

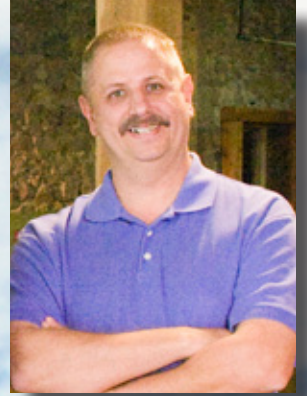


ELDA

Volume • 8 Issue • 2 June 2010

Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association
a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hooray the cold weather has left us until next winter!!! Now we are excited to have beautiful and warm weather to garden, camp, swim, picnic, and fish. Wait a minute – Did you know that we will have ELDA Conference in couple months! ELDA Conference will be held at Malvern, Pennsylvania on Aug 5 – 8, 2010. I have been there three times since I joined ELDA. Wow, it is an inspirational place. ELDA has given us a lot of wisdom, prayer, social time, and excitement. Let's look at some words that have meanings related to INSPIRING!

Interaction

Nature

Spirit

Praying

Induce (Encourage)

Relations

Implore (Hope)

Noble (Gracious)

God

If you are looking for an inspiring time, you will find many wonderful workshops, worship, devotionals, and of course we have social activities! If you have not register, it is not too late to register. You can find more information in this newsletter, or contact Christ the King at 484-319-4256 (Videophone) or Connie Wallace at consuewal@verizon.net . Hope to see you all there on Aug 5th – 8th!!!

Blessings to you all!!!

Mark Koterowski

ELDA President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We received a nice thank you from the Haitian Timoun Foundation
("That All May Have Life." John 10:10)

Dear Friends of the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association,

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Haitian Timoun Foundation. How wonderful for you to connect with a deaf community in Haiti. After the earthquake, the building that houses Pazapa was destroyed. They've located land and have plans for a new building which will be better suited to the students they serve. Currently they are checking in with one of the directors but may not be in school for the remainder of the year. Our funds are going to support families who've lost their homes with food, water, and shelter.

We'll look forward to keeping in contact as Pazapa rebuilds.

