



# The DEAF LUTHERAN



Official Publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association & the Board for Missions of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Summer, 1998

St. Louis, MO

Volumes 90, No. 3

## ILDA Board Meeting... May 22-24, 1998 St. Louis, Missouri

A summary of what was discussed at the 1998 ILDA Board Meeting. All of the officers, regional presidents or substitute, and Tack Forces, gave their reports.

ILDA Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Donald Leber gave us the daily devotion from Psalms 96 and 121:0 on Saturday. (I don't know what was read on Friday as we Cleveland folks missed the meeting. See article on page 5 about our trip!)

Karen Beiter reported treasury balance of \$60,910.90. Almost all of that monies belongs to restrictive categories and funds.

ILDA's \$50,000 Mission Project fund is now \$21,124 with one year left to reach our goal.

Each ILDA region presidents or substitutes gave their reports. St. Louis '97 Convention report was submitted. After almost a year of trying to close their book, they reported a balance of \$2,461.28. Of that money, \$1,500 was given to the Jr. ILDA and \$961.28 to Cleveland '99 Convention.

D/L reported a balance of \$2,683.25 to cover the remaining issues in 1998.

Rev. Rodney R. Rynearson gave his reports and speeches.

**Your ILDA Historian, Mae Madding, deeply requested your church newsletters and death notice of present and former**

**ILDA members.** She reported that only two names were sent to her since St. Louis. Anyone who have deceased from July, 1997 to May, 1999 that was (or were) ILDA member(s) or friend of ILDA, please let her know as she wanted to prepare her report to Cleveland '99.

During new business session, it was motioned and passed that ILDA Membership dues will be in a two-year fee period instead of an annual fee. That mean Membership fee will be \$10.00 per person for two years. (Oct 1, 1998-Sept 30, 2000.)

Also motioned and passed is the annual Deaf Lutheran subscription rate will go to \$7.50 per year for Individual and \$7.00 per year for the blanket plan. D/L rates hasn't changed for many year and we have found it impossible to stay debt-free without borrowing from ILDA treasury. Someone motioned and passed that D/L will be issued four times a year instead of six.

Last, after the meeting adjourned, we all headed to Holy Cross Lutheran Church for a surprised 25th Anniversary party given to our President, Dennis Konkel and his wife, Susan. Boy were they surprised!

Sunday worship service was held at Holy Cross and preached by Rev. Moody. It was his first service in many month.



Rev. Rodney Rynearson,  
LCMS World Mission



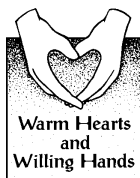
Mae Madding, ILDA  
Historian and ILDA  
President Dennis Konkel



Surprised Dennis and Susan Konkel and the  
25th Aniversary party and cake.

## Notice from the Nomination Committee

NEEDED:



Many preparations have already been started for our coming 1999 ILDA Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. The host is working hard on the convention plans. The ILDA Board of Directors meet together last month and our ILDA members will be gathering at the several regional conferences soon. The Nomination Committee needs to plan, too. The committee is requesting your nominations for candidates for all the

ILDA offices from both the regional branches and the congregations. Please prayerfully consider, support and bring your nominations to your regional conferences. Thanks! God's Blessings to our ILDA supporters as we continue our work together to glorify Him in the name of Jesus.

Larry Gorton,  
Chair and the past ILDA Presidents  
via e-mail: LAJAGORTON@JUNO.COM

## News From Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis!

The 1997-98 school year was exciting. God blessed Concordia with three men who are planning to go into full-time work among deaf people. We thank God for sending these men to Concordia!

David Nielsen, fourth-year student, will graduate this year. David will receive a call to be a pastor in the next few months. David served his vicarage at Calvary-Deaf in Des Moines, Iowa under Pastor Darrel Kois.

