



## Unavailable!

**“Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you (John 16:23).**

A few months before the DeafNation Expo on April 9, 2022, I booked a roundtrip flight to Austin, Texas, for Francisca and me. At the same time, I also reserved a hotel room. But when I tried to rent a car online, there was no car available through different online sites. I was surprised! I wondered what was going on there that many people were planning to go to Austin, which is one of the great cities for different festivals such as music, etc.

I didn't think that COVID-19 might have a great impact on the car rental business. So, I decided to wait and hope for some availability later. Unfortunately, fast forward to the night of April 7, a day before our departure, I forgot about it. I panicked after I tried to find a rental car. I looked at different websites that offered car rentals. Nothing, even in downtown Austin. We need a car for this trip. So, what should we do? I gave sad news to Francisca, and she was concerned. It looked like we would need Uber to take us to the exhibition center, the hotel, and then back on the next day. But we already promised a volunteer, Raynell Vick, that we would bring her home an hour half away in a small town on the next day. Using Uber would not be reasonable.

Francisca and I knelt and prayed to God for help. We had never experienced it before on our business and personal trips. We always reserved a car without any problems. At that time, it was different. We claimed the promise in Matthew 7:7, 8: “Ask, and God will give to you. Search, and you will find. Knock, and the door will open for you. Yes, everyone who asks will receive. Everyone who searches will find. And everyone who knocks will have the door open.” We trust God, who would provide us with a car in this unusual situation. We began to relax and be at peace. The Lord was good to us because we slept all night soundly.

The following day, we woke up with urgent

prayer for His help. We flew to Austin without any problem. Then we arrived at the airport we prayed again for His help. After picking up our bags, we walked to the car rental center in the airport's parking lot. We were surprised to see a long line at the Budget kiosk and a short line at Hertz and Avis. We knew that there was no car available when many people lined up for it. We prayed again, and I decided to go to an empty Fox Rental. Before seeing agents, I explained in a writing book about our situation, hoping for their sympathy. The agent read my note and said, “No car.” Then I walked to the Enterprise kiosk, which was empty too. The agent said that all cars were booked, even all over Austin. I asked him if he knew if there was another way to get a car. He looked around and told me to try Budget or Avis. I thanked him and looked at Budget's long line of people, so I decided on Avis, which had three people. When it was my turn, I showed her my note. She told me to wait, and she talked with the manager. After talking with the manager, she turned her head to me smiling and said that she would help us! What! They have a car for us! After completing the contract, she gave me the key with instructions on where to get a car; I walked on “the clouds,” feeling uplifted and grateful to God! I showed the key to Francisca, who was waiting at the seat. She was surprised and happy!

When we arrived at the car, it was the perfect car for our needs! After sitting in the car, we praised God in our prayers. We wondered how that car became our car when every car was booked. I couldn't book one a day before. Did someone cancel the reservation? We had no idea, but we knew God did answer our prayers as we served Him to share the seeds with the Deaf people at the booth.

David M. Trexler

## Amazing Connections Made for Jesus at America Deaf Expo in Boston



everything in the universe fits perfectly together. We also talked with him about good and evil and about hell.

These conversations show that people in the Deaf community are still hungry to know that Jesus is real, and that Jesus loves and cares about them. This shows how important it is to meet our Deaf community where they are and to share the good news about Jesus' saving love.

Please continue to pray for 3ADM's booth ministry sharing Jesus at Deaf Expos, for God's blessings on the people we met in Boston and the materials we handed out. Only in heaven will we know the true value of the connections we made for Jesus at the America Deaf Expo.

Jessica McGowan Smith

Do you ever think about the value of having 3ADM booths at the Deaf Expos across the country? We shared Jesus and made amazing connections at the recent American Deaf Expo in the Boston area. We pray that God continues to water the seeds that were planted.

On Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Deaf people from across New England came together for the America Deaf Expo in Roxbury, MA. This was a wonderful witnessing opportunity and 3ADM had a booth there staffed by new Speaker/Director Pastor Paul Kelly, Jonathan Solomon and Jessica McGowan Smith.

During this Deaf Expo we saw many friends after not seeing them for a long time because of COVID isolation, etc. Having Jonathan there was a real blessing as he met many friends from his Deaf school (The Learning Center) and from his work in the Deaf community. Jessica was also able to see many friends that she had not seen since the start of COVID. All day we gave away many pamphlets, DVDs, books, and flyers with online content all about Jesus.

Here is a sample of some of the conversations we had and connections that were made:

- Spoke with and prayed for a friend who was told her father would die from lung cancer in 3-4 days.
- Paul Kelly had a Bible study with a Deaf man who had many questions about the Trinity (God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit). This is an important topic that recently many people have been trying to understand.
- Spoke with 2 young men about other worlds, signs of knowing Jesus is coming and how we will know to be ready using quotes from Matthew and Revelation.
- Spoke with Jonathan's friend who studied philosophy about if God exists and how

## DeafNation Expo at Kansas City, Missouri.



Kevin and Amanda Colgan with their two children came to the 3ADM booth with Bruce and Susan Buzzell during the DeafNation Expo in Kansas City, Missouri.

