

# Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 21 Issue 3 June, 2018

# **New Book Hot Off the Presses!**

We are happy to announce that we have a new book! Story of Hope, Easy Reading Edition is a shorter version of The Story of Redemption, written by Ellen G. White. It has 108 pages.

There are many questions that bother countless people. They wonder why the world has so much evil. They wonder why good people suffer. Why do people hurt? Where did this evil come from? Will this pain and evil ever stop?

We cannot find answers to these questions in science. Long discussions about what is right and wrong will not give clear answers. The government does not have the answers. So, where can we find the truth?

This book gives us the answers

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#### **Three Angels Deaf Ministries**

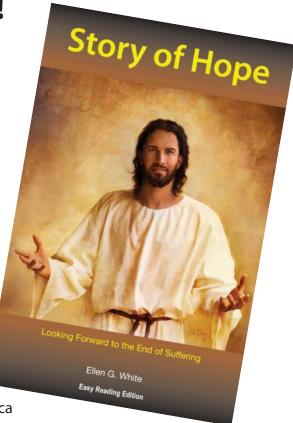
PO Box 1946 Greenbelt, MD 20768 www.3adm.org 3adm@3adm.org Voice/VP: 301-850-0542 Fax: 866-986-2122 that we need by helping us look at the Bible. While we suffer or see others in pain, we can have real hope in a real Savior who will return soon.

The General
Conference of SeventhDay Adventists is
encouraging people to
share a shorter edition of
The Story of Redemption
with friends, neighbors,
and people they come
in contact with. In 2017,
about 40 million of these
books were given away
around the world. 20
million of these were
given away in South America

alone!

We were concerned that the book would not appeal to some Deaf people. American Sign Language is the heart language for many Deaf people, making English their second language. So, we decided to create an Easy Reading edition that would be good for sharing with Deaf people. We thank Margie English for doing most of the editing, David Trexler for assisting with the editing, and George Belser who proofread the manuscript.

Did you know that Ellen G. White was named by a special issue of the Smithsonian magazine



(Spring, 2015) as one of the 100 most important Americans of all time? Her books and letters have been translated into 160+ languages. She encouraged people to love and follow God more. Millions of people learned about God through her writings.

Story of Hope, Easy Reading Edition is a chance for you to learn too. Each book costs \$5.00. This book will be great to share with your friends.

We thank the North American Division for financially sponsoring this project.

# Speaker's Dialogue: It's About Worship

Do you worship God every day, every hour, every minute, every second, every breath? What do you think about? Do you often think about God, a famous pro-player, movie actor, your girlfriend or boyfriend, pornography or cars?

What is worship? Do you know? You should. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary— 1. To honor or reverence as a divine being or supernatural power. 2. To regard with great or extravagant [too much] respect, honor, or devotion.

Many young people worship their favorite movie stars, pro players, singers, etc. Maybe you have noticed them behaving or looking like their heroes? They follow these "great" people because the young people believe that they are so worthy.

But are they truly worthy? Do they give us Christians good examples to follow? Of course, not. But, sadly many Christians spend a lot of time thinking about human heroes. They are influenced to become like them instead of our worthy Creator God. Worship is about who or what is the most important to admire and follow—God, human beings, animals or food, etc. If we continue to worship earthly things more than God then we are not ready for what is going to happen in our country and the whole world.

First, let us take a look at the time before the Flood. What did the people think about? "The Lord saw that the human beings on the earth were very wicked and that everything they thought about was evil. "(Genesis 6:5 NCV). I would not be surprised if some of "God's" people were destroyed by the flood because they did not value God more than the world.

Second, many innocent Christians during the Dark Ages died as martyrs because they refused to worship the papacy and the teachings of the Church. They stood firm no matter the threats of punishment by the government or the church.

Now, Adventists believe in the end-time of trouble before the great day of Jesus' second coming. Revelation 13 tells us that the sea-beast (Papacy) and the land-beast (USA) will persecute us first with a financial boycott. That means we cannot buy or sell during the serious time of trouble. The government of the world will try to force God's people to obey human's laws instead of God's law.

