



ELDA

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



Linda Fairbanks
ELDA President

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Linda Fairbanks

Easter greetings to you! Spring is not yet here in many areas where snow has fallen. The northeastern USA and other areas up and down the east coast had just been hit by a big blizzard which dumped more than two feet of snow in the regions. Schools and many businesses are closed and snowplows are out trying to clear all the roads. Life as we know it has come to a standstill. While we wait in our warm homes, we find time to catch up on housework, paperwork or to prepare for the weeks ahead. We should take time to reflect on the Lenten season, leading up to Easter and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On February 11th, the Bread of Life Lutheran Deaf Church held a fundraiser, silent auction and a delicious spaghetti dinner for AIM Dorothy Sparks. I was honored to represent ELDA by attending the events at BOLD that day. I was also able to say a few words and present Dorothy with a check for \$300. Both BOLD and ELDA are happy to have Dorothy back after she was hospitalized for 5 weeks and getting her health back by recovering at Lincoln, NE. The ELDA Board has been keeping busy. We are finalizing the ELDA Conference guidelines and

following up on the motions that were made at the 2016 ELDA Conference. Don Rosenkjar and his committee from St Matthews Lutheran Church are working on a site for the 2018 ELDA conference. Plans are being made for the Board to meet in Las Vegas to check out the conference site and meet with the committee. That will take place this August and after that we should have conference details sent out.

I am going to have a little fun with some history of ELDA. Here we go... The first ELDA newsletter was printed in July 1999. The Editors were Brenda Rockwell and Barbara Schmidt. At that time the ELDA Board members were President Bob Radtke of Chicago, IL, Vice President Lorna Rasmussen, Osseo, MN, and Secretary Barb Schmidt of Coon Rapids, MN, Treasurer Sal Leone from Philadelphia, PA and Pastoral Advisor Russ Rockwell of Minneapolis, MN. Church membership dues were \$100.00 or more a year. Some churches donated \$100 and others donated \$200. Plans were being made for the 2000 ELDA Convention. The conference took place at the Willow Valley Resort and

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UPDATE ON DOROTHY FUNDRAISER

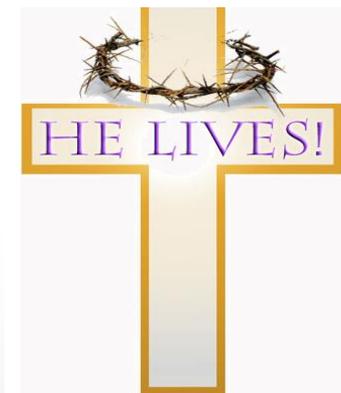
NEW SIGN FOR THE DEAF CHURCH IN NIGERIA

DOROTHY'S SPIRITUAL ARTICLE

LENTEN APPEAL

ARTICLE FROM LIVING LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

AND MORE...



GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

Conference Center in Lancaster, PA and was hosted by the Christ the King Deaf Lutheran Church. The theme of the conference was "Forward with Christ in 2000."

In the next few newsletters, I will share some history facts about ELDA and I hope to share some photos also. If you have any photos from past conferences, please share them with me and I will put them in the newsletter. Thank you!

*1. I know that my Redeemer lives.
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead.
He lives, my ever-living Head.
He lives to bless me with His love.
He lives to plead for me above.
He lives my hungry soul to feed.
He lives to bless in time of need.*

*4. He lives! All glory to His name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same.
Oh, sweet the joy this sentence gives:
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"
He lives! All glory to His name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same.
Oh, sweet the joy this sentence gives:
"I know that my Redeemer lives!"*

Hymnal Number 136 (1835)
I know that my Redeemer lives! Happy Easter! -Linda

TRINITY LUTHERAN

Members of Trinity Deaf Church celebrated Theda Longacre's 98th Birthday on March 5th. Theda has been attending church and Deaf events for over 70 years. She loves to be included in all our activities. When talking with people she always tells them "I am not Deaf just Hard of Hearing" She then shares her experiences while attending Philadelphia School for the Deaf. What a joy it is to listen to her many stories of growing up in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing world. We are truly blessed to have Theda as an active member of our church. Thanks be to God.