With appreciation,
The Haitian Timoun Foundation
March 29, 2010



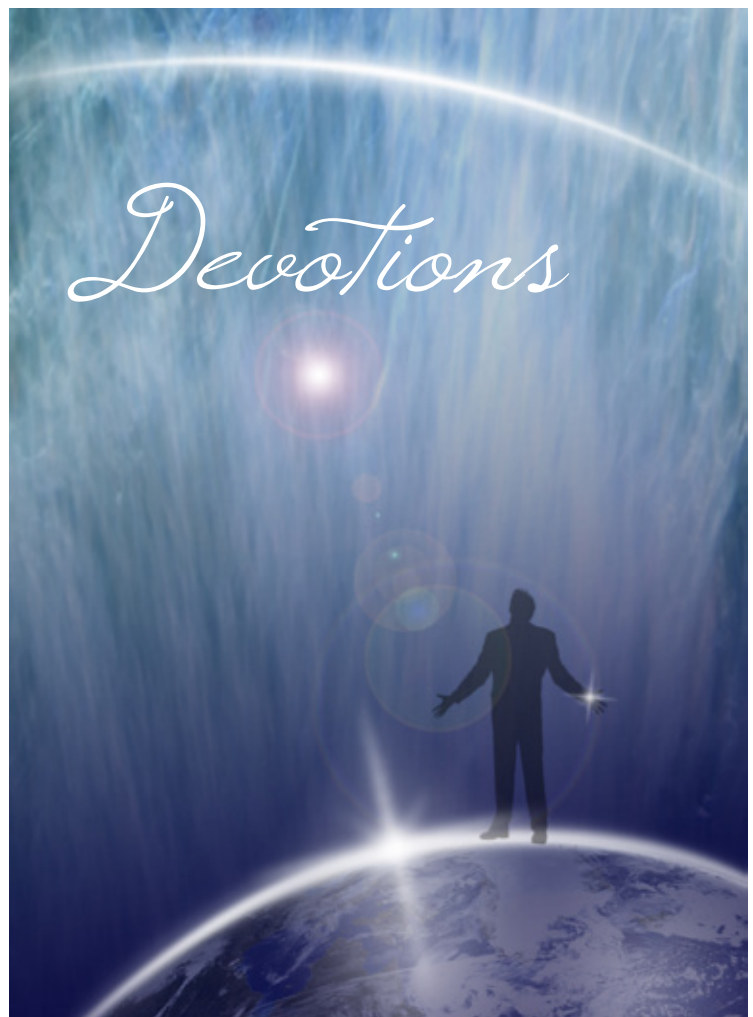
DEVOTIONS

Folks, the exciting ELDA conference is fast approaching. It's going to take place at a beautiful place. Every board member who visited it are truly excited. It is a wonderfully spiritual place. Since I am responsible for assigning devotions throughout the conference, I would like to ask you a big, enormous favor: each church will have the opportunity to give a devotion. Please consider this carefully, let me know what you want to do, and make your devotion the finest and deeply spiritual. The goal is for everyone leaving for home after the conference feeling richly nourished spiritually. Please let me know by contacting me at donkhai99@AOL.com.

God bless you!

Donald L. Rosenkjar

Acting Spiritual Advisor, ELDA Board



FROM PASTOR BETH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Spring has sprung! I enjoyed celebrating the seven-week Easter season and the promise of new life God gives us each day. Our ELDA Conference Committee has been busy. Some of us recently took a train ride from the ELDA retreat center to Philadelphia to find out what our tour will be like. This is what we learned:

The train ride takes one hour to arrive into Philadelphia. We can walk ten minutes to the Independence mall (history center). We will take a box lunch with us.

Our first stop will be the Visitor Center to view a captioned film and use the restrooms.

We will have free tickets and an interpreter reserved to see the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall across the street. The new Constitution Center is NOT a good option for several reasons. We can walk to nearby Ben Franklin Square and view his museum, a film, his post office, print shop and bindery, and the outline and framing of his house. In the next couple blocks we can visit a Philadelphia gift shop, the Betsy Ross House (small additional fee), and view Franklin's grave. We then take the one-hour train ride home

The other tour choice is nearby beautiful Longwood Gardens with 1050 acres of gardens, woodlands, fountains, and fun. You may walk around at any pace and even rent a scooter if you cannot walk. We recommend this for the people who are not interested in history or the busy pace of the city. You will take a box lunch and ride a van for about 30 minutes to these gardens.

We need to know soon how many of you are coming and how many youth will attend. This helps us plan our program better.

We also invite each church to set up a booth to show what is happening at your church. We want to have a program book with each church listed.

Information will be sent in the mail soon.

Each Deaf ministry group in ELDA will receive a \$400 travel grant to be shared among the pastor and delegates.

Please feel free to e-mail our chairperson Connie Wallace at consuewal@verizon.net for information about our program or our treasurer Gordon Bartens at gorllu@yahoo.com for information about the costs. You may VP me at 866-817-9023. Of course, we expect you to practice your skits to compete for the cheesehead award!

If you do not have a church or pastor, please let us know so we can get information to you directly. We hope ELCA interpreted ministries will attend too!

See you in August,
Rev. Beth Lockard
ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator



Treasurer Connie Wallace and baby Lucy meet one of Philadelphia's guides at the Visitor Center.

Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association Conference
August 5 – 8, 2010
McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center
Malvern, Pennsylvania



- Gather with your Deaf Lutheran friends from all over the United States
- Stay in air-conditioned rooms at the McShain-Horstmann Family Life Center
- Family Rates (two double beds & private bath in each room and wheelchair accessible)
- Exciting Youth Activities (No Extra Cost)
- Inspiring workshops and worship opportunities in God's beautiful world
- Tour historical Philadelphia or the famed Longwood Gardens
- Watch the newest Deaf movie, "Universal Signs" made in Philadelphia

