



The DEAF LUTHERAN



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

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DEAF LUTHERAN DEVOTION



Rev. Mark Anderson,
ILDA Pastoral Advisor

Greetings! As being recently elected as the ILDA Pastoral Advisor at the Convention at Cleveland, I want to use my first devotion to say this: **it is very important that we be well rooted in the Scriptures.**

In order to accomplish that, we should be reminded that every single word from the first book (Genesis) to the last book (Revelation) is just as important as the other. Peter said to Jesus, "*Your Word is eternal life.*" (John 6:68) I've met a large number of Christians who have said over and over again that they read only the New Testament, not the whole Bible. That may mean that they do not wish or want to read the Old Testament. Why is that? They give many different reasons but they agree generally on two things: (1) either the Old Testament is too hard, too long, too confusing, and even too boring to read or (2) it has nothing to do with our Christian walk of this present age.

It happened that I just finished reading a book under title of ***The Bible Jesus Read***. It was written by Philip Yancey, the very same author who also wrote another book, ***The Jesus I Never Knew***. Rev. Donald Leber highly recommended this book on ***The Deaf Lutheran*** issue of Christmas 1998. Well, I also

highly recommend the newer book for your reading.

The Bible Jesus Read makes readers to fully realize that each time Jesus quoted a biblical verse during His lifetime, it was always from the Old Testament, never from the New Testament. How is that? Very simple- the New Testament was not written until some time after Jesus ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father Almighty. Does that mean that we need not read the New Testament? Of course not! God wants us to read the whole Bible! We should be aware the Old Testament has always been focusing on the promise of a Savior who would come to save the world; and that the New Testament says that He already came as the Lamb and will come again as the Lion, the King of the whole creation.

Keeping this perspective on Old/New Testaments, the author chooses from the Old Testament: Job, Deuteronomy, Psalms, Ecclesiastes and the Prophets. The main reason for the selection of those books is to give the readers a deeper understanding of what the books actually say in terms of all kinds of life happenings with which both God and people handle. While I do not agree 100% with the author's writings, I completely agree with him that the more we understand about the Old Testament, the more we understand Jesus and His mission to the world of lost sinners.

Oftentimes, we have been told that if we want to read the whole Bible, we begin reading the Gospel of St. John. There is a good reason for this. But I do dare to say that we begin with the Old Testament. Why? If you want to know why, then by all means, get that book: ***The Bible Jesus Read***. I believe that you will gain a greater understanding of Jesus Christ, not only as the Son of God, but also as the Son of Man.

God be with you and fill you richly with His Love and Wisdom.

Uriel C. Jones Right Hand Award...

Right Hand Award Presentation...
Archie Marshal of St. Louis, Missouri, was voted for the 1999 Right Hand Award. Right Hand Chairperson Don Mowl present the award to Archie. Sharing the stage are former Right Hand Award winners, Elmer Francisco and Les Ahls.



ILDA Pastoral Advisor

ILDA Cleveland '99 Convention



The 1999 ILDA Convention in Independence (Cleveland) Ohio on June 24-27th was a success! An estimate of over 300 people has attended this convention. An estimate of 190 people went on the tour. Our cruise boat floated right up to the lakefront airport and we observed part of the Grand Prix auto race. During our Lolly the Trolley ride, we rode right up to the gates of the new Cleveland Browns Stadium which is still under construction.

During the convention, many ILDA visitors have noted how dry Cleveland was. Well, right after the convention, Cleveland has finally received several rainstorms and showers. Now our grass is growing green again!

New Officers for 1999-2001 ILDA...

1997 President-Elect **Richard Norton** moved up as 1999 President.

James Swalley was elected as President-Elect.

Tim Johnston was elected as Secretary. (Hot race! because of tie)

Karen Beiter was re-elected second term as Treasurer.

Rev. Mark Anderson was elected as Pastoral Advisor.

Thank you Larry Gorton of Spokane, Washington, for your volunteer in searching candidates for new officers.

1997-99 Mission Project...

During the ILDA Cleveland '99 Convention, ILDA's Mission Project has scoured over the \$50,000 goal!

Mill Neck has donated a check for \$15,000 to the mission project at the convention. We have reached \$54,550.76. The 1999-2001 ILDA Mission Project Goal has been voted to be at \$55,000.

ILDA Brochures...

David G. Brown, *The Deaf Lutheran* Editor, has volunteered to update and reprint ILDA brochures to be distributed to all the LC-MS deaf churches early in 2000. The Board of Directors has approved this project. The last known brochure distributions were around ILDA's Chicago convention time period. The purpose of the brochure is to promote ILDA growth and we would like to see more members join God's 1000 Club.

Right Hand Award...

The Board of Directors chose Archie Marshal for the Right Hand Award during ILDA Cleveland '99 convention. See photo on page 1 of this newsletter.

Thank you Don Mowl of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for your volunteer in searching candidates for the Right Hand Award.

Future Convention Sites...

The following locations for future ILDA conventions were announced at ILDA Cleveland '99 convention:

2001 ILDA Convention will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Host church is *Peace Lutheran Church of the Deaf*.

2003 ILDA Convention will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota (Twin Cities). Host church is *Prince of Peace Church of the Deaf*.

2005 ILDA Convention will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Host church is *Trinity Church of the Deaf*.

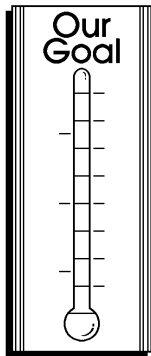
ILDA 2007 Convention bids... ILDA need bids to be submitted on the floor during the ILDA 2001 Convention in Indianapolis. You and your church have two years to decide about hosting the 2007 ILDA convention. Remember, your church must submit your bid on your church's letterhead with official signatures and, suggested a Notary seal. A guideline folder, which was announced during the Board of Directors meeting, will be printed and sent to all LC-MS deaf churches within a few months.

ILDA Membership Due...

The Board of Directors has voted to raise the 2-year ILDA Membership Due to **\$20 per person** from our old \$10 two-year rates. This means that \$20 will be collected starting in September 2000 for the two-year 2001-2003 membership period. For your information, an ILDA Membership period runs from October 1, 2000 to September 30, 2002; October 1, 2002 to September 30, 2004; etc.

God's 1000 Club's rate **remains unchanged at \$20 per person** for two years. Please note that God's 1000 Club membership due is an addition to ILDA membership due (\$20 + \$20 = \$40 for two years).

Additional donations to God's 1000 Club are still greatly appreciated! God's 1000 Club luncheon is served at every ILDA biannual conventions.



1999-2001 ILDA Mission Project Goals...

