convention committee chairman
 - b. Junior ILDA committee chairman
 - c. Special committee reports
21. The ILDA convention bids presented by future host congregations.
22. Introduction of Pastors and church workers in attendance
23. Resolution Committee's Report
24. Unfinished Business. Secretary reports on any pending business
25. New Business
26. Voting on resolutions
27. Announcements
28. Adjournment

History of the ILDA Convention

Year	Convention Host	Host Location	Theme	Attendance
1971 7/16-18	Our Savior Deaf Lutheran Church Chicago, IL	Regency Hyatt House Chicago, IL	"Forward with Christ"	365
1973 7/12-15	Redeemer Lutheran Church Kansas City, MO	Hotel Muehlebac Kansas City, MO	"Sharing Love in Christ"	350
1975 7/31-8/3	Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Silver Spring, MD	Stouffer's National Center Inn Washington, DC	"New Life"	400
1977 6/30-7/3	Faith Lutheran Church of the Deaf Spokane, WA	Ridpath Hotel Spokane, WA	"Rise Shine! Give God Glory"	350
1979 6/21-24	Eternal Mercy Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Memphis, TN	Holiday Inn Memphis, TN	"Go and Tell"	300
1981 7/9-12	Pilgrim Lutheran Church of the Deaf Los Angeles, CA	Hilton Hotel Los Angeles, CA	"Be Opened"	383
1983 7/21-24	Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Pittsburgh, PA	The Pittsburg Hilton Pittsburgh, PA	"Celebrating Power, Presence and Promise Together"	373
1985 7/4-7	Emmanuel Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Milwaukee, WI	Marc Plaza Hotel Milwaukee, WI	"Come! Follow Me"	303
1987 6/25-28	Word of God Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Cedar Rapids, IA	Stouffer Five Seasons Hotel Cedar Rapids, IA	"A Time for Everything!"	400
1989 7/6-9	Hope Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Portland, OR	Red Lion Inn Portland, OR	"Be Alive"	341
1991 8/1-4	Good Shepherd of the Deaf Lutheran Church, Toledo, OH	Holiday Inn Toledo, OH	"GOD, You are my: Shepherd, Teacher, Friend, Light and Rock"	300
1993 7/1-4	Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf Austin, TX	The Red Lion Hotel Austin, TX	"Jesus Is The Lone Star"	300
1995 6/29-7/2	Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf and Northern Illinois Deaf Churches	Hyatt Regency Hotel-Woodfield Schaumburg, IL	"Behold, I Shall Make All Things New"	306
1997 7/3-6	Holy Cross Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Saint Louis, MO	Adam's Mark Hotel Saint Louis, MO	"Jesus Is The Gateway"	433
1999 6/24-27	Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf Cleveland, OH	Holiday Inn Independence, OH	"Jesus Christ...The Beginning and The End"	300
2001 6/21-24	Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis Mariott Indianapolis, IN	"Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve"	205

Year	Convention Host	Host Location	Theme	Attendance
2003 7/3-6	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Minneapolis, MN	Hilton Hotel Minneapolis, MN	“Let Thy Holy Angels Be With Us”	220
2005 8/4-7	Trinity Lutheran Church of the Deaf Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada	Hilton Vancouver Metrotown Hotel, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada	“Let us praise the Lord from the Mountaintops”	188
2007 6/21-24	Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf Silver Spring, MD	BWI: Airport Marriott Baltimore, MD	“Encourage Each Other in Faith	157
2009 7/23-26	Alpha Lutheran Church for the Deaf Rochester, NY	Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), Rochester, NY	“Set Your Minds On Things Above”	132
2011 8/4-7	Holy Cross Deaf Lutheran Church Columbus, OH	Deer Creek State Park Mount Sterling, OH	“Come Closer to Our God”	70
2013 8/18-21	Jesus Lutheran Church of the Deaf Austin, TX	Concordia University Campus Austin, TX	“Jesus is The Cornerstone”	80
2015 7/23-26	Our Savior Deaf Lutheran Church Madison, WI	Crowne Plaza Hotel Madison, WI	“I will meditate all day and all night”	134
2017 7/13-16	Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf Indianapolis, IN	Hilton Garden Inn Indianapolis, IN	“Focus on Jesus”	74 IMC 17
2019 7/18-21	KansaSEED Topeka, KS	Capital Plaza Hotel Topeka, KS	“God Above Gold”	53 IMC 18
2021 7/22-25	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Spring Lake Park, MN	Holiday Inn Elk Grove Village, IL	“Remember- Celebrate-Proclaim”	80 IMC 12
2024 7/11-14	Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Beverly Hills, MI	DoubleTree by Hilton Detroit-Dearborn Dearborn, MI	“Defending the Faith”	

IMC = Interpreter Ministry Conference

Word Finder

1 Peter 3:15

K	S	E	V	I	G	Y	F	I	T	C	N	A	S
E	E	R	E	S	P	E	C	T	O	H	S	S	C
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SANCTIFY
FAITH
MEEKNESS
READY
RESPECT
CHRIST
BEHAVE
CONSCIENCE
HONOR
REASON
SPEAK
ACKNOWLEDGE
HOLY
LORD
GIVE
HEART
DEFEND
EXPLAIN
PREPARE
TREAT



**CONGRATULATIONS
AND BEST WISHES
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
2024 ILDA CONVENTION**

From

**Prince of Peace
Lutheran Church for the Deaf**

7700 Monroe St. NE
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432
Rev. Daryl D. Gehlbach, Pastor
612-386-4824 (v)
612-424-4747 (VP)
9:45 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Bible Study

God's blessings to you all!