We were glad that the reception to our booth was very positive and many have taken materials from the booth. We were busy most of the day talking with Deaf visitors who came to our booth. A former Deaf Adventist lady stopped by and recalled some Deaf Adventists friends as well as many good memories she had while she was an Adventist. She commented that she loves the Sabbath but she loves the world too much. Amanda invited her to join her Bible study group on Zoom and encouraged her to come. She also encouraged the lady to reconsider returning to the Lord and that He is coming very soon.

We pray that the visitors will be touched by the materials they gathered and desire to seek the Lord.

Amanda Colgan

## DeafNation Expo at Austin, Texas



More than 1,600 people attended the DeafNation Expo in Austin, Texas, on April 9. Many visitors came to our booth to pick up our free materials. Most of them prefer DVDs more than printed materials. But, we learned that many of them do not have DVD players at home. Fortunately, we shared our cards with the QR code that connects to the Bible School website showing different Bible lessons to enroll in and the new evangelistic videos. I enjoyed talking with a Baptist pastor about some Bible doctrines, especially "Once Saved, Always Saved." He was born hearing, but he gradually lost hearing due to genetic factors.

David M. Trexler

## DeafNation Expo at Atlanta, Georgia



It's been over 20 years now since I first made the decision to learn ASL at Southern Adventist University. Back then, I just wanted to talk to my Deaf friend, Felipe, who lived in Florida. But God's plans were so much bigger. Instead of just my one friend, I was invited to meet an entire nation! A tribe of people who are made in the image of God. This last Sabbath, I attended my 4th Deaf Nation Expo. It is at events like these

where people otherwise unseen by our church become visible.

The Lord has blessed me with a wife who cares enough to learn Spanish & ASL, and with two daughters (ages 4 & 6) who equally appreciate ASL and the Deaf community. We welcomed the Lord's servant, Paul Kelly into our home. Paul flew out from Washington D.C. so that Three Angel's Deaf Ministry (3ADM) could have a presence at this Atlanta expo. Pastor Jeff Jordan, of Southern Deaf Fellowship, also came out to "work the field." I'm not going to name every church member who came by the 3ADM booth, but what I can say is that it was an atmosphere of hope, love, and homecoming.

"Who is Jesus?" "What has He done for you?" "What does salvation mean?" echoed from the hands of Paul Kelly. Truth-seekers approached the table to find answers. Many took home information in pamphlets, books, or DVDs. And best of all, there were many who requested Bible studies. I pray that the Holy Spirit bless these people with a strong saving relationship with Jesus.

We asked Deaf Seventh-day Adventists to visit our table and add to the friendly atmosphere. Our girls gave out candies and ran around chasing other kids. My wife chatted with people passing by and even found that the person in the booth next to us was a Deaf friend from Puerto Rico. There were about 4 hearing church members and at least another 5 Deaf members who came down from the SDF. Graham filled everyone with joy with his Rubik's Cube costume and performance. Each and every one of these people have been a part of my journey into the Deaf community.

I pray that the next time anyone of our Deaf ministries calls for help at an event, that interpreters, ministers, and members can answer the call. Take a Sabbath off from your regular commitments and get out into the field. Tell people who Jesus is to you, what He has done for you, and what His salvation means to you. Pray with them and pray for them. Remember that Jesus sent his followers out into the world to be a witness to those truth-seekers. There are so many people "to harvest" but still Jesus needs more workers. Pray to the Lord that He will continue to send more Deaf missionaries, Deaf Pastors, Deaf Bible teachers, Deaf leaders, and Interpreters. He promises that if we pray the Lord of the Harvest will send more workers. (Luke 10:1-2)

Harold A Molina

## Maryland ASL Festival at Frederick, Maryland



Oma Sampson and I had our booth ministry at the Maryland ASL Festival which was taken place in Frederick, MD. Frederick has a large deaf population as it is home to the Maryland School for the Deaf, and is close to Gallaudet University. Oma and I noticed that people were not that receptive to religion compared to some cities where the booth ministry was done. Yet, we managed to get some individuals, including a Festival organizer to become interested in 3ADM's religious materials. There was another religious booth besides ours. We had an interesting discussion with some of their people about some Biblical topics. Not only doing the booth ministry, but also we can reach out to them where they are, especially being able to attend some events in the deaf community.