--Dee Horst, Deaf Ministry Coordinator, Trinity Lutheran Deaf Church,
Reading, PA

WORD OF LIFE DEAF

In February, WOLD hosted another “Meal-and-a-Movie” event. We had a lasagna dinner and watched the movie “23 Blast,” based on the inspiring, true story about a high school student who went blind, yet still found a way to play football.

In Lent, for the “first time ever(!),” WOLD & CTK are doing a “Lenten Pulpit Exchange.” Twice in March, Pastors Beth Lockard (CTK) and Russ Rockwell (WOLD) will travel to each other’s churches and lead worship and preach on a special sermon series on “The Signs of Christ from John’s Gospel.” These are the Signs from John’s gospel that will be used in the sermon series: “Turning Water into Wine (Jn 2:1-11),” “Healing the Nobleman’s Son (Jn 4:46-54),” “Feeding the Multitude (Jn 6:1-14),” “Healing the Blind Man (Jn 9:1-41),” “Raising Lazarus (Jn 11:17-45).

WOLD’s Bible Study on “The Messianic Prophecies” continues, and a website for WOLD is in the works. :)

WOLD WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Lent 2017

Mar. 1 - Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 5 - 1st Sunday in Lent at 9:30 a.m.

Mar. 8 - Wed. Midweek Lenten Svc. with St. Peter’s at 7:00 p.m. (interpreted)

- Lenten meal & fellowship at 6:15 p.m.!!

Mar. 12 - 2nd Sunday in Lent at 9:30 a.m. (guest pastor: the Rev. Beth Lockard!)

Mar. 15- Wed. Midweek Lenten Svc. with St. Peter’s at 7:00 p.m. (interpreted)

- Lenten meal & fellowship at 6:15 p.m.!!

Mar. 19 - 3rd Sunday in Lent at 9:30 a.m.

Mar. 22 - Wed. Midweek Lenten Svc. with St. Peter’s at 7:00 p.m. (interpreted)

- Lenten meal & fellowship at 6:15 p.m.!! — WOLD serves this meal!

Mar. 26 - 4th Sunday in Lent at 9:30 a.m. (guest pastor: the Rev. Beth Lockard!)

Mar. 29 - Wed. Midweek Lenten Svc. with St. Peter’s at 7:00 p.m. (interpreted)

- Lenten meal & fellowship at 6:15 p.m.!!

Apr. 2 - 5th Sunday in Lent at 9:30 a.m.

Apr. 5 - Wed. Midweek Lenten Svc. with St. Peter’s at 7:00 p.m. (interpreted)

- Lenten meal & fellowship at 6:15 p.m.!!

Apr. 9 - PALM SUNDAY at 10:00 a.m. (St. Peter’s Palm Sunday Breakfast at 9:00 a.m.)

Apr. 14 - GOOD FRIDAY at 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 16 - EASTER (The Resurrection of our Lord) at 10:00 a.m.



NEW WEBSITE FOR WOLD!

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

This is an excerpt from the Living Lutheran Magazine featuring ELDA members Angela and Mark Koterwski at their home church, Peace Lutheran Church, in Sioux Falls, SD. You can click here for the online article too <http://www.livinglutheran.org/2017/03/signs-of-welcome/>

Signs of welcome: ELCA deaf ministries

By Cindy Uken

As a child, Angela Koterwski would recite her bedtime prayers by mimicking her mother. It was the only time she would pray. While she shadowed her mother's gestures, the little girl didn't fully comprehend what she was saying, or why.

She was the only deaf member of her family.

"It was the thing to do," Koterwski said. "My parents took me to church, but I didn't get it. I didn't know God. I didn't even have a general idea."

It wasn't until 2001 when Koterwski and her husband, Mark, who is also deaf, began their lifelong quest to know God. Both were in their 30s. They began attending Peace Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, S.D., which has four interpreters to minister to the deaf community and also has a deaf Bible study.

