

Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 14 Issue 2

April 2011

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Sharing

the	Three	

Angels'

Messages

with the

Deaf.

Opportunities at Expos Continue

Already this year, 3ADM had booths at two Deaf expos. Again, these expos provide a real opportunity to plant seeds of truth among so many Deaf at one time. When expos are in repeat cities, we see familar faces, enabling us to strengthen relationships. This year, we are sharing *Signs of God's Love #4*, about the blessings of the Sabbath day.

Miami, FL:

The first DeafNation Expo for 2011 was held in Miami on February 5th with over 3,000 visitors. Stuart and Martha Fleitman who live in Miami assisted David Trexler in the booth. They interacted very well with the visitors, showing no timidity or fear, but much enthusiasm. It was an opportunity for them to share their faith with many who recognized them.

What joy to see Jorge Escandon with his family! Jorge lives in Nebraska but flew to Miami to be with family.

David says: "At the end of the day we had no more bags left. At closing time a young Deaf man stopped by and talked with me about a spiritual matter. I met him again in the parking lot. He asked me about my plans for the night. We agreed to go to a restaurant where we visited until around 9 pm. An intelligent man, he attended church growing up and was heavily involved in the church's ministries. Then he went to Fuller Theological Seminary. Due to his experience at Fuller, he has questions about the reliability of the Bible; this really surprised and saddened me. Perhaps we will meet him again at a future Deaf expo. The Lord has plans for him."

Phoenix, AZ:

March 5th, we had a booth at the MATA Expo. Since the name MATA is unfamiliar, fewer people came than last year's DeafNation Expo. But, we gave away many more packets this time!

A lady in California has already sent us an email, saying, "I am happy with the DVD Signs of God's Love about the Sabbath Day. I know some in my Bible says about the 7th day Sabbath is from when God made the earth."

Esther says: "We were thrilled to see the Egyptian young lady (Muslim) we met at the DeafNation World Expo in Las Vegas last year. She came back again and again; we visited with her for a long time. She was in the USA for 9 months and will be home by the end of March. She believed God wanted us to meet again before she went home. We looked at Bible history as we discussed issues facing (Continued on page 3)



Young man visits our booth at the MATA Expo in Phoenix.

From the Speaker: Facing the Tsunami

On March 11, 2011, the whole world was shocked by the triple disasters (earthquake, tsunami, and radiation) that struck Japan, one of the USA's closest friends. The disasters began with a 9.0 magnitude earthquake that caused a huge tsunami (about 30 feet high) that destroyed most of the coastal cities of northern Japan. As of now, more than 18,000 people were killed by the sudden disaster. Also, the earthquake and tsunami knocked out a nuclear power station that is still spreading radiation that can harm people. The nuclear reactors probably had the meltdown due to the overheated cores. There was no water coming from the pumps to cool the reactors. The pumps were not working because of the lack of electricity which was damaged by the tsunami. Now, the brave workers are trying to bring the electricity back to the pumps to cool the reactors.

The world is watching and praying for the people of Japan. Help from many countries are coming to Japan to rescue missing people, to help the survivors, to fight against radiation, to rebuild their lives, etc. I still cannot stop thinking about the disasters in Japan. I am affected by it even though we are thousands of miles away. The news has brought the disasters close to here. The Japanese government says that this crisis is the worst since World War II. I think it is the worst in the world's history in terms of the effect on the world.

A tsunami is very powerful; no one can stop it. We cannot stop natural disasters from happening. We are helpless when a tornado, a hurricane, or an earthquake comes. But, we may escape through hiding in a shelter or leaving the area of danger. We can escape death through a warning system.

The tsunami reminds me of sin. Sin is the same as the radiation in the air that can harm us if we are exposed to it. We are facing the spiritual tsunami that is attacking our faith in God. We have the tsunami of evil media, tsunami of sin, tsunami of temptation, and tsunami of death. We cannot avoid the tsunamis of sin, temptation and death, but we can find a refuge in Jesus Christ.

