



Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

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June 2010

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*Sharing
the Three
Angels'
Messages
with the
Deaf.*

Deaf Reach in Oklahoma

What blessed time 11 people had in Claremore, Oklahoma (Nona Breese's church) on April 9-11! This region has very few Adventist Deaf members. Pastor Trexler expressed surprise at how many people came to the lay training meeting. Students came from Colorado, Illinois, Arkansas, Missouri, South Dakota, and Oklahoma.

We had a special outing on Friday, before Deaf Reach started. We went to the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art. We had a wonderful guide who led us through exhibits, showing Jewish history through art and artifacts from Bible times. There were exhibits about the Holocaust which saddened us deeply. We took great interest in the exhibit about Jewish faith and their beliefs. We had many questions about their beliefs, asking about the Torah, the Sabbath, tithing and other things. We learned so much!

We rushed to the church for supper and the first Deaf Reach meeting. The students were anxious to start learning!

Next morning, the Claremore hearing church service was taken over by the Deaf! Nona asked that no music be played, so

the pianist took the day off! Most of the service was in ASL, such as children's story. Rhonda Treviranus and Nona signed the loveliest song. David preached about what we can learn Jesus sharing the Good News with the Samaritan woman. After the service, many hearing people were overheard saying to each other that they had never experienced anything like this and were greatly blessed. This was a good opportunity for hearing members to learn a little about Deaf life.

After a quick lunch meal, Deaf Reach continued all afternoon and late into the evening with a short break for a walk at a nearby lake on a beautiful spring day.

Sunday morning, many of the attendees practiced giving their

testimonies. They were all very interesting. Pastor Trexler observed each one carefully and made comments after each one. Then he explained how to use the Bible study lesson set that came with their materials and how to do Bible markings.

This was a crash course and we all wished that we had a lot more time to learn! But, this weekend was most helpful. The attendees were excited to go back home and start studying the Bible with others. **Within a week, one of the attendees had 3 people willing to study with her!**

Thank you, Nona, for being such a gracious host and making this weekend happen.

Esther M. Doss



Oklahoma Deaf Reach attendees from six states come together to learn how to share Jesus with others.

Speaker's Dialogue: The Earth - An Orphanage

I was emailing with our beloved friend who has struggled with health problems for several years. She mentioned the death of our friends and parents recently. My parents are gone and my wife's parents have been long gone as well. As we get older we begin to experience the pain of losing of our loved ones through age, illnesses, and accidents. My friend quoted another friend who said, "We are all orphans now." She had to agree with him but she is thankful that we have our church family and a heavenly Father and elder Brother to help us through these times of loss.

The thought of being "orphans" has helped me to understand better my feelings after the loss of my beloved father and our spiritual giant, Arthur Griffith. Everything is different for me now. I am the oldest of the siblings, and I will be 61 this fall. I still miss my parents keenly sometimes. Life is much different from the time when we were young, full of life and energy. We could look to our parents for support, counseling and security. Now, we look to God more for the same reason. Also, it is our turn to look around and provide for the needs of our younger generation.

Yes, it is a blessing to have our church family

and a heavenly Father and elder Brother to help us through difficult times. In this world, we are orphans in human flesh, but thankfully we have been adopted by our God through Jesus Christ whom we have not seen yet. It would be nice if we could go to our heavenly home right now so we would not feel as orphans here.

Haiti's recent earthquake, other natural disasters, wars, and accidents have created many orphans. Some countries, including the U.S., are trying to help the poor, suffering children by building orphanages and putting them up for adoption. To be adopted is better than living in an orphanage. Adoption gives the children a sense of belonging, acceptance, emotional and physical support. Many kids have dreamed about living in a new home with new parents. Unfortunately, many of them have not been adopted.

I have no idea what it is like to be an orphan as a small child, but no one wants to be an orphan. God created us to be social human beings and He created parents who provide love and security to their children. We are designed that way.

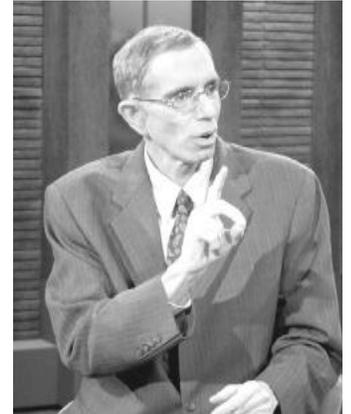
But, sin spoiled it. Ever since the Fall human beings have

been struggling with the "orphan" mentality. We are lost without God. We have no security without God, but sad to say, we choose wrong things to overcome the feeling of being orphans.

Jesus understood His disciples' fear of becoming orphans when He told them that He would leave soon. It was so good to be with Jesus, but it was not good to be without Him. Here on Earth, it is not good to be alone without parents. But it is far worse to be without our spiritual parent—God.

Jesus promised His disciples as well as to future generations of God's people that He would never leave them as orphans. "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you for ever—the Spirit of truth. . . . But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you" (John 14:16-18, NIV). It is a wonderful promise for all of us!