If God's people worship created things more than

God now, then they will obey human's law (Sunday) instead of God (7th day Sabbath). They will receive the mark of the beast. Their thoughts are about saving themselves rather than dying for God. In other words they DO NOT know Jesus Christ at all. They did not develop an intimate relationship with God. They do not have the habit of obeying God because they do not really love Him. Those who value something more than God will naturally follow the world.

People who value the Creator God more than anything will receive the Seal of God. Their thoughts are always on Jesus Christ. They obey Him because of love. They have grown into the likeness of Christ. They will stand against the world's pressure. They love God so much that they are willing to sacrifice for Him rather than to sin. "You are worthy, our Lord and God! You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power. You are worthy because you created all things. They were created and they exist. That is the way you planned it" (Revelation 4:11 NIRV).

We need to wake up from our sleep. Now is the time for us to have a spiritual health check-up with the Great Physician to see if we worship God or anything else.

"... Keep in mind the times we are living in. The hour has come for you to wake up from your sleep. Our full salvation is closer now than it was when we first believed in Christ. The dark night of evil is nearly over. The day of Christ's return is almost here. So let us get rid of the works of darkness. Let us put on the armor of light. Let us act as we should, like people living in the daytime. Have nothing to do with wild parties. Don't get drunk. Don't take part in sexual sins or evil conduct. Don't fight with each other. Don't be jealous of anyone. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ as your clothing. Don't think about how to satisfy what your sinful nature wants" (Romans 13:11-14 NIRV).

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, please stand strong in the Lord. Accept the painful message from Jesus Christ about our spiritual conditions—if we are "dead" or "alive." Let Jesus be our God. Worship Him!

David Trexler Speaker/Director Volume 21 Issue 3 Page 3

#### **How Did 3ADM Get Its Start?**

Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) is here today because Christian Record Services (CRS) closed their Deaf ministries on November 6, 1997. CRS began serving the Deaf in 1980, providing inspirational materials and ministry. CRS worked hard to promote its Deaf ministry and raise enough funds. But beginning in 1985, CRS faced debts and had to cut some services to the blind and the Deaf. The situation worsened, causing the CRS Board of Trustees to make the painful decision to close the ministry for the Deaf. The church's only ministry to the Deaf ceased to exist.

Soon after, Elder Manuel Vasquez, the NAD director of the Multilingual Department, held a meeting on November 24, 1997, at the General Conference/NAD headquarters in Silver Spring, MD. He invited Deaf and hearing members to this meeting. On the weekend just before, about sixty concerned individuals, mostly Deaf, came together at the Silver Spring, MD Church annex building to lay out ideas and goals for the future work for the Deaf.

On November 24, the meeting room at the headquarters was almost filled with concerned Deaf and hearing members. They worked all day on a proposal to present to the NAD officers and union presidents meeting in February, 1998. The proposal would develop a Deaf ministry under the umbrella of the NAD. Elder Vasquez did a remarkable job in conducting the meeting. He challenged the Deaf to roll up their sleeves and move forward in faith. The success of the Deaf work depended on us, the Deaf.

A committee was formed and it developed a proposal for the NAD officers and union presidents. Sadly, the NAD officers and union presidents did not approve the proposal. The disappointed Deaf members and hearing supporters did not give up.

The Adventist Deaf Ministries Committee (ADMC) had formed a year earlier at the Milo camp meeting to give guidance to the Deaf work. The committee occasionally met together online to discuss several important matters, such as a TV evangelism project. But with the crisis of the Deaf work, the ADMC decided to suspend the TV evangelism project temporarily. It wanted to focus on saving, continuing, and expanding the ministry for the Deaf. When the NAD officers turned down the



The ribbon cutting for 3ADM's office November 8, 1998. Pictured left to right: Jim Hovey, Clarence Hodges, Thompson Kay, David Trexler, \_\_\_\_\_, and George Belser.

proposal, a church leader gave some advice. He suggested that the Deaf create a nonprofit organization. The ADMC boldly grabbed ahold of the advice and began working toward starting this supporting ministry, Adventist Deaf Ministries (ADM). (The name was later changed to Three Angels Deaf Ministries)

Although ADM was not under the church umbrella, ADM would receive some funds from the NAD Multilingual Department for special projects. ADM would team up with the church to finish God's work for the Deaf.