1. Deaf Mission Planters Institute \$15,000
2. Macau (Volunteers) 2,000
3. Ghana 2,000
4. D.I.T. and Zacharias 16,000
5. Pax Natrua Ranch (Canada) 1,000
6. Camps for the Deaf
 - Nebraska 3,000
 - California 3,000
 - Ohio 3,000
7. Starfish Learning Center 6,000
8. Computer (Deaf Lutheran) 4,000

Total \$55,000

Pam Kane of Cleveland, Ohio will continue to be your ILDA Mission Project Chairperson. Payments and contributions are to be made out to: **1999-2000 ILDA Mission Project** and mailed to:

**ILDA TREASURER
Karen Beiter
7300 Briggs Rd.
Lima NY 14485**



ILDA 1999-2001 Pastoral Advisor...



Rev. Mark Asher Anderson was born deaf in Bismarck, ND and later went to Lutheran School for the Deaf, Detroit, MI for 11 years (1954-1965). He Graduated from Sidney Senior High School, Sidney, MT (hometown). Mark attended Montana State University, Bozeman, MT for 4 years with a major in Architecture (1970-75), transferred to Gallaudet University and graduated with a BA in Economics in 1978. He married Pamela Joan Stephenson a week after graduation. She worked at Gally as a dorm supervisor for 9 years (1972-81). She is also a certified interpreter for the deaf.

Mark worked at U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC as an audit resolution specialist for 3.5 years (1978-82) before enrolling at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (1982-86). Visited at Alpha Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Rochester, NY (1984-85) under supervision of Rev. Mark Seeger. Assigned to St. Matthew Lutheran Church for the Deaf, Newark, NJ in May, 1986. Received and accepted the call in December 1990 from Northern Illinois District at Pastor-at-Large to two congregations – Our Savior of Wood Dale (Chicago) and Rockford of Rockford.

Rev. Anderson is presently working as MAL to those two churches plus Holy Cross Deaf Ministry of Cary, IL and as a resource pastor to 10 congregations providing interpreting services.

Pam and Mark have been blessed with seven children, aged from 1.5 to 18 years old. All are hearing except for Zak who is hard of hearing at the left ear.



Late Breaking News...

Mill Neck Foundation For Deaf Ministry approved and sent to *The Deaf Lutheran Publication* editor a \$7,105 check on August 13th, 1999 for new computer equipment and software for the Business Manager and Editor. Please thanks Mark R. Prowatzke, Barbara Lanman and The Mill Neck Foundation for their help and support.

Mill Neck has also donated a \$15,000 check during the ILDA Convention in Cleveland, Ohio to meet ILDA's \$50,000 Mission Project Goal! Mill Neck has been a great supporter to ILDA's needs. **Thank you!**



Real Important Reminders...

1. It is very important to inform the ILDA Historian about death of present and former ILDA members. ILDA Historian Mae Madding reported at the Board Meeting in Cleveland that she has received a very few names.

Editor's Note: From your church newsletters sent to me, I have a hard time knowing if that person who died is or is not an ILDA member. The *Deaf Lutheran Editor* requested that each church list the name of ILDA (present and former) members who have died in their newsletters and sent him. For example: Robert Dunnington (ILDA member 1991-99). This will help me give more support to Mae Madding and her work in record keeping!

2. At your ILDA regional conferences during the year 2000... please remember to nominate and vote names for 2001-2003 ILDA Officer candidates to be submitted to the ILDA Nominating Committee for election in 2001. Candidates are needed for President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Pastoral Advisor.

ARTICLE XX...

During the Board of Directors Meeting, they have asked The Deaf Lutheran to publish a series ILDA's new handbook articles. The handbook texts has been received from Sandi Green's office.

See center section (pages 7-10) of this newsletter for the Article XX. Please keep this article for future references.

News from around the Regions...



Coming...
Indianapolis
2001 ILDA
June 20-24,
2001

Northwest Region...

It was noted from Pastor Blesi that the pastors has attended the pastors' conference in beautiful Soldotna, Alaska!

Cross of Christ, Edmonton, Alberta... 62 years old **Dr. Ronald Vahl**, Profesor at Concordia Seminary passed away suddenly on May 11th.

Pacific Region...

The Lord has called home **Estelle Schulz** on June 9, 1999.

Keep **Rev. Don Leber** in your prayers. The May 1st M.I.R. showed a small nodule back in the same area of his bran as the previous tumor. At the present time, Doctors said no radiation therapy is need at this moment. Praise the Lord!

93 children have attended this year's **Lutheran Deaf Camp**. More have been turned away because of not enough bed spaces. Next year's camp will be in two separate weeks: **July 16-21 at Frazier Park** and **August 13-18 at Oak Glen. Lutheran Deaf Camp 2000** registration forms are already being passed out. Contact Rev. Leber for registration. Deadline is May 1, 2000.

Midwest Region...

Rev. Tim Eckert from Rochester, NY has accepced call to be **Missionary-at-Large** for the Deaf in the Davenport/Quad Cities area.

Central Region...

Peace Lutheran, Indianapolis... **Gail Stout, Everett Bowman, and Sara Smith** have entered God's Kingdom. ILDA's past president, **Dennis Konkol** has become Vicar for Peace Lutheran Deaf Church on August 22nd for one year student pastor intern.

Indianapolis 2001 ILDA committee, led by **Winona Alter**, are working hard for ILDA's next convention.



*The Rev. Lawson family:
 Nelson, Rev. Gary, Carlene and Angelica Lawson.*

Great Lakes Region...

Alpha Lutheran, Rochester... will host the **GLRC** conference meeting on October 8-10th, 1999.

Holy Cross, Columbus... The Lord has called home **Phyllis Crossen** in early July. Keep **Johnny Bergstresser**, son of Rev Ed and Nancy Bergstresser, in your prayer for a kidney donor.

Christ Lutheran, Cleveland... Whew!!! Worn out from hosting **ILDA 15th Biennial Convnetion!** Christ's congregation also gave a surprised 15th Annivarsary as Pastor party to **Rev. Gary and Carlene Lawson** on May 2nd. *See two photos at the bottom of this page.* Christ Luthern Chuch recently received the keys to its new church building. Moving date is target before the holidays after a major remodeling.

Eastern Region...

Chapel for the Deaf, Charlotte... now have a web site: <http://www.hows.net/28204cftd> Check it out!

Remember to send to the D/L editor your church's newsletters!



Can you guess the names of any of these people?

(Hint: This is a screen shot taken from Pilgrim Lutheran Church's Torch June/July 1999 Web Page, <http://www.psw.lcms.org/deafministry.htm>.)



The cake.

Future Regional Conference Dates...



Northwest Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Great Lakes Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Reminders...

