



The

# Deaf Lutheran



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

Spring 2024

St. Louis, MO

Vol. 113, No. 2

## President Carol Seeger



Greetings from beautiful Spring-like Pflugerville, TX, with breathtaking famous Blue Bonnets and

colorful wildflowers blooming all over our lands and fields, etc. As for the rest of the country and Canada, we can enjoy the beauty of God's creation by smelling the fragrance of flowers and blooming trees, feeling the cool breeze on our faces, etc. This year, as we celebrated Jesus rising from the dead on Easter day on March 31<sup>st</sup>, I am thinking how important this day is for all of us and how much He loves us by sacrificing His life for us, etc. When Jesus left His Heavenly glory, He came down to earth, but not as a fully formed man. Rather, He became a lowly tiny embryo, constantly multiplying package of cells that grew for months in the womb of the Virgin Mary until He was born at the right time. (*Taken from the Lutheran Witness, Dec. 2023*). I am awestruck. Why? Because of the greatest miracle that is His Resurrection; if not for it, our Christian faith would be in vain (*worthless*)! Here He lies in Mary's arms asleep at the manger in anticipation (*foreseen*) to the cross, but instead of staying there, He rose from the dead, ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father

Almighty! Alleluia!!

Now, let us share Jesus' love and caring for each other, how? By getting together and encouraging each other to grow in God's word and spiritually by attending the ILDA 2024 convention in beautiful Dearborn, Michigan on July 11-14, 2024! The purpose of the ILDA convention is to coordinate and strengthen all Lutheran – Missouri Synod Deaf congregations and regions in the USA, Canada and other countries. In addition, I do believe it is definitely a part of an outreach ministry/deaf missions. See Acts 2:42: *"They were loyal to what the apostles taught in their fellowship in breaking of bread and in the prayers."*

For more information or to register, check the link: [www.deafjesus.org/ilda/ILDAhome.html](http://www.deafjesus.org/ilda/ILDAhome.html). Or for those who have any questions, I encourage you to contact Brian Byer by checking the ILDA convention website for his contact information.

Again, I am strongly encouraging all of you to plan on attending and I am prayerfully hoping to see most of you, if not all, there if possible, and check the updates on the website 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!

Our Lord is Risen, Indeed! Alleluia! May our Loving Lord Jesus so richly bless you all!

## Pastoral Advisor Rev. Daryl Gehlbach



When sin came into the world, peace between God and man came to an end. Why? Sin is rebellion against our Creator God

and destroyed our loving relationship with Him.

Yet, God did not desire us to remain apart from Him. He wanted to restore peace between Him and us. How? He sent His Son into the world to put away sin. The Lord laid upon Him the guilt of all mankind. Christ bore our sins in His body on the cross. His suffering and death made the payment for sin. He made "peace by the blood of His cross" (Colossians 1:20).

Yet, Christ rose from the dead. His glorious resurrection declared that the work He came to do was finished. The God of peace brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep. God is perfectly satisfied with His Son's work. Sin has been put away and peace has been made.

On that first Easter evening, Jesus appeared to His disciples and said, "Peace be with you." His greeting was not empty words. These words of the risen Son of God are filled with blessing and bring the peace His death earned. He brought them the whole blessing of His finished work for sinners –

forgiveness of sins, freedom from death and the devil, and everlasting salvation.

Jesus secured these blessings not only for His disciples but for all people. Why? He is the Savior of all mankind. His declaration of the peace He earned is the Gospel preached to all creatures. This is a most wonderful message for a world filled with peaceless, restless sinners.

We still have the Gospel which brings Christ's peace to our souls. His words are filled with all the blessings which He won for us through His suffering and death. His words bring pardon and peace to all. Everyone who believes the Gospel are no longer under God's wrath, but they have forgiveness of sins. And where there is forgiveness, there is peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Thus, the believer can live at peace in this world.

My Christian friends, hold fast to the blessed Gospel, and "the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:7)

## Treasurer John Mason



As of April 1, 2024, so far 93% have renewed their 2023-2025 ILDA membership. Plus a few more new members applied.

If you prefer to print out the application, you can type in the link: <http://www.deafjesus.org/ilda/memberinfo.html> and click on the "Click Here" to print yourself the membership form. My mailing address is on the form for you to send.

If you moved and have a new address, please email me with your current address to: [ilda.treasurer2021@gmail.com](mailto:ilda.treasurer2021@gmail.com) There are 23 members of God's 1,000 Club as of April 15, 2024.

**Reminder: You are required to bring your membership card when you attend the 27<sup>th</sup> ILDA Convention at Dearborn, Michigan, for verification purposes.**

ILDA received Mission Projects donations of over \$783 and it will be carried over

to the 2024-2026 mission projects fund.

See you at Dearborn! Thank you and God Bless!

Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum (The Word of God remains forever!)

## Nominations Chairman John Mason

Again, I just want to remind you there will be an election at the ILDA Convention in Dearborn, Michigan.