Hosted by:
Christ the King Deaf Church, West Chester
St. Philip's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Philadelphia
Word of Life Deaf Lutheran Church, Lancaster



Theme:
"The Earth is the Lord's."
Psalm 24:1

ELDA 2010 Registration Form

Please print clearly, fill in and mail this page with payment to WOLD:

Gordon Bartens
16 Springcrest Dr.
Akron, PA 17501

Deadline: June 25, 2010

Name: _____ Phone: _____ VP / TTY
Street: _____ Email: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Church: _____
Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Phone: _____ VP / TTY

*******All Meals are included*******

1. Pastoral Workers (August 1 at 5 pm to August 8 at noon)
[Retreat Sunday 5 pm to Tuesday pm] \$480.00 Single _____
2. ELDA Board (August 4 to 8) \$400.00 Single _____
[Meeting Wednesday and Thursday] \$720.00 Family _____
3. Conference Attendees (August 5 to 8) \$250.00 Single _____
[Thursday pm to Sunday am] \$535.00 Family _____
4. Commuters (No rooms) \$35.00 a day _____
_____ Day(s) x 35.00 = _____

**Check out time Noon on Sunday, August 8th
(Worship and Lunch at CTK)**

Tour Costs (Friday) (Pick one walking tour)

- A. Historical Philadelphia (www.independencevisitorcenter.com) \$12.00 per person _____
- B. Longwood Gardens (www.longwoodgardens.org) \$12.00 per adult _____
(Scooters Available) \$ 3.00 per child _____

Flying in?

We recommend you fly to Philadelphia International Airport

Arriving: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Airline: _____ Flight Number: _____
Departing: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____ Airline: _____ Flight Number: _____

Your pager number: _____ (so we can be in touch if needed)

Special Needs? (Please circle)

Interpreter/Assistive Needs: Voice Interpreter: Y N
Other (please explain need): _____

Mobility Needs: Wheelchair Y N

Special Meal Needs: Vegetarian Diabetic

WHAT'S HAPPENING

This is the part of the newsletter where you can help! We want to know “what’s happening” in your ministry. Send us stories, pictures, articles or anything of interest. Please email to jason@peacelutheran.com

St. Matthews (CA) www.stmatthewsnoho.org
Hands of Christ Deaf Ministry (WI) www.hocdeaf.org
Christ the King Deaf Church (PA) www.ckdeafchurch.org
Bread of Life Deaf Church (MN) www.breadoflifedeaf.org
Heartland Ephphatha Ministries (SD) www.deaffaith.com
Christ Through Hands Ministry (MN)



Greetings to our ELDA friends from Bread of Life Lutheran Church for the Deaf (BOLD) in Minneapolis!

Whew, we are having a very busy – and wonderful – year at BOLD! Here are some things we’ve done this year:

- our sign choir led worship at the Minneapolis Area Synod assembly last spring (see photos)
- had a speaker from the University of Minnesota speak to us twice about climate control (global warming)
- held an American Red Cross blood drive and donated 22 units of blood (our goal was 18) (see photos)
- held an electronics drive and recycled 2,010 pounds of computers, televisions, etc. – we earned \$600!
- changed our junk room into a beautiful lounge for meetings and social gatherings
- began landscaping the church yard to make it more beautiful for us and our neighbors to enjoy
- decided to no longer provide voice interpreters during worship to help make our worship services more Deaf culture-friendly



- set up a new web page (breadoflifedeaf.org)

This spring (2010) we spent several weeks discussing information about the Bible: Who wrote the Bible? What language(s) was the Bible written in? Did Jesus read the Bible? Is the Bible 100% accurate? What do Lutherans believe about the Bible? We also studied the vote that the ELCA passed last summer to allow GLBTQ (gay/lesbian) clergy to have partners, and we discussed what the Bible says about homosexuality. We have had great discussions about these topics! I am amazed at the very smart questions that people ask every week. I have to do a lot of homework to answer their tough questions! Next fall, a professor from the University of Minnesota will teach us about the Dead Sea Scrolls, then we will take a trip to the

Science Museum and see the Scrolls. This will be a very special, wonderful opportunity for all of us at BOLD!