At your ILDA regional conferences during the year 2000... **please remember to** nominate and vote names for 2001-2003 ILDA Officer candidates to be submitted to the ILDA Nominating Committee for election in 2001. Candidates are needed for President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Pastoral Advisor.

Pacific Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Eastern Region ILDA...
May 26-29, 2000 at Ramada Inn, Whitehall, PA. Hosted by St. Matthew (Clifton, NJ), St. Mark (Manhattan, NY) and St. Mathew (Elmhurst, NY). Contact person is Rev. Eric Ziegler, FAX (973) 614-1737.

Also make sure your churches submitted their reports to your regional conference leaders.

Midwest Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Central Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Deadline for submitting conference dates in the next *The Deaf Lutheran* issue is November 15, 1999!

Dixie Region...
No dates submitted yet.

Help Chinese Deaf Children Learn About Jesus Without Leaving Your Home!

My name is **Sara McKinney**. I am a Volunteer Missionary, which means all of the expenses for my mission work must come from donations from those who wish to support me. I will need about \$15,000. Your financial support will help me with expenses. In essence, your support will help spread the word of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ to the children I will be working with in Macau. I am also in need of spiritual support so I will appreciate prayers for my work as well.

I am 22 years old. I am Deaf, and I grew up in a Christian Deaf family. I grew up signing and still sign in American Sign Language. I am a member of ILDA. I will be continuing the work that Jennifer Knaack has been doing in Macau. Most of my work in Macau will be done at Concordia Special Education School. This school has many children with different physical and mental disabilities. My work will be concentrated on deaf children. I will be working closely with Pastor Dunseth and his family.

If you wish to make a donation, please send it to: **First Evangelical Church, 735 NE 1st Ave., Grand Rapids, MN 55744**. Make check payable to: **First Evangelical Lutheran Church** with the memo to: **Sara McKinney Expenses**.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church at (218) 326-5453.

Updates on ILDA Publicity Video Project

by **Alice L. Hagemeyer, Project Director**

Two years ago, the Mill Neck Foundation for Deaf Ministry, granted \$6,500 to the International Lutheran Deaf Association (ILDA) for the production of a five-minute ILDA publicity video. My committee, which consists of the Rev. Mark Anderson, Linda Desrosiers, Larry Gorton, and Richard Norton, had hoped that this

project would be completed within a year, but circumstances arose which made it necessary to delay work on it. It is also true that the production of a high quality video is, by its nature, time consuming. We are currently working to get quality pictures of founders and historical sites for the video background which we are seeking from the Concordia Historical Institute in St. Louis, Missouri. Our goal is to have the completed tape ready by the end of 1999. We also are fortunate to have the services of James DeBee, Producer/Director and President of DeBee Communications, Inc. from Pittsburgh, who will be responsible for completing this project. He plans to add ten extra minutes to the video at no charge to the ILDA, a very generous offer. We are still working on deciding the topic of these extra minutes.

Mr. DeBee was in Cleveland last June 23 to take some shots of the ILDA board in action. Linda Desrosiers was also present as a video narrator. James was chosen to do the job because of his reputation of producing quality videotapes for the deaf community. He also has a special interest in preserving deaf history. He works full time at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf as its Media Director. As a sideline, he also enjoys making videotapes for many organizations and individuals. He is a very pleasant man to work with and ILDA is very fortunate to be doing business with him.

We are requesting that those churches that wish to have a complimentary copy of the completed videotape, please mail a self-addressed label (name of the church and the name and address of the person responsible for showing the videotape) to the following address:

Alice L. Hagemeyer, Project Director
ILDA Publicity Video Project
2930 Craiglawn Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904-1816.

A donation of \$3 or more (payable to ILDA) to help pay for shipping costs would be greatly appreciated. If you can give us your e-mail address, we will also keep you posted of the video's progress toward completion.

On behalf of the committee, I want to thank ILDA members for their support and patience.



Photographers at the Cleveland '99 Convention...



Neressa Morrison... She was omitted from the Cleveland Convention Program Book because of a press deadline. and **Larry D. Ginter.**

ILDA Cleveland '99 Convention

ILDA Competition Awards

Banners

- 1st place - Pilgrim Deaf Lutheran Church, Los Angeles, California
- 2nd place - Holy Three in One Deaf Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas
- 3rd place - Silent Deaf Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Madison, Wisconsin

Skit

- 1st place - Holy Three In One Deaf Lutheran, Houston, Texas

Hearing Choir Director

- 1st place - Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Cleveland, Ohio
- 2nd place - Emmanuel Deaf Lutheran Church, West Allis, Wisconsin

Deaf Choir Director

- 1st place - Eternal Mercy Deaf, Memphis, Tennessee

Bob Kane, ILDA Award Chairman 1999



Banner Awards: 1st place Lee Ann Kotal for Pilgrim (California); 2nd place Jennifer Bonura for Holy 3-in-1 (Texas); and 3rd place Dawn Polzin for Silent Deaf (Wisconsin).



Hearing Choir Director Award: 1st place Rev. Gary Lawson and his Christ Lutheran Church, Cleveland members.



Hearing Choir Director Award: 2nd place Rev. Bud Palmer and his Emmauneul Deaf Lutheran Church, Wisconsin members.

Shown left is 2nd place Banners Competition winner, Holy Three in One Deaf Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas. (Of all the beautiful banners, please forgive us for not remembering what the first and third place banners look like! Please inform your Deaf Lutheran Editor before November 15th for inclusion in the next newsletter.)

Article XX

CONVENTIONS (*Guidelines for Conducting a Successful Convention*)

The success of any Christian activity and especially the coming convention depends entirely on God's blessings of the efforts of many people. Therefore Pray without stopping for God's blessings on the convention and your specific task.

PART I - GENERAL

Section A — Theme

All themes of the ILDA conventions shall be Christian and inspirational, providing opportunities for fellowship and leadership training.

Section B — Authority of the ILDA Convention

The biennial convention shall be the International Lutheran Deaf Association's chief legislative assembly. It shall establish policies, programs and procedures for carrying on the ILDA ministry. It will grant authority to its elected Board of Directors to oversee and carry out all programs (missions or otherwise) that have been adopted by the convention and that agree with its Constitution.

Section C — Time and Place of Next Convention

1. Convention sites shall be selected six (6) years in advance by a majority vote at the ILDA convention. More than 4 years is necessary to find appropriate facilities.
2. Two (2) convention sites shall be chosen at each ILDA convention.
3. The ILDA convention shall move from region to region.
4. Potential host(s) must have a letter written on official congregational stationery proving that their congregation has officially voted to invite the convention to their city.
5. Prospective host(s) shall make a presentation encouraging the convention to accept their bid(s).
6. Included with hosting the ILDA convention is a responsibility to help set up the Board of Directors meeting before the convention and serve as host of Ephphatha Conference.
7. The ILDA secretary and the Board of Directors are responsible to timely find host sites for ILDA Conventions.