"I craved God's message," Mark said. "I got so absorbed. We were able to get caught up—not 100 percent. I have a lot more to learn. I didn't know you could have a relationship with God."

An estimated 95 percent of deaf people don't attend worship simply because they don't understand the hymns or the Bible, said Mark, who is a deaf interpreter and an American Sign Language (ASL) teacher skilled with translating.

Peace is one of about a dozen active worship sites for the deaf in the ELCA, said Beth Lockard, pastor of Christ the King Deaf Church, West Chester, Pa.; director for ELCA deaf ministries; and one of three deaf Lutheran women ordained in the world. She said it's a challenge for churches to find and maintain qualified interpreters for worship and even harder to find pastors fluent in ASL to serve existing ministries.

The ELCA has both deaf Lutheran churches and congregations with interpreted ministries. Each ministry is unique and fits the congregation and funding available. The ministries embrace ASL and the American deaf culture.

In funding and recognizing these ministries, the ELCA has shown that it respects the visual language and culture of the deaf community, Lockard said. ASL is seen by many as the third most-used language in the United States, behind English and Spanish.

Though the ELCA helps pay for and acknowledges deaf ministries, this community still suffers from a long history of being alienated from the church, Lockard said. There was a time when deaf people were told they were cursed and would hear when they ascended into heaven.

Lockard hopes the future will include lay and seminary training for deaf leaders, and said ELCA deaf ministries is beginning to work with pastors from ELCA partner denominations.

For the deaf community, having access to interpreters means attending a church that welcomes all God's children. And for hearing family members, it shows that the church wants to include their whole family together in worship, she said.

"We are all created in God's image—we are not children of a lesser God," she said. "We all have gifts to bring to God's table."



Carmen Steen interprets for deaf members during worship at Peace Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, S.D. Peace has four interpreters and a Bible study for the deaf community.





Mark and Angela Koterwski (below), members of Peace who are deaf, began to form a relationship with God in their 30s after they started attending worship at the church. Mark says a majority of deaf people don't attend worship because they aren't able to understand what's happening during the service.



Koterwski (right) signs with another congregation member. Until she started attending Peace, a congregation that has interpreters, Koterwski said she didn't really know who God was.

Points of interpretation

Good interpreters will interpret the concepts rather than word for word (transliteration), Lockard said. "This is done especially during the sermon, Scripture readings and prayers," she said. "But there are parts of liturgy that are considered 'frozen text,' such as the Lord's Prayer and Apostles' Creed, that are often signed more literally."

The ELCA needs to continue to make deaf ministry a priority, said Anita Smallin, who helped organize a conference last year for ASL interpreters. "Most folks who are deaf are not churched," she said. "I have learned about stories where a faith healer wasn't able to 'cure' a deaf person and their families lost faith. I have heard of folks being asked to leave churches because an interpreter was too expensive or distracting."

Smallin, director of youth and family ministries at Trinity Lutheran Church in North Bethesda, Md., said having an interpreter at worship is one less barrier for a deaf person to enter the life of a church.

The ELCA's preference is for a qualified or certified interpreter in the community to mentor a church interpreter or take special training to learn the particular signs and liturgy.

Liisa Mendoza, a college professor who teaches ASL and interpreting full time, voluntarily interprets at Hope Lutheran Church in Palm Desert, Calif. "Like Luther—who translated the Bible into German—I believe that people should be able to navigate their relationship to God in their native language," she said. "Deaf people should be able to participate in the service as fully as hearing people."

The entire church benefits from including people of diverse cultures and languages, Mendoza said. 



Go to LivingLutheran.org for a story on the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association's partnership with the Jamaica Christian School for the Deaf.



