



August 2023

Volume 26 Issue 4

Letter from the Director

Greetings friends in ministry,

I am pleased to share some exciting updates from Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM). Firstly, I am humbled to announce that I have accepted the role of Executive Director, transitioning from my previous position as Interim Director. It's an honor to serve this ministry in a more permanent capacity, and I eagerly look forward the opportunities ahead.

In this time of change, we bid farewell to David Trexler, who has retired after years of selfless and dedicated service to 3ADM. We extend our heartfelt blessings for his new adventures, knowing he will forever be cherished in our 3ADM family.

Welcoming new members into our team brings great joy, and we are delighted to introduce Alfred Griffith as our new Public Relations Associate. With his expertise and dedication, we are eager to expand our ministry's outreach and impact.

Recently, I had the pleasure of gathering at Western Deaf camp meeting (Milo) in Oregon, a place that holds a special place in the hearts of our Deaf Adventist community (report is on page 9). The warmth and love shared among us during that time were truly heartwarming. One of the most special moments during Milo camp meeting was the celebration of seven baptisms. It serves as an example to the power of God's love and the impact that our ministry continues to have on Deaf individuals.

I'm thrilled to highlight some remarkable International Adventist news. Our Adventist Dobson's visit to the Honolulu Japanese SDA church and the Adventist Deaf Ministry's efforts to spread the Gospel in South Korea have been inspiring and encouraging.

As we go on this exciting new journey together, let us be continually guided by God's grace and love. May God's light continue to shine brightly upon Three Angels Deaf Ministries.

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.” [Hebrews 10:24](#).

Sincerely in Christ,

Amanda Colgan

Alfred Griffith Takes on PR Role at 3ADM



Three Angels Deaf Ministries is thrilled to introduce Mr. Alfred Griffith, our newest team member, joining us as the Public Relations (PR) Associate. As the PR Associate for 3ADM, Alfred Griffith deeply understands the important role of maintaining open communication with hearing donors and establishing a strong sense of connection to our mission. His primary (top) focus will be on increasing awareness within the hearing community about the significance and necessity of a Deaf ministry.

"Alfred "Fred" Griffith was born, the oldest of five children, to Elder Arthur and Alyce Griffith in Portland, Oregon. He interpreted phone calls, conversations and church services for his parents and two sisters.

After finishing Columbia Academy in Battle Ground, WA he went on to Walla Walla College to study Industrial Arts and Elementary Education Minors and a Religion Major until 1968.

At the age of 8, Cheryl Dennis first saw Fred while he was interpreting at Gladstone Campmeeting for the Stonetower Church Deaf group. Years later, Fred met Cheryl at Walla Walla College and they were married in Springfield, OR on Aug 18, 1968.

Cheryl home schooled their two children, Joe and Linda. Then she spent 27 1/2 years teaching grades 1-8 in Manteca, CA. Currently, Cheryl is facing a battle with Parkinson's disease. Please pray for her as Fred and her family stand by her side, offering love and support.

In 2012, Fred retired after pastoring for 41 years in Potomac, Idaho, and Northern California Conferences. Out of the 41 years, 36 years were spent in Deaf ministry.



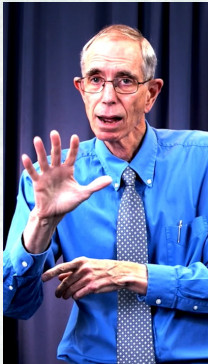
New Executive Director of 3ADM

The 3ADM Board of Directors is pleased to share some exciting news with our cherished supporters. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs. Amanda Colgan as the new Executive Director, effective June 6, 2023. We invite all our members and supporters to join us in welcoming Amanda into her new role.

3ADM Board of Directors Chairperson

Beth A. Dobson

Honoring David Trexler's Years of Service: A Lifelong Commitment to Deaf Ministry



Retirement marks the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. For **David Trexler**, who has touched countless lives throughout his work at 3ADM, retirement marks a time to reflect on the remarkable legacy [*accomplishments*] he leaves behind.