PART II - HOST COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Section D — Preparing for Conventions

1. The host city of an ILDA convention shall elect a chairman before the convention four (4) years earlier ends.
 - a. The chairman shall be elected from a deaf congregation and/or field by the members in the area.
 - b. The name and address of the chairman shall be sent to the ILDA secretary no

later than one (1) month after the ILDA convention four (4) years before ends.

- c. The new host committee chairman will work with the host committee of the convention 2 years before their meeting and will attend that earlier convention.
2. The ILDA secretary must keep in close contact with and expect to receive quarterly reports from the host chairman. If any problems related to the convention are evident, then the secretary or the president will assist the Host committee chairman in solving the problem(s).
3. Whenever a planned convention is being held in his/her region, the regional president must bring a progress report to every meeting of the ILDA Board of Directors. This report must contain:
 - a. All and any special programs
 - b. Problems and solutions being considered
 - c. Progress on goals
4. The host convention committee is responsible for planning the entire program of the convention. Have regular meetings of Host Committee—more frequently as you get closer.

(Every convention committee feels tired and let down afterwards. They have worked so hard together for so long and now "What do we do?" Find a new project and you will feel better sooner. Thanks for your fantastic work.)

The committee includes :

- a. Chairman and co-chairman
 - 1) Planning of the whole convention through committees
 - 2) Schedule of convention sessions
 - 3) Ask the past convention host (and the ILDA Secretary) for help.
 - 4) If possible have meetings with chairmen of past two conventions.
 - 5) Make sure you, the host chairman, attends previous convention and works with that Host Committee.
- b. Pastor and assistants

The ILDA pastoral advisor is responsible to advise and help with these activities.

- 1) Sunday worship and devotions
- 2) Workshops and/or Bible study

The host pastor shall plan a two (2) hour mission focused workshop on Saturday afternoon. He shall select the leader(s).

- 3) Devotion Leaders
 - a) The host committee shall be responsible for enlisting the convention devotion leaders, and shall ask them at least ninety (90) days prior to a convention. Please

co-ordinate these devotions with the theme and each other.

- b) The devotion leaders will open and close all meetings and social functions.
- c) The host committee shall offer a monetary honorarium to the devotion leaders and/or preachers.
- 4) Worship Service at the End of a Convention.
 - a) The host congregation will be in charge of arrangements for the convention's final worship service (Sunday).
 - b) The host pastor, assisted by the pastoral advisor, may enlist any number of the regional pastors in attendance to take part in this final worship service which always includes Holy Communion. The host committee shall ask the host congregation voter's assembly to authorize this service.
 - c) Near the end of this final Sunday worship service, the pastoral advisor will install the new ILDA officers.
- c. Tasks that are part of committee activities.

These tasks might have a separate committee chairman for each task or might be grouped together under one or more persons. Members of other deaf churches in the same region might also be asked to serve.

- 1) Secretary
- 2) Treasurer
- 3) Hotel and meeting rooms
 - a) You are responsible to provide appropriate and adequate facilities for:
 - (1) the Actual convention
 - (2) the Board meeting before convention
 - (3) the God's 1000 meeting and dinner
 - (4) Ephphatha Conference.
 - b) Communicate regularly (in writing) with hotel staff.
 - c) Be careful about changes in Hotel's Convention staff and their verbal promises.
 - d) Be careful about **Contracts**: who signs, cost of extras, sliding scale.
 - e) **Be careful about the "sliding scale" and "block of rooms"**. This says if you use enough sleeping rooms, the meeting rooms are free. If you do not use enough sleeping rooms, they get to bill you for the meeting rooms.

- f) Have the LCMS Meeting Planner give advice prior to signing a contract about hotels, and other contracts. Contact Counselor for Deaf Missions.
- g) Understand local union rules and their requirements at hotel. Many times the bill may be much higher because of the requirement that a union person be there all day and evening just in case you need something (lights, sound, etc.)
- h) Watch the menus and their cost. Settle as early as possible.
- i) Agree with the cost of coffee breaks.
- j) See if there is an extra cost for parking and plan how to pay for it.
- k) Be very careful about late requests for equipment. They will cost (a lot) extra.
- l) Test video (and real time captioning) equipment beforehand.
- m) Test lights and lines of vision beforehand. Most hotels have never worked with a group of deaf people and do not understand the need for the ability to clearly see.
- n) Determine the use of "complimentary rooms" (and what they will cost if you do not use enough sleeping rooms. Possible uses of these rooms are for: the President, the host committee, Board meetings, etc.
- o) Determine the time for room check in. If it is late (3 pm?) tell the people before they come so that they will not have to wait so long.
- p) Determine if there is a large convention just before ours which might not leave on time.
- q) Do not consider doing hotel registration and payment for hotel rooms through Host Committee. That will bring you much extra work.

4) Fund raising

The entire pre-convention part of the funds must be raised by you. Get partner deaf churches (perhaps from your region) to help you.

5) Publicity and photography (See Section K)

- a) It is extremely important that you have good publicity early. Send regular articles to the *Deaf Lutheran* for at least two years before your convention.
 - b) The *Convention Book* is very important. Study copies of former conventions to see about content. Talk to the St. Louis host committee for a novel idea about printing it.
- 6) The banquet and its program: You have the right to determine what kind of

entertainment will occur during the banquet. Historically we have had entertainers, inspirational speakers, or dramas. Please make sure that the banquet and its entertainment concludes by 10:00 pm. Costs for this activity are part of the convention fund.

7) Child care

- a) Plan activities for the pre-teen children during the various business sessions. Have parents agree to bring their child(ren) and leave them for the full time of each session.
- b) Unless you are going to use pre-convention monies, this is not part of the convention fees and parents should pay appropriately for this.

8) Contests, banners, skits, choirs, etc.

Historically ILDA has conducted competitions involving banners, skits, and choirs. You are encouraged, but not required, to do this. You would advertise for participants, select the judges and provide appropriate awards paid for by the convention fund.

9) Interpreters, video, and captioning

- a) The host committee shall be responsible for selecting convention interpreters and reimbursing them for their services.
- b) It is recommended that a Head Interpreter be chosen to delegate interpreting duties.
- c) Choose interpreters who have some knowledge of religious signs. Interpreters needed might include: ASL, Reverse, Special (for people with vision limitations) and oral.
- d) One way to save money on multiple interpreters is to have one or two large projection video screens in appropriate parts of the meeting room and a video camera photographing the main interpreter.
- e) The host committee might use real time captioners.

10) Junior ILDA

Jr. ILDA's purpose and functions is still very vague. (attendance at St. Louis— 21 hearing and 1 deaf) Is its purpose to start a new organization or a child care event for teenage children? What should it cost the parents?