The most important good news is that our little church is beginning to grow, with new people coming every Sunday. Word is spreading in the Deaf community that BOLD warmly welcomes ALL people, with no exceptions. And it seems that God is sending very talented Deaf people to help us as we grow. For example, one of our new members is a professional videographer, and she will help us add videos to our web page soon. Another new member is a professional actress, and she has been helping to lead our worship services with her beautiful ASL and drama skills. Another new member is a professional financial consultant, and she has been helping us become financially stronger. We are so blessed to have these people as part of our church as we share God's love with the Deaf community in the Twin Cities.

If you are ever in the Twin Cities (Minneapolis and St. Paul), please join us for worship and fellowship. Please check out our web site for information about our Sunday morning schedule and directions to drive to BOLD. And keep us in your prayers as we work to share God's love with the Deaf community in Minnesota.

Faithfully,

Susan Masters (pastor, BOLD)

BOLD BLOOD DRIVE



Patti Pagenkopf



Mary Jo Duncan



the interpreters for the blood drive



Pastor Susan Masters



BOLD at 2009 Synod Assembly





Heartland Ephphatha, South Dakota

T-Shirts

Heartland Ephphatha now has t-shirts for sale. If you would like one send an email to jason@peacelutheran.com They are \$12 each.

Lord's Prayer

Heartland Ephphatha has a video online of the Lord's Prayer. I know many different Deaf Ministries sign the Lord's prayer a little bit differently. Let us know what you think of our version. Click here <http://vimeo.com/12429285> to watch it.

Deaf Faith Bible Stories:

The First Christmas in ASL

Our newest project involves a video series for kids. We started with "The First Christmas". We are still working on editing and doing voice overs for the video, but you can see what we've done so far. Here's the link: <http://vimeo.com/12497902>

We are going to continue producing these videos under the name: Deaf Faith Bible Stories in ASL.



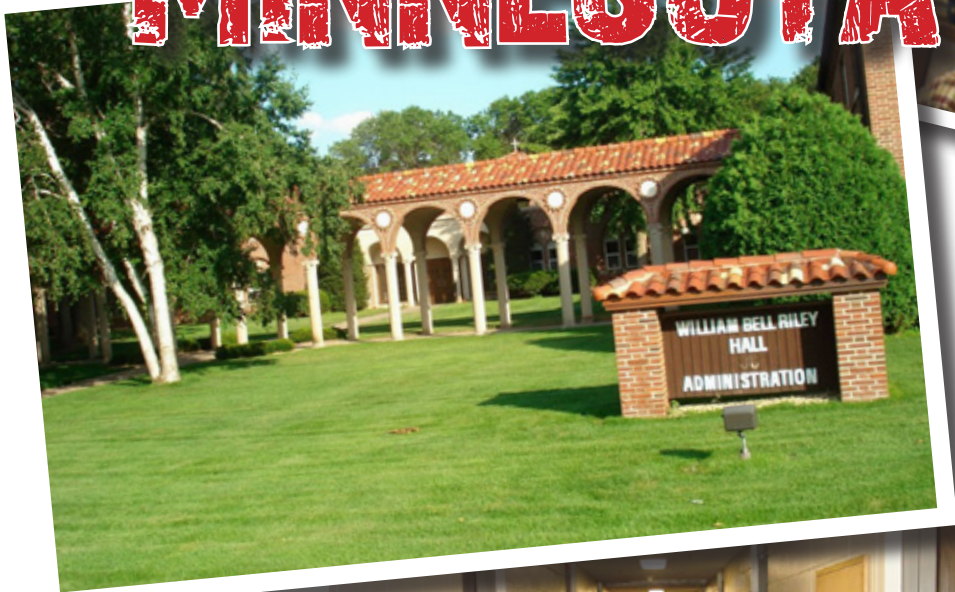
Christ Through Hands Ministry

Deaf Director's article:

For the area of the Deaf Religious Education, we held religious classes at Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf. We had three groups: deaf children, deaf students with special needs, and deaf junior high school students.