We are spiritually drowning in the tsunami of sin, but we have Jesus Christ who walked on the water. He reaches out His hand to us that we may grab and be delivered. Once we are on solid ground, we need to be alert for more tsunami attacks. Here is a promise from God as we prepare for the tsunami of sin. "So let us boldly approach the throne of grace. Then we will receive mercy. We will find grace to help us when we need it" (Hebrews 4:16, NIrV). We need prayer to help us to be strong in the Lord and be delivered from



the unstoppable power of the tsunami of sin.

A verse also reminds us, "I have hidden your word [the Bible] in my heart so that I won't sin against you" (Psalm 119:11, NIrV). The Bible is God's Word that guides us in the right path. It warns us of the dangers so we can avoid it. The Bible and prayer are important for our spiritual life against the tsunami of sin. We can be washed out by the tsunami of sin, but the Lord is here to deliver us if we reach out to Him. We can remain on high ground if we continue to follow the Bible and God's prophets that give us warning. Now, we need to share the warning to other people by witnessing to them. Many people have already been washed away in the tsunami of sin. Some of them are safe on the higher ground, but are walking to areas of danger because of false teachings. So, we need prayer, Bible, and witnessing for our spiritual needs in the time of spiritual tsunamis.

Like the scientists who were greatly humbled by the power of tsunami that destroyed Japanese cities we are greatly humbled by the fact that we are powerless to resist the tsunami of sin. This humility helps us to look up to God who is always right and merciful. Let us be humble before the Creator of all things.

"The nations of the earth will be in terrible pain. They will be puzzled by the roaring and tossing of the sea. Terror will make people faint. They will be worried about what is happening in the world. . . . At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud. He will come with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up. Hold your head up with joy and hope. The time when you will be set free will be very close" (Luke 21:25-28).

> David M. Trexler Speaker/Director

Deaf Expos, Continued

(Continued from first page)

the Middle East, sharing our faith with her. She told us that she was curious about her Egyptian friends' Christian faith, but they would not tell her. This special person loves God with all her heart.

"At day's end, we were packed and ready to go. But, we were continually delayed. Finally, we walked out of the exhibit hall, where we met a man, Hector Lopez. The Trexler's were thrilled as they have not seen him in 20 years One day in 1981 or 1982, the Trexler's had little money and food had run out. The Trexler's and their young sons prayed for help. Instantly, this man came to their door holding two sacks of food. This was a sweet reunion. Hector had fellowshipped with Adventists many years ago and asked about old Adventist friends. God's timing is wonderful! We could have easily missed him."



Stuart and Martha Fleitman share Jesus in Miami, FL



MATA booth workers George Belser and Francisca Trexler stay busy at the booth.

Camp Meeting Schedule

We strongly encourage Deaf members to attend a camp meeting. Many blessings can be found at such a spiritual meeting! You will spend time in God's Word, enjoy sweet fellowship with like-believers, and make memories that will last for years to come. You will also be strengthened to stay faithful until Jesus returns.

"Let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us cheer each other up with words of hope. Let us do it all the more as you see the day coming when Christ will return." Hebrews 10:25 NCV. And we believe Jesus IS coming soon!

Western Deaf Camp Meeting

July 10-17, 2011 Milo Adventist Academy at Days Creek, Oregon Speakers: Alan Meis and Esther Doss Contact: chucktrades@comcast.net

Adventist Interpreter's Workshop

August 3-7, 2011 Cohutta Springs Convention Center Crandall, Georgia Speakers: Klaudia Staples and Rosalinda Davis Contact: esther@edgemontvideo.com

Deaf Young Adults for Christ (DYAC for ages 18-35)

August 3-7, 2011 Cohutta Springs Convention Center Crandall, Georgia Contact: agtsully@gmail.com or VP (651) 964-1553

Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting

August 4-7, 2011 Cohutta Springs Convention Center Crandall, Georgia Speaker: Thompson Kay Contact: jwjordan@gccsda.org

DEAF Camp Meeting

September 1-5, 2011 Camp Cherokee at Saranac Lake, New York Speaker: Paul Kelly Contact: snecdeaf@gmail.com

DEAR Camp Meeting

October 27-30, 2011 Camp Blue Ridge at Montebello, VA Speaker: Alfred Griffith Contact: clerk@deafellowship.org

Griffith and Jordan Visit India

Pastor Mesapogu Wilson, Southern Asia Division Director for Special Ministries put on a training program for the Gospel Outreach volunteers working among the deaf in India. The training program was held on the campus of Asian Aid Seventh Day Adventist School for the Blind, Bobilli, in Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh on March 4-7, 2011.

The training program was sponsored by Southern Asia Division, English Oaks and Hayward SDA hearing and deaf members in California, Canadian Deaf Ministries, Southern Deaf Fellowship, and contributions of the two pastors. \$4,000.00 of the money given to this training program was used to purchase 40 bicycles for each of the GO volunteers for the Deaf.

About thirty volunteers and Pastor Prabhakar Rao attended the training program. Each day began with a devotional given by Pastor Wilson and GO volunteers' reports of the work he or she is doing among the deaf. Then, Pastor Jeff Jordan and Pastor Alfred Griffith studied the doctrines and leadership subjects with the volunteers.

They also spent two days giving a similar program at Asian Aid Seventh Day Adventist School for Speech and Hearing Impaired in Kollegal. They were surprised to see that the Deaf students were learning ASL.

The chaplain of the Deaf school, Jacob Bhaggien, states, "The teachers and the students...were inspired and enriched by the training, devotionals, prayer bands and life experiences of Pr. Alfred Griffith and Pr. Jeff Jordan. They were accompanied by Dr. M Wilson, Director for Special ministries, SUD and Mr. Daniel Hill, from Mission TV, USA."

"The three days training workshop was beneficial for all the teachers and the students. Useful topics on the doctrines of the church, the work of the Holy Spirit in Evangelism and the methods of Jesus in Discipleship were covered. There was a good interaction between the students and the pastors. We are grateful to Pr. Alfred, Pr. Jeff and Pr.Wilson for coming here and blessing us."

"We want to thank every one who gave money and time to make this project possible," said Pastor Griffith. "We also want to thank Daniel Hill, of MissionTV, for the pictures he took during our time in India."

Pastor Wilson wants to greatly increase the number of GO volunteers and Deaf schools. Pray for the health and courage of Pastor Wilson and the GO volunteers as they work to share the wonderful news of Christ to the Deaf in India.



SPEECH SHEARING IMPAIRED

The Asian Aid SDA School for Speech and Hearing Impaired (Deaf) in Kollegal, India. This is the only known SDA school for the Deaf in the world.



Pastor Griffith enjoys meeting the Deaf students at the school.



Pastor Jordan talks with teachers and students at the school. Jordan's son Noah also went to India to assist the work.

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40 bicycles were purchased and given to the gospel workers so they can more easily travel to share the Word of God.



Pastor Griffith shares words of encouragement with a worker. These photos were taken by Daniel Hill.

Amanda Colgan Testimony

I would like to share my testimony with you about how I found Jesus Christ. I was raised in a Catholic family who only goes to church on Christmas and Easter. I did not have a relationship with God and I did not know much about Jesus growing up.

In college, I met my husband Kevin and fell in love with him. Kevin introduced his old friend to me and we had some friendly chats. His friend brought up Jesus Christ and what He went through. I was surprised to learn something new and I became curious, wanting to learn more. So at age 22 I bought my first Bible. I'll never forget the experience of reading the Bible for the first time. I felt like I had rockets under my shoes. I was smiling big. God's presence was everywhere. I felt incredible sense of peace.