11) Registrar (See Section H)

Attached is a printed copy of the registration form, a sample registration spreadsheet program, sample badges with appropriate colors and event icons.

12) Tours, transportation and local events:

Historically Friday afternoon has been set aside for a tour of some place nearby. Transportation includes traveling to and from the airport for the

Board, the convention guests and Ephphatha Conference plus any tours for the convention or Jr. ILDA.

- 5. The convention host shall inform the ILDA president secretary of the convention theme at least two (2) years prior to the convention. The host chairman will be responsible for getting this information to the editor of *The Deaf Lutheran*.
- 6. The highlights and items of main interest of the convention shall be sent to the editors of *The Deaf Lutheran* for publication immediately after the convention by the host committee chairman.
- 7. The convention chairman should enlist the services of a member of his congregation or region who has some experience with photography and who has a good camera. The volunteer photographer will be reimbursed for film and cost of development out of convention receipts. But he/she must give the receipts for costs before he/she can be paid.
- 8. The host committee is to submit a full written report (program and financial) to the ILDA Board of Directors ninety (90) days after the close of a convention. A copy of this report will be kept in a convention planning file and made available to future host convention committees. A copy of this report will be sent to the ILDA historian.

Section E — Financing ILDA Conventions

The ILDA has become a self-supporting organization. There is no subsidy support. Therefore, the main source of its operating income must come from pre-convention proceeds.

- 1. The local host committee is encouraged to establish two accounts (perhaps in one fund):
 - a. Pre-convention Account
 - 1) The host committee (with possible support from its region) should have fund-raising activities for payment of pre-convention expenses. (In 1997, almost \$22,000 was raised. Much of this money was used to lower registration costs.) These monies are to be used for committee expenses before the convention, publicity, hotel and other deposits. This pre-convention account can also be used to reduce registration expenses but can also be held in reserve should expenses exceed registration receipts. (Reasonable special celebrations, parties or dinners for the host committee shall be part of this account.)
 - 2) Distribution of monies remaining in the pre-convention account (after all convention expenses have been paid) is left to the discretion of the host committee. The host committee is encouraged to donate part or all of the remaining pre-convention monies to the ILDA treasury.
 - 3) Loans may be granted from the ILDA general fund to the host committee to

meet pre-convention expenses. Such loans must be repaid within thirty (30) days after the close of a convention.

b. Convention Registration Account.

- 1) All monies received from convention registrations goes into this account. The convention registration account shall be used to pay all actual expenses during the convention such as meeting room rentals, equipment rentals, etc.
 - 2) All monies remaining in the convention registration account after all convention expenses have been paid will be sent to the ILDA general fund.
 - 3) Monies in the convention registration account shall not be used to reimburse or pay any bills related to pre-convention expenses.
 - 4) Any and all offerings collected at an ILDA biennial convention shall be deposited into the ILDA treasury and used to meet our Mission Project goals that had been voted on at the convention.
2. The host committee is required to submit a complete financial statement to the ILDA on both pre-convention and convention income and expenditures within (ninety) 90 days after the close of a convention. Such reports will be sent to the ILDA secretary and treasurer and made available at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section F — ILDA Board of Directors Meeting Prior to Convention

The host committee is responsible for arrangements for this Board meeting, including lodging, meals and meeting room(s). The necessary equipment for this meeting consists of: typewriter or computer, access to a copier, overhead projector, blackboard, and any other things that the Board may request. The cost of this meeting will be paid for by the ILDA. These accommodations should be as economical as possible.

Section G — Convention Headquarters

Because a majority of deaf Lutherans and ILDA members are not wealthy and our goal is to make it possible for everyone to attend and get involved in the Lord's work being done at our conventions, the host chairman is encouraged to:

1. Make every effort to locate our conventions in the most convenient, reasonable and economical site available. In addition to hotels, you might consider a college or university or a retreat center.
2. Reserve rooms to be used by the ILDA president at the convention's headquarters. These rooms should be suitable for use for a Board or committee meeting during the convention. The cost of these rooms for the president (if not provided free by the site) will be paid for by the ILDA fund.

3. Reserve rooms for the Board of Directors, committee chairpersons, and/or staff as requested by the ILDA president. These costs shall be paid for by the ILDA fund.

Section H — Registration

1. All conventions shall open with registration. A color name tag will be given to each registrant which clearly shows the wearer's membership status.
2. Only ILDA members whose dues are paid-up before registration can buy a combo ticket. On Nov. 1 prior to a convention, the registration committee chairmen shall request from the ILDA treasurer a current list of the ILDA membership.
3. Membership dues may be paid during registration. The ILDA treasurer (or his/her assistant) should sit at the registration table and collect dues and give out membership cards.
4. Whenever the host committee receives any membership dues, they should be sent to the ILDA treasurer with the names of payees as soon as possible in order to keep the membership list current.

Section I — Guest Speaker/Program Leaders

1. The host committee may arrange for guest speaker(s) and/or program leader(s). Asking local LCMS district and synodical leaders is one option for speakers.
2. The host committee shall pay the expenses of the speaker/leader and shall offer an honorarium (a thank you gift of money).

Section J — Convention Events

1. After registration, the convention will open with an evening worship service. Every registered member and visitor is encouraged to attend this important opening worship service.
2. After the opening devotion, the host chairman will give a welcome speech including his/her list of activities planned for the convention.
3. Approximately five (5) hours of convention time should be reserved for the business sessions of the convention. At least one and a half (1½) hours should be reserved for devotional time and a two (2) hour block of time shall be used on Saturday afternoon for mission focused workshops and Board of Directors training session.
4. Other events include: The banner and choir competitions, tours, a Banquet, Sunday Bible Study, the Worship service, etc.

Section K — Publicity

As soon as possible, the host committee should make every effort to keep all the news current regarding the upcoming biennial convention. At the very earliest date exciting news stories accompanied by good, clear and sharp photos should be sent to the editor of *The Deaf Lutheran*.

This form of publicity should continue, not missing one issue when additional photos and convention news is not published within its pages. This is the best guarantee of a large turnout and a successful and memorable convention.

Section L — Availability of Booths at Conventions

Individuals or organizations with plans to solicit or to use floor space or to set up booths to display at an ILDA biennial convention, must apply in writing to the Board of Directors six (6) months in advance of a convention.

Section M - Sale of items

Only ILDA itself or the host committee has the right to sell items. Anyone else must get written permission from the Board of Directors at least 6 months in advance.