With heartfelt appreciation, we express our gratitude for his contributions to the Deaf Ministry. May God's blessings continue to be with him and Francisca.



I remember when we were leaving the Christian Deaf Center [CDC] in Arkansas to return to do deaf ministry in Canada. We were so happy that they would be taking our place in Arkansas!

We had a real respect for David- what he believed in, his life principles; he really worked to uphold! David agreed to do an evangelistic series, and we set up everything to do it in the Clinton SDA church gym and classrooms. I still remember the make-shift sound enclosure we had set up for their son, who was to add a soundtrack. The Doss family was a great help, too, and we completed a series of around 28 lectures. Later, Francisca also did a much shorter series – probably from their home.

I also remember the challenges that the Trexlers faced when the Christian Record closed its deaf department. I could go on and on about the many challenges Trexler faced working for the deaf in a hearing church. But that is what 'pioneers' face when people with vastly different cultures meet and agree to work together on joint projects!

I want to give a huge "THANK YOU" to the Trexlers for their years of faithful service for the Master! AND- I wish them many more years when their talents can still be used in His Service!

John Blake

Former Gospel Outreach Deaf Dept. Director

I have many fond memories of the times that I had with David! We've traveled together in India where we worked to help establish a strong work for the Deaf. We've ministered together at the School for the Deaf in Kolegal, India. We worked together and saw over 100 Deaf baptized. The seminars and train rides in India were unforgettable!

David's leadership over the years is marked by his passion for evangelism and a vision to see the Deaf prepared for the soon coming of Christ. The foundation you laid for Three Angels Deaf Ministries will continue thanks to your example and perseverance.

Thank you, David, for a life dedicated to Jesus and the kingdom of God.

Larry Evans

Former Director of Adventist Deaf Ministries International/Adventist Possibility Ministries



I first met them with Thompson Kay in Lincoln, Nebraska. I asked Francisca for her help with understanding the words in the hymnal book so I could sign the song. They took me to Arkansas to meet with the Deaf SDA group. They came to a church in Yankton, SD, to give a sermon for deaf people. My friend Theresa Hansen took me to DEAR in VA and saw them again along with Sara Johnson. I had an enjoyable conversation with them. I appreciate them giving bible studies with me to learn more about Jesus. Thank the Lord for the Trexler's ministries. We had good memories. Thank you with God's love you all.

Karen Hesse

I first met the Trexlers at an evangelistic meeting in Toronto, Ontario, Canada back in 2001. It was also my first experience seeing a deaf pastor preaching in American Sign Language. My mind absorbed all the information I missed from hearing church with no interpreter. Since then, I'm grateful that they led me to meet all the Deaf SDAs across North America, feeling not alone anymore. It was a bittersweet feeling that I would miss them, but I know the other Deaf people across the USA would benefit the Trexler's ministries as they follow God's call.

Farah Gooding-Santiago

When I was asked to choose a pastor to be baptized by at Milo back in 2007, I chose David Trexler simply because we both have the same first name. I was quick to accept the Seventh-Day Adventist's teachings of Biblical truth, and I did not have the time to be acquainted with the other pastors. When Trexler follows up with the twenty-seven SDA beliefs (the twenty-eighth belief was added years later), I had trouble accepting the feet-washing doctrine. Trexler told me that the more we do something with practice and faith in God, the easier the experience becomes. Now I am able to feet-wash anyone's feet with ease. That principle also applies to virtually anything as well. I was able to overcome

my shyness and fear of standing before people because of what Trexler said to me on that very fateful day at the Milo camp meeting. I would have not become the person I am today if he did not provide me with that simple insight. Thank you, David Trexler, for being a wonderful and godly advisor." the person I am today if he did not provide me with that simple insight. Thank you, David Trexler, for being a wonderful and godly advisor."