As I read the Bible, I had questions. I met Pastor Paul Kelly at a friend's house. Learning that Paul is a pastor, I asked him Bible questions. Paul asked me if I would like to have Bible studies with him. I enthusiastically said yes! I enjoyed every Bible study with Paul and learned so much about God. I was (and still am!) so thirsty to learn more. I did a lot of research on different religions and was convinced that the Seventh-day Adventist church is the remnant church before Jesus Christ's glorious Second Coming.

Friends, I encourage you try talk about Jesus and what He did in your life with your friends and family. Praise God for your blessings with them. People will see the love of God as you praise Him or talk good things about Him. Your words will plant "seeds" in people's minds and through the Holy Spirit they will seek God. That is how I accepted Jesus in my life, as my husband's friend who planted "seeds" in my mind.



One of the gospel workers participate in a program during the training workshop.



Kevin and Amanda Colgan with their little Amy.

Three Deaf Ladies Baptized

March 12, 2011 was a special Sabbath day. Three Deaf ladies were baptized at the Adventist Church in Kollegal. All three ladies work at the Adventist School for the Speech and Hearing Impaired. Puttamadhamma works as a cook and Manjula was a teacher for the nursery class. The third lady is Evangeline Hembrom, who is a teacher at the school.

This news comes from Jacob Bhaggien, the chaplain of the Deaf school. He says, "We praise God and rejoice to see these three take this important decision to have a new life in Jesus and it's our prayer that this would encourage many other deaf young people who attend our church services exclusively for the deaf to take the same stand and have a fulfilling relationship with Jesus. Please continue to pray for our Deaf young people."



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Meet Julius Vold

December 2010, the Three Angels Deaf Ministries' Board of Directors voted to invite Julius Vold to replace the outgoing board member, Jenny Witteborg. We are happy to have Julius as a part of our board starting January 2011.

Julius Vold is a member and an elder of the Deaf Evangelistic Adventist



Fellowship (DEAF) in Silver Spring, MD. He is an alumnus of Gallauget University where he graduated in 1971. In the past he worked for Washington Post until he was bought out during the company's downsizing. Julius in now a retired teacher of the Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick. Julius became an Adventist when the late Pastor Arthur Griffith worked for the Potomac Conference as a chaplain at Gallaudet University and the pastor for the Deaf group that met at the Silver Spring SDA Church in Maryland from 1975 to 1980.

Three Angels Deaf Ministries is happy to have Julius as a part of our board. Please keep 3ADM and the entire board in your prayers. Thank you.

Our Japanese Family

According to a report from Yuriko Nakamura, a hearing Adventist friend in Japan, Deaf members there appear to be safe after the earthquake and tsunami. They are, however, going through difficult times with food and gas shortages, power outages, transportation problems, and businesses being closed. Let us continue to keep them in our prayers.

Speaker/Director's Schedule

April 2—Greensboro, NC (DeafNation Expo) April 9—Warren, MI (DeafNation Expo)

April 16, 17—Chula Vista, CA (Deaf Reach Lay Training at the Chula Vista SDA Church)

May 6, 7—Riverside, CA (CSDR/DeafNation Expo)

July 10-17—*tentative* Milo, Oregon (Western Deaf Camp Meeting)

Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping

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Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) was originally incorporated in the State of Nebraska and was recognized by the federal government as a nonprofit religious organization on April 6, 1998. After moving to a new headquarters, 3ADM was subsequently recognized as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization by the State of Arizona on May 9, 2001. 3ADM has been granted the right to issue tax-deductible receipts for donations made to Three Angels' Deaf Ministries.

Three Angels Deaf Ministries

P.O. Box 6114 Mesa, AZ 85216-6114

Fax: (480) 358-9393 Voice/VP: (480) 389-6589 or (240) 241-7218

Email: 3adm@3angelsdeafministries.org

Websites: www.3angelsdeafministries.org www.DeafBibleSchool.com