Paul R. Kelly

## History of Adventist Deaf Ministry in North America

Alberta Blake and Elder Arthur Griffith both felt that it would be helpful to have a history of Adventist Deaf Ministry in North America. Elder Griffith sent some old pictures and various details to Alberta. It was decided that Alberta would be in charge of this history project. However, Alberta's health lessened her abilities to tackle this project, and nothing developed.

Alberta's husband, Pastor John Blake, saw what was happening and decided that if the project was going to work, he needed to be a part of it. He ended up being the writer and graphics/picture composer, with Alberta as the editor. At this time there is no plan to publish the 80 pages of history on paper, as it is now online on the General Conference Adventist Deaf Ministry website. People may read online or download what they wish to keep.

The history starts with Ellen White meeting and visiting with a Deaf man, Brother Eliphalet Kimball. (Testimonies for the Church, vol. 4, p. 300) After discovering the truths of Adventist beliefs, Kimball became a real witness to hundreds of Deaf people in different areas where he lived in the USA. There is not much known about the Adventist Deaf for about the next 50 or more years. However, we have records from newsletters and many pictures starting in the 1950's and 1960's.

Adventist Deaf history has two divisions: Canada and the USA. The Blakes were involved mostly in Canada, but also worked for three years with the Christian Deaf Center in Alpena, Arkansas from 1982-1985 after which they returned to Canada. Their goal was to help develop a work for the Deaf across Canada. There are a number of sub-divisions: (1) People who have worked with Deaf Ministry, (2) Organizations involved, (3) a "A basic time-line of Deaf Ministry" highlights with a basic, roughly chronological outline of the various aspects of Deaf ministry, with three sections of pictures in each Division. The historical events bring the reader to about the year 2017. Elders Belser and Thompson Kay have each read the script to make sure the memories were as accurate as possible. A big "Thank You" goes to all the people, both Deaf and Hearing, who have contributed ideas, pictures or advice to help complete the project! Someday, perhaps a summary will be prepared to add other countries to "Deaf History." At this time in 2021, there is some measure of organized Deaf Ministry work in Canada, USA, Mexico, Inter-America, Brazil, several Caribbean countries, India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kyrgystan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Spain, Portugal, Ukraine, Poland, Latvia, Germany, United Kingdoms, Japan, South Korea, Australia, the Philippines, and about 12 countries of Africa: Nigeria, Ghana, Botswana, Congo, South Sudan, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Burundi.

The point of having an "Adventist Deaf Ministry History" is to show God's leading and inspire others to do what they can to help take the Three Angels' Messages to Deaf people everywhere! All success and glory must be given to God as it would not be of any eternal value unless God had been in charge and worked through so many willing people!

The online "Adventist Deaf Ministry Historical Account" may be reached at:

<https://adventistdeaf.org/sda-deaf-ministry-history-in-canada-and-usa/>

John Blake

## In Memory of Ron Tendrich



Ron Tendrich who was born in Miami, Florida, on September 29, 1943, passed away in Lincoln, Nebraska on March 15, 2022. He was buried in Miami, Florida on March 22, 2022. Ron became an Adventist through the Bible study with his twin brother, Don Tendrich, his wife, Meredith and Stuart Fleitman who led the study. After working as a literature evangelist with Stuart for a year, Ron was encouraged to go to Christian Deaf Center (a former Adventist self-supporting ministry for the Deaf) near Alpena, Arkansas. Ron grew spiritually through the association with pastor Arthur and Alyce Griffith and other staff members. Mr. Tendrich worked there until it was closed through the merger with Christian Record Services in 1986. He moved to Lincoln, Nebraska, to be close to his fellow members who moved to the same location after the closure of the CDC. Ron did work part-time at Christian Record Services for a few years. In Lincoln, he met and married Betty, who is now a survivor, along with her three sons.

David M. Trexler

## In Memory of Glenda Palmer-Reese



Glenda June Palmer-Reese was born September 28, 1964, in Trelawny, Jamaica, the youngest of five children, and a pleasant surprise to her parents, Dr. J.C. and Ina May Palmer. When five months old, she developed a severe infection with very high fevers and seizures. Her frantic parents tried everything to get the fever down, including putting her in an ice bath, but by the time they got her to the hospital, she had completely lost her hearing permanently, and her

convulsions ultimately led to epilepsy and lifelong medications to control it.

As a child, she attended the School for the Deaf in Brown's Town, Jamaica, with an emphasis on lip-reading. At age 10, the family moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she was introduced to sign language. She was overjoyed to discover a language just for her, without the stigma or difficulty of being silent in a hearing world. In Michigan, she was diagnosed with scoliosis, and had to have back surgery and wear a body brace 23 hours a day for five years. In spite of these challenges, she was always a precocious little girl, enjoying life, especially if it involved playing table tennis, her favorite game. For her dad, both she and sister, Jaycee, were the apple of his eye, and because of Glenda's health challenges, her parents tried to "protect" her from the outside world.