Each group met for the religious class every other week. The deaf children watched bible movies (mostly Veggie Tales) and did crafts together. The highlights we did the past year: the creation, Noah and the Ark, Jonah and the whale, Joshua and the Jericho, Queen Esther, Daniel and the Lion, and Jesus Christ. For the highlights, we did the same with the deaf students with special needs but we made a lot of nice crafts together. The last group, deaf junior high school students, and I used this textbook (Talksheets: 50 creative discussion for junior high youth groups). This textbook had a lot of topics but we did not go through all of them. We picked several of them and had ongoing discussions with a lot of questions from the deaf youth. It was good for them as we discussed many important things such as sex, society, friends, and their lives.

ELDA 2008 MINNESOTA



To see more pictures from the 2008 ELDA conference go online to:
<http://picasaweb.google.com/BARTENS1/ELDA2008?feat=email#slideshow/5470916190221404786>

GET TO KNOW YOUR ELDA BOARD MEMBERS



Front row: Rev. Beth Lockard, ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator, Donald Rosenkjar, Immediate Past President and Acting Pastoral Advisor, Connie Wallace, Treasurer, Luanne Bartens, Vice President

Back Row: Rev. Gisele Beringhaus, former Pastoral Advsiors, Mark Koterwski, President and Linda Fairbanks, Secretary

Mark Koterwski

- Vice President and now President for ELDA since 2004

- Board member of Heartland Ephphatha Ministry and Peace Lutheran Church

- Working as a Human Services Consultant, Affluent Solutions, LLC

- Teach ASL classes at University of SD (undergraduate

and graduate)

- Attended Gallaudet University (B.S.)

- My hobbies are camping, woodshop, computer, traveling, playing cards and family time!

- I am married to Angela and we have a beautiful daughter, Kayla!

Luanne Hines Bartens

- Vice President since 2008
- Member and Church Council Secretary of Word of Life Deaf Lutheran Church in Lancaster, PA
- Working as a mail clerk for Mennonite Central Committee, a relief disaster/development/peace church organization
- My interests are walking, traveling, playing card games with my children and watching a good movie. I love animals and cats are my favorite!
- I am married to Gordon Bartens and have 4 wonderful children; Pam, Jeremy, Angie and Jessie from my previous marriage.

Linda Ridgeway Fairbanks

- ELDA Secretary and I am now in my 8th year!
- Former Board member of Christ Through Hands Ministry, Faribault
- Working as a Teacher's Assistant in Mahnommen Child Care and Learning Center. (Mahnommen, MN)
- Attended Rochester Community College, Rochester, MN
- My interests include gardening, camping, remodeling, family time!
- I am married to Les Fairbanks.
- I have 3 sons; Shawn (Breanna), Sonny (Lisa) and Jeremy (Alicia). I have been blessed with 2 grandchildren; Ridgeway Jae whom we fondly call RJ and Paige Lynn.
- My favorite memory of ELDA was when Mark came with all his bags including TTY and pager and he was shocked to find out how simple the monastery we were staying at was. He could not call home!!!

Connie Rothenberger Wallace:

- Treasurer for ELDA since 2006
- Member and Church Council President of Christ the King Deaf Church in West Chester, PA
- Working as a Software Quality Assurance Analyst for Bentley Systems, Inc. for 15 years
- Attended NTID at Rochester Institute of Technology

•My hobbies are scrap booking, gardening, and family biking jaunts.

•I am married to Stefan and we have two children Jayson (Deaf) and Lucy Ann.

•My congregation is one of the three hosting the ELDA Conference this summer and I hope to meet you! We are working hard to plan a productive and enjoyable event.

Rev. Beth Firnhaber Lockard

•Coordinator for Deaf Ministries in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America since 1995 and serve as a liaison with ELDA

•Pastor for Christ the King Deaf Church (West Chester, PA) and interim pastor for St. Phillip's Lutheran Church of the Deaf (Philadelphia)

•Teach Deaf adult literacy classes and ASL and love learning with the students!