Nomination and/or re-nominations needed to fill:  
President-Elect  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Pastoral Advisor

Please contact me if you are interested to be President-Elect. At the same time, I will contact several ILDA members to fulfill the position.

As for now, a person is interested to be nominated for one position. Also, an incumbent person is seeking to be re-nominated for a second term. And another incumbent person will finish their term.

Here's my email address: [ilda.treasurer2021@gmail.com](mailto:ilda.treasurer2021@gmail.com)  
Thank you and God Bless!!!

## Right Hand Award nomination rules

The deadline for the Uriel C. Jones Memorial Right Hand Award to be given out at the Dearborn, Michigan convention is fast approaching.

The rules for nomination are:

1. The award is given to one deaf person who is a member of an LCMS congregation and has a record of continuous, exceptional and meritorious Christ service within his/her church and/or community. Recipient may be of either sex (male or female).
2. Clergy, full or part-time lay ministers and current ILDA Board members are not eligible.
3. Congregations may nominate a person from their own congregation, field or another congregation elsewhere during a formal voters assembly. The nomination form is to be filled out, signed and dated and returned to the Right Hand Award Chairperson (see below).
4. Individuals may not nominate themselves for the Right Hand Award.
5. Deadline for nomination form(s) to be returned is June 5, 2024.

Mail your nomination form to:  
Janet Gehlbach, c/o Right Hand Award—ILDA 2024  
305 Liberty St. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432



## News from the 2024 Dearborn, Michigan convention hosts

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As time for our 27th Biennial ILDA convention in Dearborn is quickly approaching, I hope you all are planning on attending the convention and making sure you are checking all the details on the registration and making hotel reservations. I want to emphasize to make sure you have everything down so everything will go smoothly for everyone. The registration for the convention will need to be completed by the 15th of June 2024 to plan for everything in place. That registration and all the related information can be found at [www.deafjesus.org/ilda/2024](http://www.deafjesus.org/ilda/2024).

Thursday, July 11th, the registration at the hotel will be open from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. dinner on your own. There are several restaurants near the hotel or you can have your dinner right at the hotel too. This information will be announced through our Facebook page soon.

I have posted two videos explaining the hotel reservation procedure and registration/banquet. There will be a few more videos coming soon on what to expect for the convention. So please watch for the Facebook page “Dearborn ILDA Michigan” for more information.



If you are planning to stay at the hotel, please call (313) 982-3983. Use Group Reservation code: ILD. If there is no answer, please leave your name, and phone number, and say that you are reserving for the ILDA convention. Mimi Sion will call you back to collect your information to reserve the room. The reservation for the hotel needs to be booked before the 5th of July 2024.

The latest update for the registration has been steadily coming in and has collected nearly 60 attendees and at least 10 children, and more are to be expected. We are working on getting staffing for some children’s care, activities, and transportation to Detroit Zoo and Michigan Science Center.

When Summer comes around the people who will be flying in or driving into Detroit will be greeted with

“Orange Barrels” (Road constructions) all over the Metropolitan of Detroit. We want to make sure that everyone who is driving takes extra time and drives safely.

Brian Byer  
Cynthia Smith-Byer  
Hosts of 2024 ILDA convention

## Jesus Signs Immersion Workshop

**July 22—26, 2024**

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
115 South 6th St.  
St. Charles, MO 63301



You can register online at [www.DeafOutreach.org](http://www.DeafOutreach.org)

Questions? [ASLJS@deafoutreach.org](mailto:ASLJS@deafoutreach.org)



## Church Interpreter Training Academy (CITA) workshop held in Austin, TX in February



Deaconess Diana Rice (pictured above) presented on the history, meaning and structure of the liturgy. Jennifer Ceyanes presented on Deaf Culture, and the advanced interpreting students practiced for Sunday's Divine Service at St Paul.



Thirty-nine (39) students and Deaf church members attended the 2024 Church Interpreter Training Academy (CITA) in Austin, TX, which was held in February 2024. Students included church interpreters, those desiring to be church interpreters and a children's sign camp. The program was made possible from a generous grant from the LWML. Pictured above are l. to r.: Rev. Tom Dunseth, Jennifer Ceyanes, Peggy Krueger, Michelle Osterhout and Deaconess Diana Rice.