Cindy Uken is a veteran, award-winning reporter based in Palm Springs, Calif. She has worked at *USA Today*, as well as newspapers in South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and California.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Pastor Beth Lockard

Dear ELDA Friends;

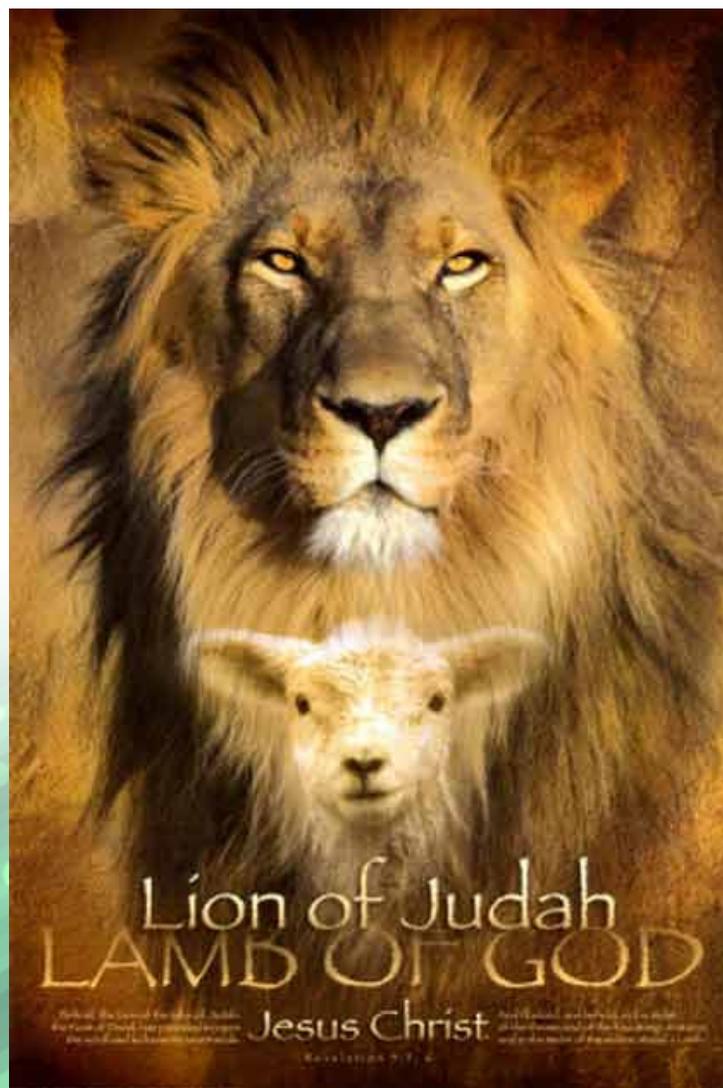
As I write this, spring came in like a LAMB and out like a LION here on the East Coast. We had some beautiful 75 degree days in February which made daffodils come up and cherry trees blossom. Kids ran around in shorts much to their parent's dismay. Miraculous weather for February! Then March brought colder freezing temperatures and a Nor-Easter blizzard that dumped snow, sleet, and ice all over. Poor flowers, trees, and people!

This is like the Easter story. Jesus was arrested, tortured, crucified and hung to die in front of laughing and crying people and soldiers. He was seen as weak and was called the sacrificial LAMB of God. But, Jesus surprised everyone with his resurrection power and rise to life three days later. He was God's LION that beat sin, death, and the devil! God's power roared into history and showed us the Lion of Judah, a symbol of strength and victory.

IF you have read the children's book series, Chronicles of Narnia, or watched the movie, the "Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," you may understand the lion and lamb idea better. In the book of Revelation, Jesus is called the Lion of Judah and the Root of David which refer to His family line and victory.

Let us remember we are God's children, His LAMBS. But He has made us LIONS in His kingdom and given us His wonderful strong power! A blessed Easter to each of you. Remember who Jesus is and who you are!

Pr. Beth Lockard
ELCA Deaf Ministries



We need your servant hands and hearts!