•Attended Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Western Maryland College (M.Ed.) and Concordia Lutheran College (B.A.)

•My hobbies are reading, gardening and calligraphy... love to travel!

•I am married to Bill and we have three sons Jesse, Aaron and Micah.

Donald Lance Rosenkjar

•Serving ELDA as its Immediate Past President and Acting Pastoral Advisor.

•Deaf Minister at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church in North Hollywood, CA for the past 12 years.

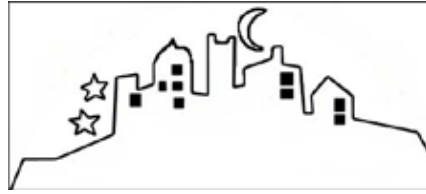
•Teach ASL/Deaf Culture at Loyola Law School's Disabled Rights Legal Center.

•My hobbies are reading, cooking (with great passion!)...love to travel, especially doing charity work abroad.

•I am partnered to Khai Nguyen (22 years) and we have a Deaf Dalmatian (our third Deaf dog) with liver spots.



Evangelical
Lutheran Deaf
Association



ELDA SHINING LIGHT AWARD

“Make your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in Heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16)

This award is for any individual in recognition of his or her outstanding Christ-like ideals demonstrated through his or her work.

Individual Nominated: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please explain why this person has been nominated: _____

Who is nominating this person: _____

Contact E-mail: _____

Contact Phone: _____

TTY _____

VP _____

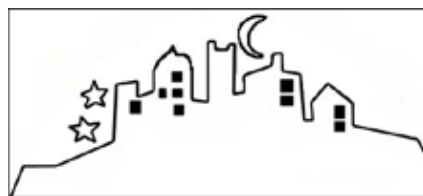
Voice _____

Mail your nomination to:
Linda Fairbanks ELDA Secretary
1083 280th St. Mahnomon, MN 56557

or to eldasecretary@yahoo.com



Evangelical
Lutheran Deaf
Association



ELDA CITY ON A HILL AWARD

“You are like light for the whole world. A city built on top of a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)

This award is for any congregation or organization in recognition of their donation of resources, programs, or ministries that strengthen the Church's outreach to Deaf people with the Gospel anywhere.

Church Nominated: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please explain why this church or ministry has been nominated: _____

Who is nominating this church or ministry: _____

Contact E-mail: _____

Contact Phone: _____

TTY _____

VP _____

Voice _____

Mail your nomination to:

Linda Fairbanks ELDA Secretary
1083 280th St. Mahnomon, MN 56557

or to eldasecretary@yahoo.com

FROM THE TREASURER

Dear Friends in Christ:

We have received some generous gifts to Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association these past two months. I would like to spread the word and thank each of you for your love gifts which will enable ELDA to continue its mission and ministry in many different ways. We gave a \$1000.00 donation to Haitian Timoun Foundation. We have received a nice thank you from them.

A heartfelt thank you to:

- Jason & Sarah Andera (Hope Fund – \$100.00)
- Word of Life Deaf Lutheran, Lancaster, PA (Hope Fund for Haiti - \$200.00)
(Error in last letter thanked Pauline Johnston)
- Word of Life Deaf Lutheran, Lancaster, PA (2010 Annual Dues - \$100.00)
- Word of Life Deaf Lutheran, Lancaster, PA (Lenten Fund - \$200.00)
- St. Philip's Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Phila, PA (2010 Annual Dues - \$100.00)
- St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, N. Hollywood, CA (2010 Annual Dues - \$100.00)
- Barb Schmidt (Recycling Fund - \$14.60)

Please remember your 2010 dues which are \$100.00 for each ministry and are due immediately. We still need your annual support so that we can keep ELDA doing God's work with our hands. All checks may be sent to "ELDA" at the above address on the letterhead.

We hope to see you all in Pennsylvania this coming summer. Registration deadline is June 25th! Remember that all meals are included with room registration.

In Christ,

Connie Wallace