Bill Wrede, second-year student, will be a vicar next year. In August, he will move to southern California and work for six months under the supervision of Pastor Don Leber. Beginning in February, Bill will spend six months at Christ-Deaf in Silver Spring, Maryland and at Gallaudet University under the supervision of Pastor George Natonick.

Dennis Konkel, first-year student, will take classes this summer and next year. Dennis is doing his field work at Holy Cross-Deaf in Saint Louis under the supervision of Pastor Richard Moody.

The Seminary Sign School has classes to teach people American Sign Language. This past year, an average of 62 people studied sign language at the Seminary. Eight seminary students took sign language classes to either get some experience in sign language or to think about full-time deaf ministry. Many people in the classes are family members of seminary students or are from the Saint Louis area.

Please remember Concordia Seminary and all of the students in your prayers.

## Mill Neck Deaf Camp at Camp Ma-He-Tu

On August 16-22, Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry is sponsoring a unique and innovative program for campers who are Deaf. This five-day program will be held at Camp Ma-He-Tu in Bear Mountain, New York. Under the direction of Barbara Lanman, Coordinator of Deaf Ministry for Mill Neck Foundation, the camp is for children ages 9-14.

Activities will include swimming, hiking, canoeing, sailboating, arts & crafts, campfires and camp outs. During the

week, campers will also study stories from the Bible. On Friday, Monique Holt will teach how these Bible stories can be put into drama. Monique is a Deaf actress who has performed on TV and in commercials.

Campers will have counselors and leaders who are Deaf or who are experienced in sign language. The cost of the camp is \$175.00. If you are interested? You can call Barbara Lanman for additional information at (516) 922-3880 ext. 267.

## Editor's Note...

In the last Deaf Lutheran issue, page 2, article "Bible Class Videos for Deaf Children in Sign Language", I was recently informed by Gloria Edwards, President, that a major part of the project was funded by the

ILWML organization. Please give thanks to the ILWML. Don't forget ILWML's 28th Biennial Convention on July 1-4, 1999 in Minneapolis, Minnesota!



*Left to right: Rev. Leber, Karen Beiter, Robert Dunnington, Donald Mowl.*



*Pam Kane, Mission Project and Cleveland '99 Chairperson.*



*Charles Kotel, Pacific Region*



*Left to right: Donald Mowl, Ron Madding, Richard & Mary Tingler, Sharon Schwartz, Carol Seeger, Carol Pickell.*



*Donald Mowl, Right Hand Award Chairperson*



*Left to right: Pam Kane, Charles Kotel, Diane Munoz, Richard Norton, Alice Hagemeyer, Dennis Konkel.*



*Larry Ginter, Deaf Lutheran Business Manager*



*Left: Carol Seeger, Dixie Region.  
Right: Mary Tingler, God's 1000 and Cleveland '99 Registration Chairperson.*



*David Brown, Deaf Lutheran Editor  
Rev. Donald Leber, ILDA Pastor Advisor*

# News from around the Regions...



## Northwest Region...

**ILDA-NW Convergence** is on July 31-August 2, 1998 at Edmonton Baptist Seminary, Canada.

**Mr. Christian Hall Magnuson** was given Christian burial on May 8, 1998. Memorial services for **Judie Diane Husted** of Seattle was held March 27th and for **John Arne Anderson** on March 28th.

Faith Deaf, Spokane... **Mel Johnson** on February 23 has join Jesus in Heaven.

## Pacific Region...

**Pilgrim Deaf, LA...** reported all their copper pipes were solen from their church in February. The had no water for over a month. They had 5 break ins since November! They are praying for special contributions to cover part of the \$2,100 expense.

**Dolly Jackson, Vivian Piero, Einer Rosenkjar, Agnes Bruns, Junior McLane, and Walter Burns** were called home to heaven.

Don't forget the Lutheran Deaf Camp (Aug 2-7, 1998). Contact Rev. Leber.

## Midwest Region...

**Rev. John Reinke and family** should be home in the USA by now from Africa. His e-mail address is back to: RevReinke@aol.com. Welcome home!