That all changed when they met Pastor Thompson Kay, affectionately known as TK. Not only was he special to them because of his role in deaf ministry, but he encouraged Dr. and Mrs. Palmer to help Glenda develop her independence. When they moved to Orlando, Florida, where Dr. Palmer became the pastor of the Pine Hills SDA Church, she was able to exercise her independence by getting her own apartment ... with help from mom.

On July 19, 2009, Glenda married Clarence Reese. Their happy marriage was cut short by his untimely death in February, 2010. She worked at various jobs in Orlando, including Sea World. She valued work and earning her own income, and she was able to bless others with Sea World passes. She worked there until 2017, when additional health challenges caused her to stop working.

As a little girl, her dad and mom constantly prayed for Glenda to be healed of her deafness. But God had a better plan—they became pioneers in deaf ministry. Everywhere the Palmers went, she and mom would start a sign language ministry. She attended Pine Hills, now Solid Rock SDA church with mom, and would visit the Patmos SDA church often because of their deaf ministry. When she learned about Southern Deaf Fellowship, she was elated to see sermons in her very own language with Pastor Jeff Jordan.

Glenda fell asleep in Jesus on March 6, 2022. She is survived by her brothers, Mr. Elsworth Palmer (Delores), Dr. Schubert Palmer (Yolanda), Pastor Leighton Palmer (Joanne); sister, Mrs. Jaycee Robinson (Kenneth); nephews, Mr. Michael Fitzgerald (Yanina), Mr. Quinton Fitzgerald, Mr. Shelton Palmer (Nina), Mr. Shaun Palmer (LaKeisha); nieces, Miss Nikki Palmer,



Mrs. Quileen Adams (Duane), Miss Angela Davis, Mrs. Nieshiea Mitchell (Donald), Miss Kuirie Palmer, Miss Lisa Fleming, Miss Tamay Robinson, "adopted" siblings, Ms. Beverly Francis, Ms. Verona Ebanks, Mrs. Enid Thompson Jean-Baptiste, Mr. Joshua Allen, Pastor Kenneth Campbell, Mr. Lanford Brown, Mr. Wayne Clarke, Mrs. Donnette James-Samuel, and many family & friends.

Glenda's favorite Scripture was Psalm 23, and her favorite song was "Lift Up The Trumpet." Though the journey to the green meadows has taken a pause in the valley of the shadow of death, she rests in the Good Shepherd's assurance that the journey is not over. The last voice she heard as a child was that of her earthly parents. But with the blast of the trumpet on resurrection morn, the next voice she hears will be Jesus saying, "Glenda, well done." Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow, and she'll dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Jaycee Robinson

## In Memory of Mike Weir



Mike was the oldest of the Weir triplets born in Seattle on October 18, 1949. He grew up and worked in Seattle. He also lived there until 2018 when he retired from Veteran's Administration after working as a file clerk for 28 and half years. He is survived by his brother, sister and friends.

In his younger years he enjoyed traveling to Europe. He loved hiking, cross country skiing, camping, and traveling to Arizona. He especially loved riding ATVs in the sand dunes at Winchester Bay, Oregon, and enjoyed going to Milo Deaf Camp meetings and being involved in church.

A fun memory that I have about Mike is at Winchester Bay. He rented a Polaris RZR, and was trying keeping up with me until he tried to climb a dune. I warned him not to go too slow and to floor it so that he would not get stuck climbing the dunes. He buried the RZR and was

trying so hard to get it unstuck but to no avail. Some of us dug sand out and I got in and got it unstuck. I told Mike just floor it and you will make it up, but he was nervous about hurting the machine. I told him it was fine and to go for it. Sure enough, he did make it up the dune. He was so proud of that, it made his day.

Mike loved being a part of his church and being involved every Sabbath. He would drive a long distance just to be a part of Deaf Big Day when one was happening. I don't recall a Deaf Big Day without Mike there with us.

When Mike moved into a new home a few years ago, we lost touch for a brief time. He connected again with the Deaf through zoom Sabbath School every Sabbath until his death. He brought smiles and jokes every Sabbath to our Zoom meeting. Mike was one of the first to join and the last to leave. He loved to pray for our meetings.

Mike suffered a heart attack on June 1, 2022 and went to sleep in Jesus. We hold on to the blessed hope that Mike is now resting in Jesus and we will see him when Christ rises him up from his sleep! Then we will go to Heaven, where there will be no more death and sadness! (Revelation 21:3-4).

Duane Talley and Nohelani Jarnes

## Camp Meetings 2022

August 10-14, 2022  
 Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting  
 Cohutta Springs Conference Center  
 1175 Cohutta Springs Rd.  
 Crandall, Georgia 30711

October 19-23, 2022  
 DEAR Camp Meeting  
 Mt. Aetna Conference Center  
 10375 Retreat Way  
 Hagerstown, MD

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