Travel to Montego Bay, Jamaica

September 7--16, 2017

to work daily with 50 students in a mountain school

JAMAICA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

and take a side trip to central Jamaica's

DEAF VILLAGE

We will stay at Holiday Inn Resort, Montego Bay for 9 nights
Cost approximately \$1400 includes round trip airfare, lodging, meals,
room tax, shuttle, and travel insurance

If you want to go:

- Confirm your interest NOW to lockardbeth@gmail.com
- Find a roommate to travel with you (we may have someone)
- We will help you book your flight & room (need \$1400 now). Those flying from outside Philadelphia **may** have a slightly different cost.
- Have a U.S. passport that does not expire until after March, 2018.
- Indicate if you want to work with youth or do building repair
 - No visas or vaccinations are needed

We would like to bring the following requested by JCSD:

*school supplies (dry erase markers, craft supplies, glue sticks, markers, etc.)

*Cash gifts will pay for additional supplies like printer ink

*a Bible story curriculum for the school & books for their new one-room library

*some student tuition grants (\$500 a year for each student)

Old luggage with wheels will be used to carry the gifts to the school. We fix up buildings and lead a Vacation Bible School. We need a teacher to train staff in current Deaf Ed trends (especially reading and writing)

This will be an annual working trip.

If you cannot come this year, please let us know your interest for 2017.

+ Dorothy Sparks & Beth Lockard+

ELDA LENTEN APPEAL 2017



The ELDA Lenten Appeal donations go into the HOPE Fund. The HOPE Fund stands for “Helping Other People Empower”. It is important to give towards this fund so that we are able to give to those people who are in need and it also supports our mission teams. Last year the HOPE Fund was used to pay for Pastor Ruth Ulea’s trip to America. HOPE funds also supported the Jamaica Mission Team in past years.

Your church or ministry can give whatever you can. The ELDA Board thanks you for your donations. Have you sent in your church or ministry membership dues in yet? If you have already sent in your membership dues, thank you!!! The annual membership dues help ELDA to “do God’s work with our hands.”

Some of you may not be a member of a church, yet you still want to support ELDA. We now offer yearly membership dues for individuals and families, listed below:

ELDA Church/Ministry Membership dues: \$125.00

ELDA Membership dues for families: \$25.00

ELDA Membership dues for individuals: \$15.00

Please send a check made out to ELDA for your Lenten Appeal donations and/or membership dues to:

ELDA Treasurer Jeff Panek

625 South Mary Drive

Tea, South Dakota 57064

If you have Thrivent Choice, you may list ELDA as one of your choices. You can either click on to add ELDA or talk to your Thrivent agent about adding ELDA to your Thrivent Choice. In 2015 and 2016 ELDA received donations from the Thrivent Choice participants. ELDA is a 501 (C) 3 non-profit tax exempt organization. Your donations are appreciated. Thank you!

CTK PALM SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday celebration, April 9, 2017



Luncheon at 12:00 Noon downstairs

Menu:

Baked Ham with Pineapple Sauce...Scalloped Potatoes

Green Beans with almonds...Cole Slaw

Rolls & butter...Applesauce

Festive Punch & Donated desserts

\$12 adults, \$6 youth 12 & under, RSVP to church by April 5

484-319-4256 or CTK1991@gmail.com



Movie: "Son of God" at 2 p.m.

Easter Service (Saturday, April 15) 11 a.m.

*Christ the King Deaf Church (in St. John's)
3101 Tyson Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19149*



Easter Sunday (April 16) 10:30 a.m.

*Christ the King Deaf Church (in Calvary)
730 South New Street, West Chester, PA 19382*



Valley View Easter service at 2 p.m.

111 Elwyn Road, Elwyn, PA 19363

DOROTHY SPARKS FUNDRAISER!

BOLD hosts a fundraising event for Dorothy Sparks
By Anita Buel

BOLD committee of 10 members worked very hard to put together a fundraising event to help Dorothy with her expenses that she faced since her stroke last October. Our theme for the event of February 11th was “We Love You, Dorothy!” It was a perfect theme with Valentine’s Day weekend.

Pastor Michelle created a flyer and set up a GoFundMe account. We were so thrilled that Dorothy was able to fly in to join the event. Everyone got a chance to visit with her and felt it was a miracle that she recovered well and we all knew it was God’s love that helped her recovery.