## Central Region...

Peace Deaf, Indianapolis... **Fall Retreat** will be held on October 14-16 at WayCross in Brown County.

## Great Lakes Region...

**Great Lakes Regional Conference** (GLRC) will be held in Livonia, Michigan on August 21-23. Sponsored by Our Savior Lutheran church of th Deaf.

**Trinity Deaf, Pittsburgh...** celebrated their church's 35th Anniversary of the church building on March 29th. Former pastor, George Ring was their guest pastor.

**Kitty Pumphrey, Margaret Coan, John Bennet, Charles McKinney, Milford Holiday, and Chris Smith** has entered God's Kingdom.

Alpha Lutheran-Deaf, Rochester... Check our web sites! [www.rit.edu/~txecpm/alpha/index](http://www.rit.edu/~txecpm/alpha/index). Also check ILDA new site at [www.rit.edu/~txecpm/ilda/index](http://www.rit.edu/~txecpm/ilda/index). Both sites are up and running.

## Eastern Region...

Chapel for the Deaf, Charlotte... **Mildred Corbett and Dorothy Morrow** went to be with their Lord.

Chapel members had their first meeting to begin planning for the 2001 ILDA. Theme is "**The Crown of Life.**"



**Lutheran Special Education Ministries**, formerly Lutheran School for the Deaf in Detroit, Michigan, observed 125th anniversary of the establishment for the deaf school on Sunday, the 29th of March. **Emmanuel Lutheran Church of the Deaf** in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will celebrate 100th anniversary as the organized deaf congregation on Sunday, July 26th.



*Winter Camp group shot at Camp Mowana, Mansfield, Ohio in February, 1998*

## Friends,

AAL Branch 3838 voted today to support Jennifer Knaack with an AAL Helping Hands project for \$700 matching gifts raised.

A e-mail letter from Jennifer asked for your help. Jennifer is deaf, has been attending Gallaudet University and she is 22 years old. She is taking a year off and going through some training here in St. Louis in the early summer then traveling to Macau to work at the Concordia School of Special Education (Lutheran deaf school) there for a year. Her travel is covered by the Synod, however her \$9 to \$12 thousand needed for living expenses is something she needs to raise.

If your deaf ministry or church has an AAL Branch and would like to work with us on this project... we hope to be able to match most of the gifts that people want to give to help Jennifer. Our Branch will coordinate this, however, each branch needs to accept the project and then do some kind of fund raiser (even if it just raises a few dollars). Your Branch can receive some of the donations given and then send in the forms for matching of both the donations and what you raised. Let me know if your Branch or a Branch at a hearing church near you or whatever would like to work with us... thanks...

Also if you will publicize this so your members and the friends of your church that get your newsletter can help with donations for Jennifer's year of sacrifice for serving Jesus! People can send checks to **AAL Branch 3838, 101 North Beaumont, St. Louis, MO 63103**. The donations sent to our branch first will be matched and then sent to the North Wisconsin District for Jennifer.

Thanks again and pray for Jennifer in her willingness to serve our Lord.

*Blessings and peace,  
Pastor Moody via e-mail <><*

## Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Hello, my name is Jennifer Knaack. I am from Wausau, Wisconsin. I am 22 years old and am taking a year off from Gallaudet University to work full-time. My father, Rev. William Knaack is a missionary-at-large for the North Wisconsin District, as well as for North Minnesota. I am excited to tell you that I have received the position as a volunteer missionary in Macau, China.

I will be leaving this summer after a two-week long orientation in St. Louis, MO. I will be staying there for a year, working at the Concordia School of Special Education. First, I will be learning the local sign language, teaching ASL to the other missionaries, and getting to know the deaf students at the school. I will be leading Bible studies, youth fellowship activities, and taking part in activities at the school. I will need to be a strong witness as a Deaf Christian among the Deaf community.