PART III - ILDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Section N — ILDA Board of Directors Meeting Prior to Convention

1. The ILDA Board of Directors shall meet for no less than two (2) days prior to a convention.
2. This meeting must be held at or near the site of the convention headquarters. The host committee is responsible to help with the arrangements for this Board meeting, including lodging, meals and meeting room(s). The necessary equipment for this meeting consists of: typewriter or computer, access to a copier, overhead projector, blackboard, and any other things that the Board may request. The cost of this meeting will be paid for by the ILDA. These accommodations should be as economical as possible.

Section O — The President

1. Appoints the following committees and/or chairman :
 - a. Resolutions
 - b. Parliamentarian
 - c. Tellers
 - d. Mission Projects
2. Conducts a training program for officers during the convention.
3. The president will make all efforts to make sure that the convention proceeds according to parliamentary law, enforcing the time allotted each speaker and each session.

Section P — The President-Elect

Serves as chairman at the request of the president. He also serves as chairman of the Law committee

Section Q — The Secretary

1. Between conventions, the ILDA secretary shall assist the host committee with planning.
2. Records the minutes of the convention. Mails (or gives) the minutes to Board members and the historian.
3. Reports to the convention the status of resolutions adopted at the previous convention.
4. The ILDA secretary will send to the editor of *The Deaf Lutheran* highlights of the convention, but in greater detail, within two (2) weeks after its conclusion. This news item MUST include The Mission Projects that have been adopted by the convention.
5. Sends the complete and official minutes of the convention to all deaf Lutheran congregations in the LCMS within two (2) months after the convention.

Section R — The Treasurer

1. Provides current membership lists to host chairmen in advance of conventions.
2. Receives dues during registration process.

Section S — Pastoral Advisor

1. Advises and coordinates with the host committee all devotion services at the ILDA conventions.
2. Advises the ILDA on all matters relating to doctrines, teachings and confessions of the LCMS.
3. Installs the ILDA elected officers at conventions.

Section T — Regional Presidents

To ensure a smooth start on the ILDA Board of Directors, the ILDA president for the next biennium will conduct a training program for incoming regional presidents during the convention.

Section U — Historian

1. The historian shall print a history booklet for distribution at conventions if requested by the Board of Directors.
2. The historian shall prepare a historical display for the convention.
3. The historian shall receive from ILDA conventions, ILDA Regional Conferences and deaf Lutheran churches the following:
 - a. Program books, pictures or videotapes of special events for the ILDA Archives.
 - b. Necrology list of deceased ILDA members, pastors and friends of ILDA by mail, e-mail or church newsletter, e.g., Rhoda Rynearson - 7/97 (ILDA member)

Section V — Order of Business

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. Resolutions Committee:
 - a. Introduction of committee members
 - b. Deadline for handing in resolutions
8. Nominating Committee's Report:
 - a. Introduction of candidates for offices
 - b. Election of new officers and pastoral advisor
9. Minutes of the previous convention: the secretary will give out copies of 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. The 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 Committees' 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

Section W — Parliamentarian

1. The parliamentarian shall be knowledgeable with the rules of the ILDA Constitution and Handbook.
2. The parliamentarian shall inform the president in advance if he/she is unable to attend a convention.
3. The parliamentarian shall be discreet when advising the president during the course of a business session during a convention and when it is obvious that some rules and guidelines are being violated.
4. The parliamentarian is required to be present at all business sessions at the ILDA convention. He/she should keep with him/her at those times copies of the Constitution and Handbook for consulting should a dispute arise concerning procedure.
5. The parliamentarian shall watch that the agenda be closely followed during the business session.

Section X — Mission Projects

1. Mission Projects are chosen by the voting members at conventions. The Board of Directors will recommend a list of proposed projects. The vote of the members will decide the priorities for paying the projects as money becomes available.
2. The tellers will calculate the ballots and announce the winning projects, ranking them in the order which had the most votes. Priority of Mission Projects fall in that order within the ILDA budget.

Section Y — The ILDA God's 1,000 Club

The host committee shall schedule a meeting for this group during the convention.

Samples:

- Registration form
- Registrar spreadsheet
- Competitions
- Etc.



ILDA Cleveland '99 Convention



ILDA BOARD OFFICERS - 1997-99

Secretary Alice Hagemeyer, Pres-Elect Richard Norton, Treasurer Karen Beiter, Pastoral Advisor Rev. Don Leber, Director of Deaf Missions Dr. Rodney R. Ryneanson, & President Dennis Konkell.



l - r: Lee Ann and Charles Kotal, Ron and Mae Madding, Dennis and Susan Konkell, and Don and Mary Mowl.



Thursday evening's Choir Competition - Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf, Cleveland, Ohio performed.



ILDA BOARD OFFICERS - 1999-2001

Pastoral Advisor Rev. Mark Anderson, Secretary Tim Johnston, 2nd term Treasurer Karen Beiter, & Pres-Elect James Swalley. Not pictured are President Richard Norton and Director of Deaf Missions Dr. Rodney R. Ryneanson.



Rev. John and Dacia Reink show the map of their mission in Africa.



Jennifer Knaap, ILDA's missionary in China met with deaf couple, Rose and Barry Chau of Cleveland, Ohio. The Chau moved to the USA from Hong Kong, China over four years ago.



Joan and Craig Majewski, Tour Co-chairpersons, mans the Tour Committee's table in the lobby of Holiday Inn during registration period.



Jennifer Knaack and her mission project things from Macau.



ILDA's 2001 Indianapolis Convention Site members from Peace Deaf Church wore checkerflag vests at the Cleveland convention. (Forgive me for not remembering the name of these two young conventioners!)



ILDA members during the meeting at Holiday Inn.



ILDA members having fun on Lolly the Trolley tour.



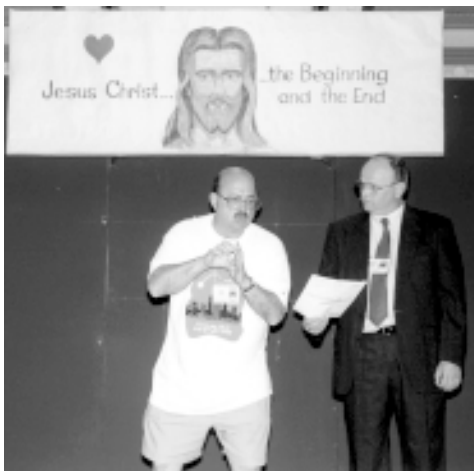
Watching (listening) carefully during the meeting are (l-r); Elmer Francisco, Charlie Kotal, Lester Ahls and David Brown.



Dinning on Nautica Queen boat tour.



Group shot in front of Lolly the Trolley.



Deaf Lutheran Business Manager, Larry Ginter gives his report. ILDA President, Dennis Konkel, hold Larry's notes.



On the upper deck of Nautica Queen boat.