**The DEAF
LUTHERAN**

**BEST WISHES
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
2024 ILDA CONVENTION**

From

The Deaf Lutheran Staff

Janet Gehlbach, Editor
Carolyn Snyder-Mason, Business Manager
John Mason, Database Assistant



**Thank you to the sponsors for making the
27th ILDA Biennial Convention possible!**

Churches

Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Silver Spring, MD
Ascension of Christ of Beverly Hills, MI
Emmanuel Lutheran Church and School of Dearborn, MI

Organization

Seed Money from 2021 ILDA Chicago Conference
Texas Deaf Youth Ministry
Great Lakes Region Conference

Individuals

Rev. Ron Friedrich

Donors

In Memory of the Rev. Daniel and Patricia Pokomy
Rev. Daryl and Janet Gehlbach
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Twin Falls, ID

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Sticky Situations, Frankenmuth MI
Eastern Woods Outdoors, Lapeer, MI

**And many more that we want to say thank
you for your support.**

We are



Lutheran Women in Mission



We are women of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who support missions, both near and far. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) was founded in 1942, to unite sisters in Christ as they focused on reaching out with the love of Christ to others in need, and we continue to do that today as **Lutheran Women in Mission**. We welcome and encourage every woman to use her God-given gifts to serve the Lord with gladness!

We joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

Proclaiming Christ through FAITH RESOURCES

You can find free devotions and Bible studies on lwml.org. Start each day with a devotion by signing up for our email list.

Supporting Missions through MISSION GRANTS

Mission offerings, both large and small, are given in love and thankfulness. Together, these help to share the Gospel with people all over the world.

Equipping Women for SERVING OTHERS

Find ideas and inspiration to share Jesus' love with others through service projects, collections of physical donations, and events.



Will you join us?

You're invited to the 2025 Lutheran Women in Mission Convention "Growing in God's Grace" in Omaha, Nebraska! The majority of the program is ASL interpreted and has live closed captions, so that we can all "grow in God's grace" together. Learn more at lwml.org/convention.

Visit lwml.org or email us at lwml@lwml.org to learn more!

Convention Attendees! Receive a free one-year digital subscription to our Quarterly magazine!

Scan here to sign up >



Did you know?

The very first mission grant in 1943 was to help fund construction of a building for Christ Church for the Deaf in Cleveland, Ohio. Today, we are gathering mission offerings in support of the training of ASL interpreters for church settings and translating Lutheran resources into ASL.



ST. MARTIN LUTHERAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF



WE OFFER:

- CLASSICAL CURRICULUM
- DEAF FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT
- BILINGUAL-BICULTURAL EDUCATION
- SMALL CLASS SIZES
- SOCIALIZATION WITH DEAF AND HEARING PEERS
- ASL CLASSES FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS
- UPDATED TECHNOLOGY
- INDIVIDUALIZED APPROACH TO MEET EVERY CHILD'S NEEDS



<https://www.smlid.org/>

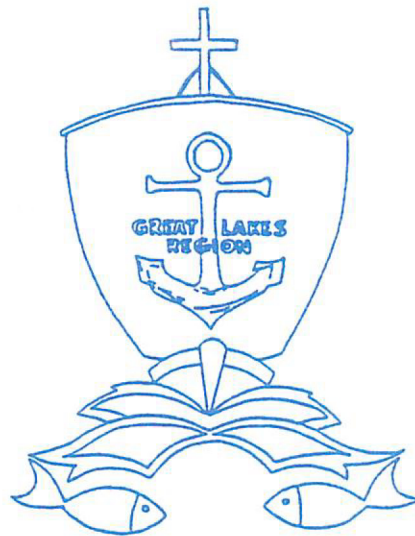


International Lutheran Deaf Association

2026

hosted by

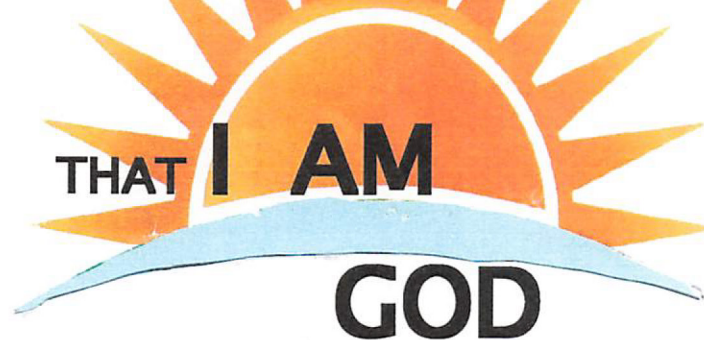
*Where?
Cincinnati, Ohio
Hebron, KY*



*When?
June 11-14*

Great Lakes Regions

BE STILL & KNOW



Psalm 46:10