It certainly will be a challenge, being away from home in a different culture, learning a new language, and doing what I am there for. I will really need your prayers as God prepares me for this trip.

The total cost for a year will be between \$9,000 to \$13,000. The LCMS World Mission will be covering the airfare and health insurance. Everything else- living, food, and transportation expenses has to be covered by my funds. If God is leading you to support me in prayer or financially, please indicate this on the return slip below. I will be in contact with you soon to tell you more about my volunteer missionary service.

***With Prayers in Christ,  
Jennifer Knaack***

## A Long, Long Trip to St. Louis...

President Dennis Kontel has called for an annual ILDA Board Meeting to be held on the weekend of May 22-24, 1998.

On Friday morning at 9 am, we "Cleveland" group (David Brown, D/L Editor; Larry Ginter, D/L Business Manager and wife Lynn; Pam Kane, Mission Project and GLRC substitute, and Mary Tingler, God's 1000 Club and husband Richard) has boarded a new Continental Express Jet and took off from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. We were due in St. Louis around 10:55 am their time.

Somehow about 11:30 am, I asked Pam who was sitting in the seat behind me on the plane, "What time are we suppose to land?" She said "we are 45 minutes late!" We kept on flying and flying. I looked out the window trying to find the Mississippi River and the Arch. No view of that. Instead I see a large lake shore and many trees. I said to Pam and the Ginters "I think the pilot took us to Minnesota because this doesn't look like Illinois and Missouri landscape." (Earlier at our airport they has change our gate number and one of the gate goes to Minnesota. I said to my group "I think someone gave the pilot the direction to Minnesota instead of Missouri.") Later as we landed, I, Lynn Ginter and others saw the I-X Center and NASA buildings along the runway. Pam Kane saw a water tower that look like a golf ball on a tee. Mary Tingler had the same vision about the I-X Center and she said "how about it that St. Louis had an I-X Center also and same carpet in the airport hallway and Pizza Hut sign."

We found out that we are back in Cleveland! It turned out that our plane didn't have enough fuel to circle the St. Louis airport and flew back to Cleveland. St. Louis had thunder storms and airport problems. I am not sure what the real story is about. Some said that the airport was closed and some said the runways were closed. Other said that it was backed up and larger planes had enough fuel to circle the airport for hours.

Because we are deaf, we had no way of knowing what was going on. I didn't hear announcements anyway until we landed then the pilot spoke. Later a hearing couple helped us in telling us what was going on. TV news crews were running around and interviewing at the the ticket counter area.

At the ticket counter we were told to wait until noon Saturday for another plane. We said "No! We need to be in St. Louis for our meeting now!" Pam lip-read another person at the counter saying there is a plane going to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania then to St. Louis. We got that plane which leave around 6:30 pm. We arrived in Philadelphia and had 15 minutes to catch the St. Louis bound TWA plane. Whoo boy!!!! A long line at security gate. Hurrying to get to our gate, we found out our plane is delayed for about 2 hours. (My wife at home, Sharon, said some of us in our group were seen on TV!)

To make this long story shorter, we arrived at our hotel in St. Louis about 1:30 am! We had many teasing and jokes at the remaining Board Meeting. We were able to catch up and gave our reports at the meeting.

*David G. Brown, Editor*

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Dear Jennifer Knaack:

With the Lord's help I/we will be praying for you during your trip to China. I/We are enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a gift toward your ministry.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contributions:

Make checks payable to North Wisconsin District in order to receive a tax-deduction. Designate clearly for Macau Fund and Jennifer Knaack. Mail to: **North Wisconsin District Office, PO Box 8064, Wausau, WI 54402-8064**

## Mill Neck Manor Servanthood Project...

On June 3rd, eight high school students from Mill Neck Manor School for Deaf Children will travel to western South Dakota to help families recovering from last year's winter storms, hailstorms and tornadoes. This special service project is being organized by Barbara Lanman, Mill Neck Foundation's Coordinator of Deaf Ministry, and Dennis Tobin, Mill Neck Manor's High School Principal.