BOYD GARNER

David and Francisca have known Jason since he was a youngster. I met them when Jason and I were sweethearts and college students at a mini winter camp meeting in Big Bear Lake, CA. It was our privilege to know and to look up to David and Francisca as our role models of God's character. When we moved in Maryland in 2012 and we lived close to the Trexlers, we learned many things from them what it means to have God part of your life by reading the Bible every day, leading Bible studies with others when you feel it is beneficial for yourself, performing church duties, supporting each other as brothers and sisters' spirits, eating at God's best diet, and living God's lifestyle. It was always a pleasure to converse with them when we visited their place or ours. As we knew and witnessed, they worked so hard for the 3ADM and the DEAF church in Silver Spring, MD, because they love God so much. We are very happy for them to be retired, and there is no doubt that they will continue to serve the Lord doing whatever they wish to do when they retire. God bless their hearts. Thank you, David and Francisca!!

Jason and Sheelah Kimbrough

3ADM and DEAF Ministry Shared Jesus at the Connecticut Deaf Expo

Jessica McGowan Smith

Despite a storm that dropped 4 inches of rain, the Connecticut Deaf Expo held in Waterbury, CT on May 20th saw a remarkable turnout of approximately 1,500 Deaf community members from all over the Northeast. The event, hosted at the Arc of Waterbury, provided attendees with a chance to meet friends, explore booths, watch exhibitors, and immerse themselves in the Deaf world.

Jonathan Salomon and I, representing Deaf Everywhere Are Family (DEAF) ministry, attended the expo to show our support for Paul and Tina Kelly's Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) / Deaf Bible School booth. For Jonathan, it was his first time attending the Connecticut Deaf Expo, and he thoroughly enjoyed meeting new people and sharing his faith in Jesus.



Reconnecting with many individuals from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and New York after the COVID-19 restrictions was akin [like] to a heartwarming family reunion. During the expo, we informed attendees about the resumption [start again] of Monthly DEAF Study meetings and DEAF Camp. We were pleased to see many newcomers expressing interest in Bible studies and Deaf Christian fellowship.

The 3ADM booth attracted considerable attention with its new banners, table drape, handouts, and redesigned Deaf Messenger magazine. The prominent [noticeable] banner featuring Jesus with the message "Jesus is Coming Again Soon! Are You Ready?" sparked numerous conversations and became a popular photo spot.

The highlight of the event was the meaningful personal connections that were formed. One touching encounter was with a woman who had lost her brother the day before and was concerned about the lack of an interpreter at the funeral. We offered our comfort and reassured her of our belief in the hope of Jesus' return, where there will be no more sorrow. We volunteered to pray and interpret the funeral, providing her with the necessary support materials.

Another memorable moment was meeting a hearing woman who came to support her Deaf daughter's booth. She was eager to introduce her Deaf grandchildren and daughter to Jesus. We shared



information about upcoming Deaf Camps and provided her with Bible Adventures Stories for Kids in Sign Language DVDs and Bible studies for children.

The expo surpassed [go beyond] expectations regarding the demand for materials. We gave away almost all DVDs, Easy Reading books, and Bible Study resources. There was also significant interest in Spanish language Deaf Bible study materials. We directed attendees to materials translated by Francisca Trexler in Spanish and Mexican Sign Language.

Despite the Expo's success, it also shed light on the absence [lack] of Deaf churches in Connecticut

and the Northeast, leaving attendees searching for places to worship together. In response, our team mentioned our Monthly DEAF Bible Study as an alternative, hoping to connect with those seeking a place to worship.

Looking ahead, organizers are already planning next year's Deaf Expo in Massachusetts. Our team eagerly looks forward to attending and connecting with the Deaf community while continuing to introduce people to Jesus. We kindly request prayers for the individuals we met and the distributed [give away] materials, with the hope that the seeds planted will flourish in God's time, even if the results are only known in heaven.



Dobson's Visit to the Honolulu Japanese SDA Church in Hawaii

Beth A. Dobson



My husband and I recently returned to the mainland from Hawaii for our belated 25th wedding anniversary. During our trip, we took the time to honor God by visiting the SDA Japanese Church twice and were duly appreciative of Mrs. Alessa Ching-Wilson, who interpreted for us. Mrs. Ching-Wilson is the hearing daughter of Deaf parents. One of the things that touched us was a report from Pastor Alexey Isakov, who currently lives in Kyiv, Ukraine. I want to share what he stated:

"The situation in Kyiv is generally calmer than in the cities closer to the front lines. Although air defense have successfully shot down some missiles, a few have unfortunately reached Kyiv. Recently, a rocket that had already been shot down managed to destroy several apartments in a multi-story building. It is heartbreaking to say that people in Ukraine continue to lose their lives.