Thompson U. Kay and David M. Trexler volunteered their time for ADM at the new office in Lincoln, Nebraska. The office opened September 1, 1998. Christian Record Services sent all the equipment belonging to the Deaf work to ADM. Also, CRS released about 20 percent of the materials to ADM. The materials were *Steps to Christ, The Story of Redemption*, and the Sign Language coloring books.

Then on July 6, 1999 the interim board of directors of ADM voted to dissolve itself to make room for the new, permanent board of directors of ADM. The interim board was the ADMC. Thompson U. Kay and David M. Trexler were called to work for the ministry with salary. Thompson was the Executive Director and David was the Associate Director/ Evangelist.

(Adventist Deaf Ministries News, Fall 1998, Volume 1, Number 1 and Fall 1999, Volume 2, Number 3, adapted)

# **Deaf Expo Ministry Continues**

#### **Boston Deaf Expo**

Some say that today people are not interested in Jesus. But the new Boston Deaf Expo proved that is not true. All day, the 3ADM booth was a busy place where people were excited to receive free kits that included God's Way Bible study pamphlets, Bible Study interest cards, a sample of The Deaf Messenger magazine, and a Last Day Events DVD.

The new Boston Deaf Expo was held for the first time on Saturday, April 28th in Newton, MA. Paul and Tina Kelly and Jessica Smith worked the booth together.

There were about 800 attendees and the Expo lasted from noon to 7:00pm. At 10:00am, there was already a long line of people waiting to get into the Expo. Inside there was barely enough room to move because of the number of people. All day the building was packed with many more people standing outside in the sunny parking lot for hours to talk and catch up.

There was a crowd around the 3ADM booth the entire day. Many were happy to share that they were Christian, and others said they have been searching for a Deaf church where they could worship. This shows the need for more Deaf churches. Jessica represented the local DEAF (Deaf Everywhere Are Family) group, which has monthly Bible studies, an annual DEAF Weekend and DEAF Camp. Twentytwo new people signed up to be on the mailing list to learn more about this local DEAF Christian (SDA) group. Paul and Tina also represented the 2018 DEAF Camp, and all the printed DEAF Camp brochures were given away quickly. The interest shown at the 3ADM booth proves that people are hungry for opportunities to talk about and to learn more about Jesus.

Large Deaf events like these expos offer an amazing opportunity to meet Deaf friends and to introduce them to Our Best Friend Jesus. Historically, this has been the most successful way to meet and reach new people who are interested in learning more about Jesus, joining DEAF events and signing up for Bible studies.

Jessica Smith



Francisca Trexler visits with a booth visitor at the San Francisco Deaf Expo on April 14. Many came by the booth to learn more about God. David Trexler and Gwen Tsujimoto also worked at the booth.

#### **Toronto Mayfest 2018**

Paul and Tina Kelly of Rochester, NY went to Toronto, Canada to work the 3ADM booth at the 44th Annual MayFest 2018 which was held on May 11 and 12. It had a good turnout with 3,128 attendees on Friday and 2,852 on Saturday. We had our booth only for Saturday. The booths were all around the sides of the hockey rink arena on the third floor level. Looking down below, there were many hockey teams coming in and out to practice or to play games.

While at the MayFest we noticed that there were many Deaf people from other countries. They moved to Canada for many reasons, but mostly to have a better life and to have better support and services for their needs that other countries do not have.

We gave out many bags filled with pamphlets and DVDs. Some individuals were thrilled and took several more kits home so they can share with their families, relatives and friends. Some stopped by and shared their spiritual experiences. We encouraged them to turn to the Bible for guidance. Christians told us they appreciated us doing God's ministry. We need to pray more and reach out more to Deaf people, leading them to the wonderful hope in Jesus Christ.