The goal of the project is to offer high school students an opportunity to help others. "We grow in ourselves and feel better about ourselves when we give to others," says Lanman. The students will paint, repair fences and roofs, install windows and clean up. "Quite often our students are on the receiving end, and now they can give back. Helping in another state also exposes them to human needs that occur in other places," said Tobin.

The students will fly into Rapid City, where they will be met by Reverend Matthew Nix, Missionary at Large for South Dakota serving at Trinity Lutheran Church, and his group of Deaf youth. From there, the two groups will travel to Faith, South Dakota to help out.

"This is a great opportunity for Deaf students from two different regions to meet and work towards a common goal," says Reverend Nix.

The project was recommended by the Lutheran Social Services (LSS)/Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) and is funded through a grant from Mill Neck Foundation.



*Barbara Lanman and Mill Neck students discuss how far South Dakota is from New York.*

People often feel they do not belong. They want something to say that they are a member of a group. At Peace Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Indianapolis, they have an unusual way to be a family. The church has a huge banner. On the banner are hand shapes. Each hand shape has a name on it.

Each person has his/her hand traced onto a piece of felt. These are then cut out and glued onto the banner. Each hand has that person's name on it. Each person can find himself or herself on the banner. Each person feels that he or she belongs to Peace. Each name and hand are remembered in prayers.

*Submitted by Peace Lutheran Church,  
Indianapolis, Indiana*





*L-R: Dr. Richard Bimler, President, Wheat Ridge Ministries, Mrs. Winifred May, Rev. Dr. Edward C. May*

## Rev. Dr. Edward C. May Receives Wheat Ridge Ministries Seeds of Hope Award

Wheat Ridge Ministries honored Rev. Dr. Edward C. May, Portland, Oregon, with the special "Seeds of Hope" award in recognition of his service in the areas of health, hope and healing ministries. The award was presented to Dr. May on the occasion of his 40th anniversary of becoming the Executive Director of the Wheat Ridge Foundation in 1958.

The award was presented by Dr. Richard Bimler, president of Wheat Ridge, on Friday, May 1, at the spring meeting of the Wheat Ridge Board of Directors in Chicago.

Dr. May has shared his commitment to health and healing wherever the Lord has placed him. From 1945-46 May served as a "conservation pastor" at Vanport City, Oregon – a war housing project of the United States government. During his ministry as founding pastor for Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Portland from 1947-58 he volunteered his service for the emotionally disturbed, mentally retarded, and tuberculosis patients from Alaska who were cared for at Morningside Hospital in Portland.

In 1958 Dr. May began his work as Executive Director of the Wheat Ridge Foundation (known today as Wheat Ridge Ministries). During the first three years he also was the Superintendent and Chaplain at Lutheran Sanatorium in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, and the pastor of Good Samaritan Lutheran Church which served the sanatorium.

During May's tenure from 1958-73, Wheat Ridge Foundation became an international health, education and welfare agency of the Lutheran community. Pioneering projects were developed and underwritten in Japan! Hong Kong! India, Nigeria, New Guinea, as well as North America. Relationships were established with the Christian Medical Commission of the World Council of Churches. Scholarships were awarded for social work education and clinical pastoral education.

In 1973 he became the Director of the Office of World Community. Organized as a pilot project under the joint administration of the Lutheran Council in the USA and the USA National Committee of the Lutheran World Federation, the staff identified, analyzed and interpreted world community issues to church in society staff of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod! Lutheran Church in America and American Lutheran Church.

He has served on many boards and commissions, authored several published works, and is a contributing author to a host of books and publications.

"Ed's passion for the needs of the whole person—body, mind and spirit—has been at the heart of his ministry among God's people. I thank God for the gift of Ed, and his wife, Winifred. The lives of many people have been enriched through their various ministries," says Dr. Richard Bimler.