### ILDA Officers

#### International Officers (2021-2024)

President — Carol Seeger  
 President-Elect — Brian Byer  
 Secretary — Denise Pulfer  
 Treasurer — John Mason  
 Pr. Advisor – Rev. Daryl Gehlbach

#### Central Region (2018-20)

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

#### Midwest Region (2018-20)

President – Sara Hale  
 V. President – vacant  
 Secretary – Nola Gray  
 Treasurer – vacant

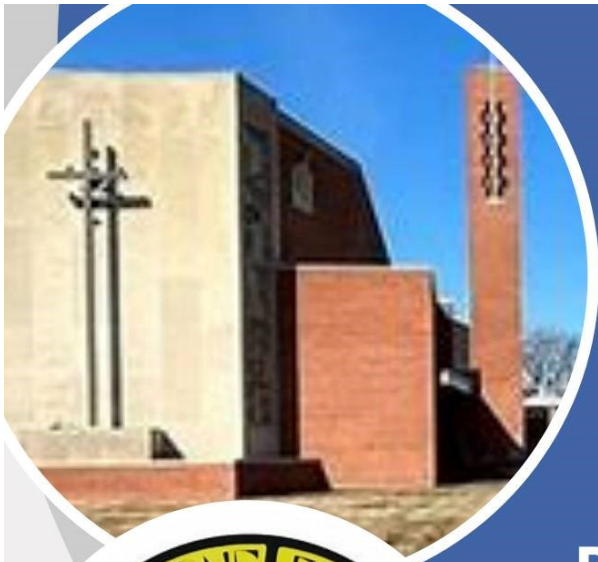
#### Northwest Region (current officers)

President – Richard Sharp  
 President Elect – Patricia Jenkins  
 Secretary – vacant  
 Treasurer – vacant

#### Great Lakes Region (2023-2025)

President – Nancy Bergstresser  
 President-Elect – Jeff Padon  
 Secretary – Karen Beiter  
 Treasurer – Larry Blout  
 Pr. Advisor – Rev. John Rushton  
 Historian — Diane Francisco





Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society for the Deaf

1-Day

RELIGIOUS SIGN WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024 9AM-4PM
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
402 SOUTH BALLINGER HWY
FLINT MI 48532



8:30-9-Registration
9-9:30-Bible Study
9:30-12 Worship Class-All
12-1pm-Lunch
1-2:15pm- Psalms/Intro Hymns
2:30-3:45pm- Hymns/Intro Psalms
3:45-4pm-Conclusion

WORKSHOP IS FOR:

- Beginning signers
· Advanced signers
· Deaf Community
· Interpreters for RID CEUs

Tuition:

\$75 All ASL students
\$25 Deaf Community
\$100 Interpreters for CEUs

TO REGISTER :



SCAN ME

MORE INFO:

Pastor Thomas Dunseth:
616-634-1100
citaelms@protonmail.com







# **“Right Hand Award” Nomination Form**

**Deadline is June 5, 2024**  
(Please Type or Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Videophone/Text \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Congregational Offices:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Congregational Committees and Boards:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Regional Offices, Committees or Boards:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Other Christian Service:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Nomination form submitted by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Mail this form to:**

**Janet Gehlbach  
c/o Right Hand Award—ILDA 2024  
305 Liberty St. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432**

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

- One-year subscription -- \$10.00
- Two-year subscription -- \$20.00
- Additional donation -- \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please select: \_\_\_ Renew \_\_\_ New

Make your check or money order payable to "ILDA" and put **Deaf Lutheran** in the memo line.



All subscriptions should be sent to the address below. Thanks!

**Carolyn Snyder-Mason  
6721 Deep Run Parkway  
Elkridge, MD 21075**

**Attach mailing label or fill in:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/VP/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

**From the Deaf Lutheran Editor**

If you have any photos or articles of interest to print in the newsletter please let me know! Deadlines for the next issues are:

- Summer issue.....July 15, 2024
- Fall issue.....October 15, 2024
- Winter issue.....January 15, 2025

Please send photos or news articles to: JGehlbach@aol.com or mail to:

Janet Gehlbach  
305 Liberty St. NE  
Fridley, MN 55432

Thanks so much!

**In Memoriam**



**Johanna Palmer**

B: 12/3/1964

D: 2/7/2024

Johanna was the wife of Rev. Bud Palmer, Emmanuel Lutheran Deaf Church, West Allis, WI and an active attender of ILDA conventions.

**Looking forward to seeing you all at the 2024 ILDA convention in Dearborn, Michigan July 11-14, 2024!**



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

Spring Issue 2024

**RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED**

**Mark Your Calendars**  
2024 Convention in Dearborn, Michigan  
July 11-14, 2024

### **ILDA Mission Projects for 2021-2024 as of April 1, 2024**

	<b>Funds Requested</b>	<b>Donations up-to-date</b>
1. Deaf Youth Ministry of Texas	\$7,000	\$7,000 (goal completed)
2. Lutheran Deaf Mission Society -- Kenya	\$1,000	\$1,000 (goal completed)
3. India Deaf Ministry -- IELC	\$6,000	\$6,000 (goal completed)
Accumulating Donations.		\$783
To be carried over to 2024-2026 Mission Projects		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,000</b>	<b>\$14,783 (105%)</b>

Donations for the ILDA 2021-2024 Mission Projects can be sent to: ILDA Treasurer, John Mason, 6721 Deep Run Parkway, Elkridge, MD 21075-6557. Make your check or money order payable to "ILDA" and put "Mission Projects 2021-2024" in the memo line. These mission projects will be paid out in the order listed above. Your prayers and donations help ILDA to continue our work in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the U.S. and foreign countries.