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### **Deaf Awareness in Rhode Island**

Educating hearing people about Deaf ministry needs is important. The Grace and Glory SDA Church in Providence, RI invited the DEAF (Deaf Everywhere Are Family) group on June 2nd to have a DEAF Ministries Day.

DEAF members led the entire worship service. Amanda Colgan presented about Deaf culture, Deaf ministry and 3ADM. Jessica Smith gave the sermon and Dona Lombardi helped with interpreting. Amy Colgan even led an informal class in the afternoon to teach children some ASL signs. After the potluck, a special discussion allowed hearing people to ask questions. The DEAF members answered their questions about being Deaf, Deaf culture, Deaf ministries and how to best reach Deaf people for Jesus.

The church members were very supportive and amazed to learn the work that needs to be done for Deaf outreach. This day of learning and fellowship was a great way to help expand Deaf awareness and ministry in the Northeast. We look forward to more similar invitations in the future and doing more to educate the hearing about Deaf ministries.

Jessica Smith

# **Big Day in Washington**

The Ferndale Seventh-day Adventist Church in Ferndale, WA had a historical event as Deaf and hearing gathered for the same church service on April 28, 2018. This is the first such event that has occurred in Washington Conference, drawing people from Canada, Washington and Oregon. David Trexler delivered the message to the congregation about holding on to their faith and not giving up. His wife, Francisca, taught Sabbath School and gave the afternoon message. Washington Conference Deaf Ministry Coordinator Nohelani Jarnes and Rose Davis voice interpreted Trexler's message for those who did not know ASL. Ferndale church members spent five weeks learning ASL from volunteer Deaf teachers so they could welcome those visiting for the event. Washington Conference Deaf Ministry has plans for future church services that will include both the hearing and the Deaf together.

Nohelani Jarnes



Amanda Colgan gives a presentation as Jessica Smith interprets. Kevin Colgan uses tactile signs for Deaf-Blind Sharon Eisenhart.



The Trexlers were visiting the Tucson, AZ area for vacation and visited with the Deaf members at the Fil-Am SDA Church. David preached to the hearing and the Deaf with a church-wide fellowship dinner after the service.



Francisca Trexler speaks to the Deaf in Ferndale, WA.

# "Called to Serve" Theme for Annual DEAF Weekend in New England

New England does not have a Deaf SDA church. So DEAF (Deaf Everywhere Are Family) has monthly Bible studies, an annual DEAF Camp, and an Annual DEAF Weekend. This gives the Deaf in the area an opportunity to worship in ASL.

This year's Annual DEAF Weekend was held April 20-22 at the Worcester Airport SDA Church in Massachusetts. The theme was "Called to Serve" with Bruce Buzzell as the featured speaker. Bruce Buzzell is from St. Louis, MO and the chairperson for 3ADM's Board of Directors. DEAF members led all parts of the weekend. On Sabbath morning hearing church members joined DEAF for worship, with meetings voice interpreted by a team of four interpreters (Jessica McGowan Smith, Dona Lombardi, Harold Molina and Niki Espinal).

Bruce presented four meetings on the topics, "Prayer on the Island," "Saved to Serve God," "How to Serve the Lord," and "Excitement or Service." Each meeting inspired the audience on why and how to serve Jesus.

The theme follows the General Conference's Total Member Involvement (TMI) program. TMI encourages everyone to be involved in their local church and reaching people for Jesus. Everyone should do something for Jesus. The Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and hard of hearing people are included.

To get right to work, DEAF members put together kits to give out at the Boston Deaf Expo the following weekend. A special offering was also collected to support 3ADM.

Members and friends of DEAF traveled from all over New England and New York to attend. Local people opened their homes to host visitors traveling from far away. Meals were eaten together at the church. These weekends are a great opportunity to fellowship together.