Dorothy has been a member of Bread of Life for 30 years. The event was a success. So many friends, far and near came to help celebrate. We lost count of how many people attended, but we know it was at least 120 people. We had a spaghetti dinner and silent auction. 4 ASL college students volunteered too. Total amount of that night event was \$3,500.00. We received more cards to give to Dorothy after the event.

God is able to provide Dorothy with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, she may share abundantly in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

The members at Bread of Life Deaf Church are thrilled to have her back and we are making sure that she is taken care of! Thank you for your support to this Fundraising project!



ELM MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Mission Statement: "In the Presence of Jesus Christ, with mutual love and respect, the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf (ECD), the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association (ELDA) and the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf (UMCD) partner together to inspire and transform the lives of Deaf people."

Vision Statement: "Together as one, with God's help we strive to build a spectrum of ministries with Deaf people, passionately engaged in creating and supporting diverse ministries, outreach, communication, worship resources, and leadership development that show the love and grace of Jesus Christ to everyone we meet."

THE ELDA MISSION STATEMENT

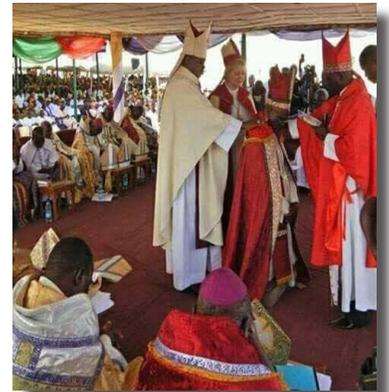
The Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association (ELDA) is a national Lutheran organization of Deaf ELCA congregations, interpreted ministries, and their members which supports a core value of ASL and American Deaf Culture. ELDA advocates Deaf spirituality and empowerment, Deaf global missions and youth outreach, interpreter training, and a biennial conference.



LCCN CONFERENCE

By: Pastor Ruth Ulea (photos taken by Jay Johnson)

This first picture is of Bishop Ann Svennungsen from the Minneapolis Area Synod who came to visit in Nigeria for the convention at Demsa. Her visit was a good one and the people in Africa were surprised to see a female Bishop for the first time. Wow! We all appreciated her visit and hope to see her again. Her next trip is to Washington,DC. Bishop Ann also visited the Church for the Deaf in Jimeta/Yola, Nigeria. The other two photos are from the LCCN Conference that Bishop Ann Svennungsen and many others had attended.



THE CHURCH FOR THE DEAF, JIMETA, NIGERIA

**The
Church for
the Deaf in
Nigeria
gets a new
sign!**



SPIRITUAL SIDE:

by Dorothy Sparks, AIM at BOLD, Minneapolis, MN

Ne Plus Ultra'



In 1492, Christopher Columbus in Spain figured out a short way to India instead of sailing south and pass Africa. Then he decided to sail west. Today, in Spain, it has a sculpture with a motto, 'Ne Plus Ultra'. It means, "No More Beyond".

Beyond means Ahead. On the sculpture, lion torn 'Ne' away. It translated 'More Beyond'. For a long time, many people refused to go beyond and sail west. Christopher Columbus did go beyond and sail west.

How doe Ne Plus Ultra apply to our faith?

Early Morning on the Easter Day, Mary and women walked on the way to Jesus' tomb.



Then they were so surprised to see that the tombstone is moved. They run to Jesus' disciples and informed them that the tomb was empty. They thought that someone took Jesus' body. They were so sad and walked away. That night, the disciples got together in a house. The door was locked because they were afraid that soldiers may arrest them. Then Jesus appeared in this room. The disciples were so surprised to see Jesus. They began to believe that Jesus did go beyond and rose from the dead. One of the disciples, Thomas, was not there. The disciples told him about Jesus. He did not believe them. Another night, Jesus appeared to them again. Thomas was shocked. Then all the disciples did go beyond and tell others that Jesus is risen and alive.