You do not have to be an orphan. How? Just completely surrender your life to Jesus and you will get the assurance of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. If you surrender 99.5% your life to God then you will not get the promise of protection by the Holy Spirit. Why? God respects your choices. If



you choose to hold .5% of sin, God cannot support your choice of holding sin. God is not mocked or fooled. "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life" (Galatians 6:7, 8, NIV).

When we are fully surrendered to Jesus, we are adopted as God's children. God keeps His promise in watching, protecting, empowering, and guiding us. We are no longer orphans no matter if our friends forsake us, if our parents die, or we are alone in the world because we are different. No, we are NOT orphans here, but children of God. I encourage you to think of God as your Parent, loyal Friend and Brother. Your love for sin will go away when you think of God's great love for us.

David M. Trexler

Camp Meetings!

Mid West Deaf Camp Meeting

July 7-11, 2010
Mount Eagle
Shirley, AR

Speakers: Pastors Paul Kelly & David Trexler
Email: blossom1955@hotmail.com

Western Deaf Camp Meeting & Adventist Interpreter's Workshop

July 18-25, 2010
Milo Adventist Academy
Days Creek, OR

Speakers: Pastors Paul Kelly and Alan Meis
Email: chucktrades@comcast.net

Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting

August 5-8, 2010
Cohutta Springs
Convention Center
Crandall, GA

Speaker: Elder George Belser
Email: jwjordan@gccsda.org

DEAF Camp Meeting

August 25-29
Camp Cherokee
Saranac Lake, NY
Speaker: Pastor Paul Kelly

Email: jessmcgowan@yahoo.com

DEAR Camp Meeting

October 21-24
Camp Blue Ridge
Montebello, VA
Speaker: Pastor Jeff Jordan

Email: clerk@deaf-fellowship.org

News from Puerto Rico

I have been eager to share the newest developments here in Puerto Rico. Recently, a Deaf man was brought to my attention. His name is Carlos. Carlos is 28 years old and has been a baptized member of the Adventist church for 6 years. My wife, Lisa, and I immediately took the opportunity to visit this Deaf man who lives with his Great-Aunt, Juana. Carlos has developed a home signing system with his family. Communication is strongest between Carlos and Juana, who is like a mother to him.

Carlos is a very bright young man who works hard and spends most of his time caring for Juana. Juana has been worried for Carlos because another church with a strong Deaf ministry has been aggressively visiting him and wanting to take him to their meetings. They offer the Deaf in P.R. a community of signers (hearing and Deaf). But they lack the truth, that Jesus Christ died as our Redeemer and resurrected as our Lord.

Up until now in P.R., we do not have a group of Deaf Adventist believers to offer Carlos. So we invited him to a Deaf Club social we host in Mayagüez. As the night went on something turned on in Carlos' mind. He saw that many of the people wore

hearing aids. All of them were talking with their hands. Carlos turned to my wife, Lisa, and said "They sign!, they are like me. We are the same!" For the first time, Carlos identified with others.

From that night on, Carlos has been eager to learn more signs. Carlos has accepted to take ASL classes & Bible classes. He's putting his home signs away because he wants to communicate with other Deaf.

We use picture rolls as a visual aide to teach Bible

stories as well as ASL. We taught him about the creation week, explaining each of what was created each day. Then we had him explain it back to us. We combined the creation week with the calendar week so that he could connect the days. Now, he has a clear understanding of why we go to church on Sabbath. We covered other stories like the fall of man, the Flood, Abraham and Isaac, but we hope to soon enter more into the life of Christ.

Harold Antonio Molina



Sharing Jesus at Deaf Expos in Four States

Birmingham, AL

When Wanda Watson, Kathy McCain and I arrived to set up the booth, we saw that the expo was so small with very few booths. We hung a sign and made packets. We had enough for 300 bags. I told the two ladies that I really doubted we could even give away 200, so we made only 160 packets. We decided if we needed more, we would make them later.

Next morning, the expo opened at 9 am. **We were amazed at how fast the packets disappeared!** By 10:45 we were almost out. Wanda and I made more packets while Kathy spoke with the people.

The very first one who came was a woman. She said, **“I am hungry for Jesus and the Bible!”** That is why we were at the expo, to spread God’s word among Deaf people.

We had good visits with many. Several shared their testimonies with us. Others recognized the booth from other expos and asked about Pastor Jeff Jordan.

A *The Deaf Messenger* subscriber eagerly came to the booth to see what we might have to share. At another expo, an interpreter took a packet and shared it with him. She encouraged him to ask for *The Deaf Messenger*. He did and has really enjoyed the magazine.

We met a few people

who showed opposition to us as Seventh-day Adventists. As we spoke with them, talking about God, they became warm to us and each one took a bag. They did seem a bit distrustful of the materials.