The weekend highlight was the Sabbath School Bible study given by June Freeman (DEAF member from Connecticut). This was her first time leading a Bible study and she hopes to do it again soon. We also had a fun game night led by Charmaine Logan from New York.

The Worcester Airport SDA Church were wonderful hosts who opened up their building to DEAF and made everyone feel welcome.

Jessica Smith

#### **Blast From the Past**



Neil Davidson ministered to the Deaf from 1960 to 1968. He traveled many miles around southern California, visiting many Deaf people and giving Bible studies. Many became interested in joining the church. In the photo above, Neil (on left) shakes hands with Elder R. R. Bietz of the Southern California Conference. Neil's wife Lillian is also pictured.

#### **3ADM Board of Directors**

Bruce Buzzell, Chairperson
Paul Kelly, Vice-Chairperson
Chuck McGehee, Treasurer
Alfred Griffith, Secretary
George Belser
Marvin Budd
Margie English

#### **3ADM Staff**

David M. Trexler
Speaker/Director
Francisca Trexler
Assistant Director
Esther Doss
Public Relations/Development

#### **Donations**

In Memory of...

Edith Hotchkiss by Marcia Irwin Shaun Johnston by Sara Johnston

*In Honor of...*Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor

# 3ADM Catalog -- All prices include USA shipping

\$ 65.00 **AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS SERIES** (7 DVDs) **KEEPERS OF THE FLAME SERIES** (2 DVDs) \$ 45.00 8-part series on the history of the Christian church, and 14 Bible topics in ASL by Francisca Trexler. (no voice) the Adventist church. (ENGLISH SUBTITLES) THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES A set of 13 DVDs with 26 programs in ASL by \$ 90.00 THE FINAL EVENTS (DVD) Pastor David Trexler. Includes study notes. (with voice) What the Bible says about the last days by Doug Batchelor. (43 minutes - ENGLISH SUBTITLES) SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE DVDs In Hard Case \$ 15.00 Presentations by Esther Doss as she explores In Paper Sleeve \$8.00 different places in the outdoors. (with voice) #1 - Salvation and God's love \$ 8.00 **CAN YOU HEAR US?** \$ 2.00 #2 - What happens when you die? \$ 8.00 A guick reference guide to Deaf Ministry. #3 - God's law of love \$ 8.00 Orders of 20 to 49 - each booklet \$ 1.50 #4 - The Sabbath \$8.00 Orders of 50 or more - each booklet \$ 1.00 #5 - Jesus' second coming \$ 8.00 #6 - Heaven and choices \$ 8.00 MARGIE ASKS WHY, EASY READING (Book) \$ 8.00 #7 - The eight laws of health \$ 8.00 The story about the battle between God and Satan. #8 - The beginning and end of evil \$8.00 #9 - Creationism and Young Age of the Earth \$ 8.00 **STEPS TO CHRIST, EASY READING** (Book) \$ 8.00 A book that leads us to a better relationship with Jesus. LAST DAY EVENTS DVD with David Trexler \$ 8.00 THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, EASY READING What will happen in the future? (with voice) \$ 8.00 Tells how sin began and how Jesus will save SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE and LAST DAY EVENTS DVDs His people from sin & eternal death. Orders of 10-19 - each DVD \$ 7.00 Orders of 20-99 - each DVD STORY OF HOPE, EASY READING \$ 6.00 \$ 5.00 Orders of 100 or more - each DVD \$ 4.00 NEW! Shorter version of The Story of Redemption. **BIBLE ADVENTURES DVD** \$15.00 **EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES** \$ 20.00 8 Bible stories for children in sign language (no voice) 28 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates. **SILENTLY GUIDED** (Book) **OUR WORLD A THEATER IN GOD'S UNIVERSE (DVD)** \$ 15.00 \$ 8.00 The battle between God and Satan Mario Romero's remarkable life's journey. THE SEVENTH DAY (5 DVDs) \$ 75.00 The history of the Sabbath. (CLOSED CAPTIONED) If ordering several of one item, please contact us for quantity pricing.

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