What's more? Jesus already takes "Ne" away. It means that Jesus accepts a burden of our sins. God forgives us. This is **Good News!**



WHAT CAN WE DO? We can go **beyond** and share God's love, grace and peace with others. Let's go **beyond** and make a world of difference

PASTOR DAYTON WILLIAMS IS RETIRING

Pastor Dayton Williams from Lutheran Deaf Ministry of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod is set to retire June 1st, 2017. He was called to be the Pastor for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing of the Synod in 1993.

Pastor Dayton Started studying American Sign Language as a junior at Concordia Senior Lutheran College in Fort Wayne, Indiana. For the second half of his junior year and all of his senior year he worked as a lay Pastor for a small Deaf congregation that met in a chapel of the Lutheran High School there. He worked under the supervision of a retired pastor for the Deaf.

He attended an Interpreter Training Program at Gallaudet College in Washington, D. C. in 1976 and was certified by the Registry for Interpreters of the Deaf in 1979.

He attended both Concordia Seminary and Concordia Seminary in Exile (Seminex) for a while and then quit going to Concordia and eventually graduated from Seminex. While he was in Saint Louis for Seminary, he interpreted for a Deaf student at Concordia Seminary and students as a local Community College.

His internship was at a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod congregation for the Deaf in Philadelphia under the tutelage of Pastor Jerry Munz, now retired. When he returned to Saint Louis for his last year of seminary he led weekly worship for a Deaf group that met in a chapel at Union Avenue Christian Church, a congregation of the Disciples of Christ.



His first three calls to ministry were to Hearing congregations. He met a Deaf couple in a Burger King restaurant in 1990 while serving Ascension Lutheran Church in Memphis, Tennessee. They started attending Ascension and he signed the sermon and liturgy for them. A member of the congregation who worked with the Deaf assisted him.

So, the next time Ascension's annual report was filed, he marked "Sign" as a language used there. That got his name on the short list of ELCA Pastor's who know Sign Language.

A Deaf couple who attended a Metropolitan Chicago Synod congregation with interpreters wanted to get married by a pastor who could sign, but none who were ELCA anywhere near Chicago could be found. So they got married by a pastor of another denomination. Their frustration started a process working with their pastor and a Hard-of-Hearing member. It led to the Metropolitan Chicago becoming the first Synod in the ELCA to accept ASL as a language and culture other than English.

They also did some research, got some funding from Churchwide (the national church) and the Synod in order to cover the expense of calling a pastor. They went through a lengthy process that led to calling Pastor Dayton in 1993. They expected the call to last five years. It has lasted much longer!

This has been an unusual and challenging call. He was not called to create or pastor a Deaf congregation. He was to be a Pastor to Deaf members at congregations all over the synod, some of whom, before he arrived, had no interpreting in the congregations they attended. They would get a printed copy of the sermon and take communion. Pastor Dayton traveled the Synod so that Deaf people could see a pastor sign a sermon or the words for Holy Communion in their own language. Hearing pastors knew to call him if they needed someone to do a Deaf wedding or interpret for pre-baptism classes, baptisms, funerals or confirmations, etc.

Some members of the Deaf group served as a signing choir who would travel with him to various congregations to spread the word about the needs of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing people. Pastor Dayton consulted with congregations on how to get interpreters for their Deaf members and Assistive Listening Devices for their Hard-of-Hearing members. He taught a few classes in ASL in congregations and at the ELCA Seminary in Chicago. He also taught one "Introduction to Deaf Ministry" course there.

The entire time Heidi Hagstrom was the Director for the ELCA Youth Gathering, Pastor Dayton worked hard to educate the gathering staff on the needs of Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing teens and adults.

ELDA Online

Remember our website is www.ELDADeaf.org
our facebook page is:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ELDADeaf/>

NEWS

Please help our newsletter! Send me your pictures and stories about your ministry. We'd love to put it in our next newsletter.

September, December, March and June

Read through this issue and let us know what you think. This is your newsletter; we want to know what topics and articles that you want to see in the newsletters. If there is a person, a church or something of interest that you want us to spotlight on, let us know! Feel free to send your feedback to President Linda Fairbanks, lindafairbanks22@gmail.com and I will share with our Newsletter Editor. Thanks!