Humanitarian missions [*helping people in need*] primarily [*mostly*] focus on cities and towns near the front lines. In Kyiv, there is a large number of migrants, with some people having returned to the city, while others have chosen to remain [*stay*] in Europe or America and are unlikely to come back. This situation is also reflected [*seen*] in our church. Currently, there are no special programs for older people to my knowledge. However, the church occasionally [*sometimes*] hold special fellowships for those who are 60 years and above, and there is a singles club as well. In general, we try to do something for the people. Now, we are gathering as a group to develop a strategy [*plan*] for evangelistic ministry in the near future. We deeply appreciate your support and prayers. They mean a lot to us. Hearty greetings to all! God bless you!"

In light of the challenges faced by Pastor Alexey Isakov and the people of Ukraine, please pray for their well-being and safety. If you ever have the opportunity to visit Hawaii, I encourage you to stop by the SDA Japanese Church, attended by Mrs. Ching-Wilson. She would be very glad to interpret. The Church's address can be found in the Church directory under Hawaii at <https://3adm.org/church.php>. Mrs. Ching-Wilson has received about 20 Amazing Facts tracts to be given to various deaf people in Hawaii who are non-SDAs.





INSPIRING ENCOUNTERS

Spreading the Gospel in South Korea ([Mark 16:15](#))

Maggie Sampson

After attending the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) Conference in Jeju Island, South Korea, I had the pleasure of meeting Pastor Jeff Jordan who serves as the Associate Coordinator for Deaf Ministry for the General Conference in America. Our meeting took place in Seoul, marking the beginning of this inspiring journey within the SDA community in South Korea.

Our adventure began by joining the Sabbath worship of the Adventist Deaf Korea Church (ADKC). We extend [*express*] our deepest thanks to Pastor Ki-Dong Kwon of ADKC and Sang-Hee Park, Director of Korean Adventist Possibility Ministries (APM) Union, for arranging our travel and Sabbath worship schedule,

making our experience unforgettable. Special thanks also go to the Korean Sign Language (KSL) interpreter, Song-Hoa, and her husband Sung-Yeon for helping us integrate seamlessly [*smoothly*] into the South Korean SDA community. We are also grateful to Je-Hwa Kim, the project assistant for the North Korea delegation and SDA Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD), who provided invaluable guidance, escorted [*led*] us to the [Korea Demilitarized Zone \(DMZ\)](#), and offered insights into the history of SDA, human rights issues, and gospel matters in North Korea.



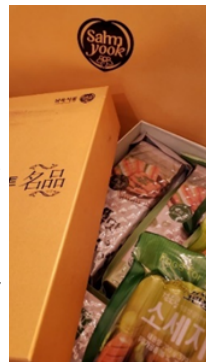
During our trip, we explored the beginnings of Adventist work in the Territory of the Mission and learned more about [Sahmyook University's](#) rich history. The first Adventist church was established in Northwestern Korea in 1906, later becoming the headquarters of the Korean Adventist church. Despite



facing challenges under Japanese rule for 35 years, including the suspension [*closing*] of the school system due to the enforcement of Shinto worship, the school reopened after World War II and moved to Seoul in 1949. Overcoming disruptions [*interruptions*] caused by the Korean War, the school relocated to Gongdeok, Yangjoo, Gyeonggi (later renamed Seoul) and reopened as

Sahmyook University, with [Minister James Lee](#) as its first president.