Nautica Queen cruise close to the new Cleveland Browns Stadium.



The Ashland Deaf Drama group gave their excellent performance during the ILDA Cleveland '99 Banquet Entertainment.

Editor's Note: Before the entertainment, **Rev. John Reinke** gave his presentation about his mission in Ghana, Africa. One chiller was about needing to boil water before drinking it. Because of the eggs in the water that becomes worms in your body that could grow to over 3 feet! Yuck!



ILDA members giving ILDA 1997-1999 President, Dennis Konkel and his wife, Susan, a big cheer!



l-r: LCMS World Missions, Dr. Rodney Rynearson; Starfish Learning Center director, Judy Pyles; and ILDA 1997-99 Pastoral Advisor, Rev. Don Leber.

Notes from Alice L. Hagemeyer, Secretary...

The business meeting was held on June 25 and 26 during the 15th biennial convention of the ILDA. Some comments on the resolutions that are approved:

1. The future conventions should be less expensive. Members agree that the high costs have prevented many deaf Lutherans from attending the ILDA convention.

2. Members extended a standing ovation to show their appreciation of thanks to the following people for their services to ILDA: Dennis Konkel as president for two years; Alice L. Hagemeyer as secretary for four years; and the Rev. Don Leber as pastoral advisor for four years; They also acknowledged the Rev. Gary Lawson and his congregation of Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf for making the convention truly successful and to Pam Kane, the Convention chairperson and her committee for their excellent team work in making the convention such a rewarding and enjoyable one.

Rev. Dr. Rodney R. Rynearson also received a standing ovation with our gratitude and appreciation for his 40 continuous years in deaf ministry. He will officially retire on May 31, 2000. We also appreciated his hard work for creating the Deaf Institute of Theology, indeed our dream to have lay leadership training for all members of the LCMS churches to become better leaders in ministry.

ILDA Treasurer's Report...

After the 1997 ILDA convention and expenses, we have \$11,657.67 for ILDA account and \$11,108.31 for the Mission Projects.

Before the 1999 ILDA convention, we have \$12,548.71 for ILDA account and \$36,003.75 for the Mission Projects.

The Convocation account balance is \$10,352.37.

At last count, we had 393 members in ILDA and 116 members in God's 1000 club before the Cleveland '99 ILDA convention.

ILDA Endowment Fund...

This issue was brought up during the Board of Directors meeting in Cleveland. I believe that not many of you Deaf Lutheran readers know about this fund.

"This is a lasting investment fund where the interest earned is available to use for ILDA to coordinate and strengthen the religious activities and services in our congregations, helping promote their growth to the highest possible level in service to the Lord and Savior; and to promote the Christian faith and life of the Lutheran deaf people, all deaf people, and others with whom we associate, and to carry on our ministry throughout the world. The principle is not used except in an emergency situation and with the ILDA Board of Directors approval."

Contributions to this fund can be made as: Regular Gifts; Special Occasion Donations (\$25 minimum); Memorial Gifts (\$100 minimum); Estate Planning; Life Insurance; and Retirement Plan Gifts.

For more information, contact: **International Lutheran Deaf Association, 1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295.**

Vatican, Lutherans end dispute

By GEIR MOULSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GENEVA — The Roman Catholic and Lutheran churches have ended a nearly five-century-old dispute over how people achieve salvation, officials announced yesterday.

The accord represents "a decisive step forward in the process of reconciliation," said the Rev. Ismael Noko, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation.

After 30 years of consultations among theologians, the two sides announced agreement almost a year ago on a Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification, meant to resolve a doctrinal debate at the heart of the 16th century Protestant Reformation that split western Christianity.

Differences remained on the interpretation and wording of the accord, and it took several more months to complete a three-page annex and statement clarifying the churches' position.

"It's not a document of compromise," said Cardinal Edward Cassidy, who heads the Vatican's office for relations with other denominations. "It's a document

based on truth, but in a spirit of reconciliation."

The two sides crafted compromise language on "basic truths" regarding what theologians call "justification," or how humankind achieves salvation.

For the Lutherans, salvation depends on the grace of God, while Catholics maintain that good works are also involved. The declaration states that divine forgiveness and salvation come "solely by God's grace" and that good works flow from that.

Noko said the federation's 124 member churches, which represent 57 million Lutherans, had approved the agreement announced last year and did not need to act on the additions. Pope John Paul II, leader of the world's 1 billion Roman Catholics, gave his final approval in late May.

The declaration and the new additions will be signed formally Oct. 31 in Augsburg, Germany. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther is said to have posted his 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany — widely regarded as the launch of the Protestant Reformation.



For heaven's sake shut off the glare, let there be night

This photo is from June 12th *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*. A nighttime satellite photo shows a well-illuminated outline of the United States.

From *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* - June 11, 1999

Littleton, Colorado...

You may have heard about one story from the shootings. The two boys asked if any of the students believe in God. One girl, Cassie Bernall, bravely said, "Yes, I believe in God." The boys shot and killed her. In the face of death, her mind was on Jesus Christ!

Deaf Lutheran Editor's web site... For you computer/internet users, visit my web site: <http://hometown.aol.com/creabrowns/MySite/INDEX.HTML>

Greetings from DEAFinitely Yours Studio in Silver Spring, MD, USA!

This message contains both an announcement and an invitation.

First, the announcement... Ken Glickman proudly announces a new book, "Deaf Proverbs — A Proverbial Professor's Points to Ponder," due to come out in only six days! More information can be found at <http://deafology.com>.

Secondly, the invitation... You are invited to join Ken's mailing list where you will be kept informed of his new book and other publications as well as his DEAFology comedy shows on a timely basis. It's real easy to join (just do nothing and you are still on this mailing list), and it's free!

DEAFinitely Yours,
- Ken Glickman, a.k.a. "Prof. Glick"
<http://deafology.com>
ProfGlick@deafology.com
301-434-4040 TTY
301-434-6626 FAX

Yes, tell me more about Wheat Ridge

- I'm interested in applying for a Wheat Ridge "seed-money" grant.
- I want to know how my congregation can get Wheat Ridge Christmas Seals.
- I would like to receive a copy of *An Odyssey Through Cancer*.
- I have included a gift to Wheat Ridge in my will or estate plan.
- I would like information about how to include Wheat Ridge in my will or estate plan.
- I would like to receive a Wheat Ridge memorial/honor gift card.
- I would like a list of Wheat Ridge print and video resources.
- Enclosed is my gift for: \$ _____ to be used:

where needed most Walther League Legacy Fund

Please print:

Name _____

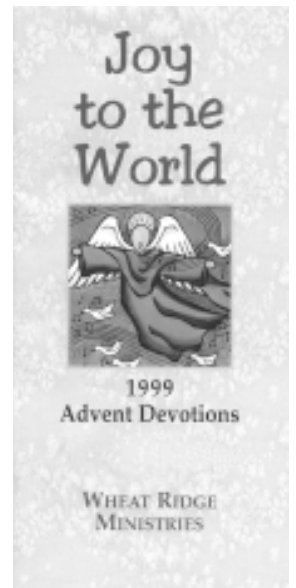
Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Clip this form and mail to:

Wheat Ridge Ministries, One Pierce Place, Suite 250E, Itasca, IL 60143-2634

11



Mill Neck Manor Students Return From Servanthood Project

High school and Alternative High School students from Mill Neck Manor School for Deaf Children have just returned from their annual Servanthood Project Trip. This year, the teens spent a week outside Phoenix, Arizona, at the Gila River Indian Reservation, home of the Pima Indians. Under the direction of Servanthood Team Leader Barbara Lanman, Mill Neck Foundation's Coordinator of Deaf Ministry, and Mill Neck adult team members Lynn McDonald, Martin Breiter, and John LaBare, students Creighton Ericks, Akash Issac, Charmaine Konoski, Michael Powell, J.J. Rivera, Sky Samuel, Donna Smith, and Nancy Tseng all volunteered a week's worth of time and labor at the low-income Indian Reservation.

The major community service project for the Mill Neck Manor students was repainting the vandalized bathrooms at the Reservation's Casa Blanca School, which serves more than 500 Native American students from Grades K-12. The Servanthood Team also helped clean-up debris around the Tribe Elders' homes. Learning about giving back was one of the purposes of the trip. To that end, students cleaned-up the parking lot of the Paradise Valley Methodist Church, which housed the students during their time in Arizona. Students soon saw that graffiti was very prevalent throughout the Gila River Indian Reservation, even on the community's water tower. But the

height of the water tower didn't stop Team Leaders Martin Breiter (Mill Neck Manor Teacher's Assistant) and John LaBare (Mill Neck Manor's Director of Buildings & Grounds) who climbed-up the structure and painted over the vandalism.

The Mill Neck Manor students also had an opportunity for some learning and fun during the trip to Arizona. Students toured an Indian Museum and spent some time at a local amusement park, and took a dip in the pool. The group's host at the Indian Reservation was Anika Evans, a member of the tribe and the Reservation's Gang Taskforce Leader. Evans and her family treated their Mill Neck Manor guests to a traditional Native American dinner, highlighted by "Indian Tacos" a big hit with the group! And, before they left, their Arizona coordinator and nurse, Donna Anthony, invited the Mill Neck Manor students to her home for a farewell barbecue!

Barbara Lanman, the Servanthood Team Leader, says that it was a "once in a lifetime experience for the students." She says students learned about the similarities and differences between their deaf culture and Native American culture and, most importantly, came to the

realization that even though they might have a disability, they still have a lot to offer - the gift of themselves. "It was a big self-esteem boost for the kids," she said, "they cooked for themselves, represented their school very well, and made a difference in the lives of those living on the Reservation."

Now back in school, the participants have been talking to their fellow students about the community service trip to Arizona and their unique experiences there. Each student has a souvenir tee-shirt (they designed themselves before they left) as a remembrance of the trip. Next Spring, Lanman says the Servanthood Project may take them to a horse ranch in Canada for deaf people or on a disaster relief mission somewhere in the United States.

The Servanthood Project is funded and directed by the Mill Neck Foundation. Through the organization, students are offered opportunities for outreach and growth. The overall goal is for students to learn that they are valued children of God. The Foundation's philosophy is that everyone is given gifts and talents which God desires for us to share with others. The Servanthood Project allows students to focus not on their disabilities, but rather on their abilities that God has given.



A group of students from Mill Neck Manor's Alternative High School recently returned from their annual Servanthood Project trip. This year, the students spent a week volunteering at the Gila River Indian Reservation near Phoenix, Arizona. The students helped paint-over graffiti at a school, cleaned-up a church parking lot, and removed debris from around the houses of the tribe's Elders. One of the goals of the community service trip was to show the deaf students that just because they may have a disability, doesn't mean that they can't make a difference.

"Joy To The World"

1999 WHEAT RIDGE CHRISTMAS SEALS DESIGNED BY COLLEGE STUDENTS

The 1999 Wheat Ridge Christmas Seals, "Joy to the World," will feature artwork by four Concordia University, River Forest students and two Concordia University, Seward students.

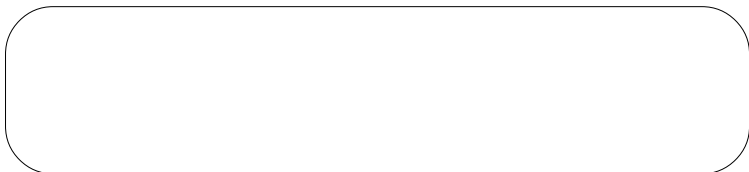
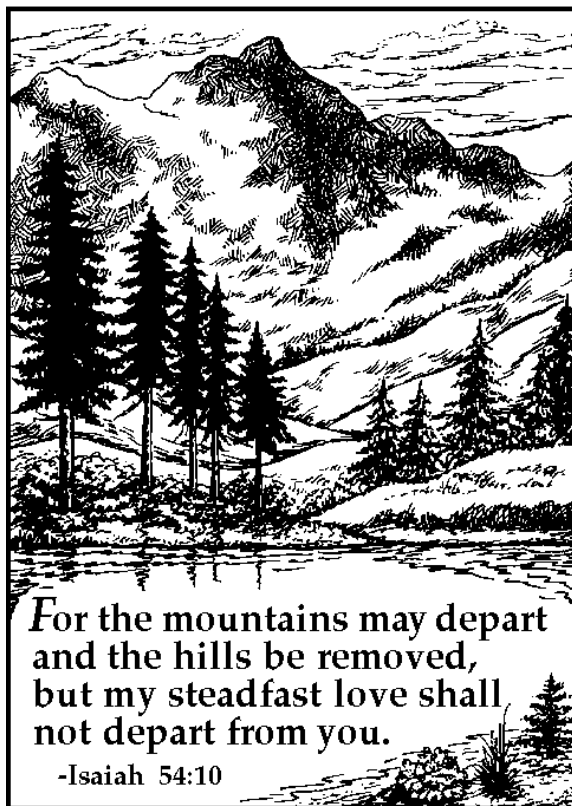
Award winners from Concordia University, River Forest, IL are:

Iliana Angel, Cicero, IL
 Leanne Durianski, North Riverside, IL
 Paul Federwitz, Chilton, WI
 Christopher Gillespie, Oak Park, IL





On
October
30th



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 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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Fall, 1999

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