*L-R: Margaret Minchey, Area Representative and Dr. Richard Bimler, President, Wheat Ridge Ministries.*

## Margaret Hinchey Appointed as New Area Representative for Wheat Ridge Ministries

Itasca, IL—Margaret Hinchey, Englewood, Colorado! has accepted the position as national Area Representative for Wheat Ridge Ministries. Wheat Ridge, based in Itasca, Illinois, is a not-for-profit Lutheran agency that seeds new health and hope ministries throughout the world.

Hinchey joins an impressive roster of 16 area representatives already in place throughout the country who tell the Wheat Ridge story to individual donors, congregations and other organizations.

"Margaret brings a vast background of ministry experiences and expertise from her services at the congregational, area and national church levels as well as the public sector. She is well known as a youth ministry and volunteer ministry consultant and trainer, conference planner, and has held significant positions for the planning and development of youth gatherings and servant events for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod," says Dr. Richard W. Bimler, President of Wheat Ridge Ministries.

Hinchey presently serves as Director of Music at Our Father Lutheran Church in Littleton, Colorado.

Prior to her current ministry, Hinchey served for six years as the Young Adolescent Specialist for the Department of Youth Ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. From 1993-1994 Hinchey was a speaker and resource consultant for Volunteer Management Associates, in Boulder, Colorado. After serving 12 years as a Director of Christian Education, Music and Youth in congregations in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and New Hope, Minnesota, she was Director of Special Events for Group Publishing in Loveland, Colorado. Hinchey has written resources for a number of different organizations including Concordia Publishing House, Search Institute, Creative Communications, Group Publishing and Augsburg Publishing House.

"What a gift Margaret will be to Wheat Ridge staff she begins her work as an area representative," Bimler says. "We are delighted that she brings great energy and enthusiasm, a servant mind-set, sensitivity and concern for all of God's people. Her vast experiences, valuable insights, and love of people will be a blessing to Wheat Ridge," says Bimler.

Hinchey is married to The Reverend Donald Hinchey. Their family includes daughters Alexis, Susan, and Jennifer, and grandchildren, Gabrielle, and P.J.



# The International Lutheran Deaf Association Membership Dues...

*Active, Associate, or Sustaining Membership... \$10.00 per person for two years.  
Join God's 1000 Club... add \$20.00 per person for two years.*

### Help support the International Lutheran Deaf Association!

Desiring to be faithful people of God, led by Him and our blessed Saviour, Jesus Christ, and inspired by His Word as it is brought to us in the doctrines, teachings and confessions of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, the International Lutheran Deaf Association commenced its ministry during its first biennial convention in Chicago in 1971.

SPREAD THE WORDS AROUND.  
Encourage your Christian friends to join!

Membership due September 30, 1998.  
(October 1998 - September 2000)

## 1998-2000 Membership Due

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone/FAX/e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership (\$10.00 per person two-years) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

God's 1000 Club (\$20.00 per person two-years) \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution for ILDA Mission Project \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL Contributed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership requested:  Active  Associate  Sustaining

Send check or money order payable to:  
"The I.L.D.A. Treasurer" and mail to: **Karen Beiter,**  
**ILDA Treasurer, 7300 Briggs Road, Lima, NY 14485.**



Official publication of the International Lutheran Deaf Association and the Board of Mission, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, published quarterly by Adam Pangrace & Sons Division, Fairview Park, OH.  
**Subscription Fee:** Individual... \$7.50 per year, church Blanket Plan... \$7.00 per year. Please send all subscription fees and address changes to: Larry D. Ginter, Business Manager, 4134 Sarasota Dr., Parma, OH 44134-6242. FAX: 440-885-1020.  
Please send articles, stories and pictures to: David G. Brown, Editor, 3434 Klusner Ave., Parma, OH 44134-5030. FAX: 440-886-2961.  
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**Summer, 1998**

**The DEAF LUTHERAN**

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CLEVELAND, OH.  
PERMIT NO. 1471