Our base for this journey was Sahmyook University in Seoul, a place that captivated us with its rich history and commitment to promoting health through a vegetarian or vegan diet, known as "[Sahmyook foods](#)," in harmony with Adventist principles. Sahmyook Foods, founded in 1982, aims to promote health worldwide while actively engaging in social responsibilities, such as fundraising for educational work, providing jobs for Adventists, and participating in local community service and food contributions. Beyond the campus, a delightful array of vegan and vegetarian restaurants offered delicious and nourishing meals. The diverse campus community, consisting of Koreans and a mix of local and international students and staff from various age groups, created a welcoming and vibrant atmosphere. Interestingly, I discovered that some Sahmyook products are available in Korean supermarkets in America.



The Sabbath worship experience at the Adventist Deaf Korea Church (ADKC) was thoughtfully designed

to cater to the needs of all attendees. With about 75 attendees, the church was filled with a powerful sense of unity and purpose. From Korean sign language for the deaf audience to Korean subtitles for the hard of hearing and sign language audio for the hearing audience, the service aimed to ensure inclusivity [*include everyone*].

Pastor Jeff Jordan delivered an inspiring sermon titled 'Go,' based on [Revelation 14:6](#) and [Matthew 28:19-20](#). He highlighted the unfortunate reality that out of approximately 70 million deaf individuals



worldwide, only around 2% express faith in Jesus Christ. His main goal was to inspire Adventists to learn sign language, equipping them to share the gospel with the deaf and support their spiritual growth through baptism, bible study, and discipleship, preparing them for their journey to God's kingdom together. Jeff urged

all Christians to prioritize spreading the gospel, surpassing [*go beyond*] barriers of race, disability, or social background. He emphasized the vital role of mission work, cautioning against neglecting [*ignoring*] it, as doing so could hinder [*block*] the spiritual growth of those in need of God's guidance.

Following the Sabbath service, we participated in an exciting missionary information exchange, discussing ways to support deaf ministry in South Korea. We suggested Korean Adventists participate in related events in America to further their understanding, such as the Southern Deaf Camp Meeting at Cohutta Spring, Southern Adventist University, and Pastor Jeff's church in 2024.

Additionally, Pastor Jeff's presentation on Deaf culture and Deaf missionary work at the Korean Union Conference (KUC) of SDA and SDA Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) left a lasting impact, moving the audience and receiving positive feedback.

Our journey alongside the SDA community in South Korea was both memorable and enriching. Their dedication to missionary work in the deaf community was awe-inspiring, leaving an unforgettable impression on our hearts. As we continue to support their missionary efforts, let us not forget to pray for peace, restoration, intercessors [*people who pray for others*], and evangelization in North Korea.



In conclusion, the time spent with the SDA community in South Korea was significant. We are grateful for their warm welcome and the opportunity to witness their passion for sharing the gospel. Let us stand united in supporting their mission and keep them in our prayers as they continue to make a difference in the lives of the deaf community.

NOTE: If you're interested in watching Pastor Jeff's live sermon in sign language about the Deaf Ministry Journey in South Korea 2023, you can now view the recorded sermon! The sermon was delivered on July 22nd, and it's available for viewing at the following link:

<https://vimeo.com/848966879>.

Calling all Adventists!! Share your life-changing Christian testimony or any inspiring article with us for the next newsletter. Email your submissions to editor@3adm.org, and let your stories or articles inspire our readers!



Western Deaf Camp Meeting



Growing up, summertime was always my favorite time of the year. I loved the good weather, being outside, and all the events that take place in summertime. One of the events that I always looked forward to was the Western Deaf Camp meeting that is held at Milo Adventist Academy every year. They always had fun activities and meetings that we looked forward to going to. This year

was no exception. I had the opportunity to go to Western Deaf Camp Meeting, and it was one of the best weeks of the summer. Nothing is better than a whole week set aside to draw closer to God and other people.

When COVID hit it affected so many social gatherings like camp meeting. This year, we were blessed to hold the second camp meeting since COVID with an attendance of 52 people! That is over fifty percent more people than last year! Camp meeting is always a good time to spend with people and a good reset spiritually. I loved going to the meetings in the mornings and evenings. In the morning time the day started early with a morning devotion before breakfast. After breakfast we had David Trexler and Esther Doss presenting and, in the evenings, we had Boyd Garner and Amanda Colgan presenting. It was time set aside to learn new information and have good and meaningful discussions.



We were blessed this year to have seven baptisms take place on Sabbath! It always touches the heart to see that people were not only blessed but felt God working so much in their lives that they decided to dedicate or re-dedicate their lives to Jesus. It was a powerful week indeed!

And of course, the week wouldn't be complete without the annual rafting trip! Every year on Thursday a group of people go rafting down a nearby river. This

year we had two rafts full of people that went down the river! The best part, in my opinion, is the water gun fights all the way down the river. As soon as one raft gets close enough to the other it immediately breaks out in a war of water that ends with both rafts full of soaked people. It makes for great memories and is a good way to cool off!

This year's camp meeting was such a blessing in so many ways. From good meetings, good food, rafting, and baptisms it was a year to remember! I cannot wait to see what happens in the years to come and to see how God blesses and touches people in future Camp meetings!



Deaf Prisoner Discovers 3ADM



A deaf prisoner from Virginia discovered 3ADM through an old TDI Deaf phone directory book. Upon contacting us, we gladly responded by sending him the materials he requested for his Bible study lessons and reading. Let us pray that through these resources, he finds a deeper understanding of God's Word and shares its teachings with his friends, spreading hope and inspiration within the prison walls. Jeremiah 29:13 says "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

For many years, camp meetings have been a huge blessing to Deaf people. It's a time where Deaf members can come together to worship, fellowship, and create new memories with old and new friends. We cherish the memories made during these gatherings, especially the special moments of witnessing baptisms. We encourage you to attend a camp meeting and experience the blessings for yourself.

2023 Camp Meeting Dates

August 9-13, 2023

Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting
Cohutta Springs Conference Center
1175 Cohutta Springs Rd.
Crandall, Georgia 30711

October 25-29, 2023

DEAR Camp Meeting
Mt. Aetna Conference Center
10375 Retreat Way
Hagerstown, MD

September 8-10, 2023

Deaf Everywhere Are Family (DEAF) Camp Meeting
Camp Grotonwood
167 Prescott St.
Groton, MA 01450

3ADM Travel Schedule

Director Amanda Colgan

Aug 2 - 5 - ASI International Convention, Kansas City, MO

Aug 9 - 13 - SDF Camp Meeting

Sept 26 - Oct 1 - Simple Church Convention, Clifton, TN

Oct 25 - 29 - DEAR Camp Meeting

Evangelist Paul Kelly

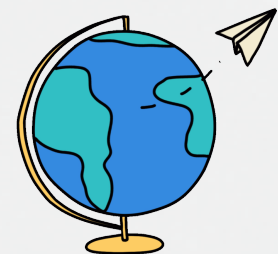
Aug 9 - 13 - SDF Camp Meeting

Sept 8-10 - DEAF Camp Meeting, Groton, MA

Oct 7 - DeafNation Expo, Mesa, AZ

Oct 25 - 29 - DEAR Camp Meeting

Nov 4 - DeafNation Expo, Chicago, IL



Tributes & Memorials

If you want to give a gift in memory or honor of someone, you can go to <https://3adm.org/donation> and write a message or send your gift and a note in the mail. Your gift will help share the good news with the Deaf.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

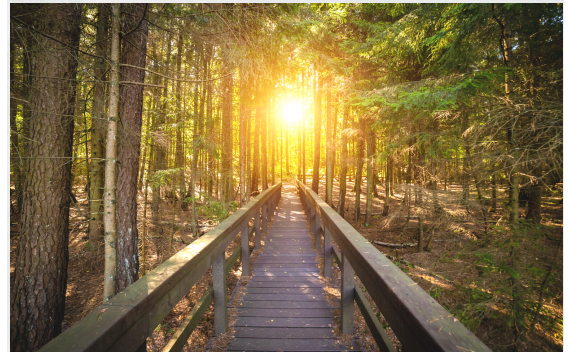
Edith Hotchkiss and Shaun Johnston

Connect with Us

<https://www.3adm.org>

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In all your ways
acknowledge Him,
and He shall direct
your paths.

Proverbs 3:6

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