We met Lawrence and his girlfriend Alison. Lawrence graduated from Deaf Bible School and has seen the Revelation of Jesus Christ series. I was astonished that he memorized much of the programs! He even had some clips on his iPhone! Lawrence had many questions and was so glad to finally have someone to ask in person about them. He returned several times to ask more questions. His girlfriend Alison also visited a long time with us. She said that she was grateful for Lawrence who is teaching her about Jesus and is giving her heart to him.

Kathy and I were talking with a lady briefly. The lady tapped her boyfriend, James, who was watching the DVD playing. He seemed to not have noticed the tapping. He was absolutely engrossed in the DVD. She tapped him a few more times, but James never moved. We were amused. She finally tapped him harder and insistently. He finally put up a finger showing “wait a minute.” She tapped him again and he signed,

“I want to see this story.” Finally she tapped him very hard and he looked over. His girlfriend said, we have the same DVD in this bag. You can watch it at home. He was surprised, “Really? I like this DVD!” James is a Christian man. His face showed his love for Jesus. He spent a great deal of time with us. Then his girlfriend came back for him and basically ordered him to see the other booths. Soon, James came back. He said, “I was thinking about some things and thought of some questions to ask you.” We answered his long list of questions. The girlfriend found James back at our booth and was annoyed. She asked him, “What are you doing back here?” He said, **“Look, I have been to all of the other booths. No one else is talking about God. I want to talk about God and to these people!”** He was there for a long time and we really enjoyed our time together. He is a seeker for Truth.

There were four other Christian booths. We were the only ones with give away items. And we seemed to be the most active Christian booth, interacting with people, sharing God’s word.

This was a small expo with only 1,600 people attending. Late in the

day, we saw that everyone seemed to be carrying one of our bags. We had done our job. We left the expo with 40 bags... So we gave away 260 packets, far more than I had expected at such a small expo!

Pray for these seeds that are being sown!

Esther M. Doss

Fort Worth, TX

Felipe “Lalo” Bonifacio, Francisca and I worked together at this booth. Lalo was very helpful and he shared Jesus with his friends. We had a wonderful time sharing the Gospel bags with very receptive and friendly Deaf people. We brought about 360 bags. We were concerned when we saw the bags being taken in large numbers soon after the expo opened in the morning. We thought we would have none left by noon, but things began to slow down later in the day. **All 360 bags were given away before 4 pm**, with an hour left before the expo closed. The exhibit hall was fully crowded most of the day.

A few local Deaf Adventists came to visit us and one stayed to help share the Gospel bags. Janice Pechkurow, a literature evangelist who desires to find Deaf people in her ministry, met us. She moved from Georgia to Texas. She was excited to see us and shared her

ideas and dreams with us on how to win Deaf people to Christ in her area.

I had opportunities to talk with a few Deaf pastors of different faiths. I met one Deaf pastor at another expo. He came to see me again, trying to prove that there is hell fire burning right now. We had a friendly discussion but we were not able to finish because of the other visitors needing our attention. I do not know what he thought of the texts that I showed him. But he seemed to have learned something he had not known before. I do not know if he believed what he read, but he seemed to not have read before the texts showing that the dead sleep. I hope to meet him again one day.

David M. Trexler

Pomona, CA

Darrel and Lorna Strait helped David and I in the booth. They brought with

them Sisilia Manu, a Deaf Adventist student from the California School for the Deaf. We had a great team.

As always, we met new and old friends. We were surprised to meet a former Deaf Adventist who knows Pastor John Issler and other Deaf members in Los Angeles area in the long past. It was good to visit with this person. We also met other former Adventists and we hope that our contact will touch their hearts.

We were very impressed with **15-year-old Sisilia who is not ashamed of the Gospel.** When many of her school friends came to our booth, she was very enthusiastic as she shared about the gospel bags. Most of her friends were very open and friendly to Sisilia. We are praying for those young people who may one day accept the Gospel.

Francisca Trexler



DNE Pomona helpers: (left to right) Lorna and Darrell Strait, Sisilia Manu, Tanya Warner, John Bogg, Neil Davidson, David and Francisca Trexler



Francisca Trexler and Rosella Kelly were at the Omaha DNE where they saw familiar faces! Here is Tom and Teena Zezulka, Susan and Rob Utterback and Marie.



David Trexler talking with Janice Petchkurow. She is a very active literature evangelist seeking Deaf people.



Francisca Trexler sharing materials in Fort Worth, Texas.



Two Deaf individuals were baptized in Bermuda on March 27! Until now, Bermuda had only one Deaf Adventist. Now Bermuda has three. Praise God!

In the photo: Shirlynn Burgess (Deaf), Patrice Smith, Pastor Dr. Alanzo Smith, and Alika Scott (Deaf).

Letters

"Thank you for all the Bible studies you send me for months. I will try and read all over again and studies.

Do you have another Bible studies like this? If not, I'll do it over again here. Please pray for me as I need Jesus.

I will pray for you too. Some of my children and their children are Seventh-day Adventist. So proud of them. Thank you and God bless you."

Deaf Bible School student

"Just a note to let you know that I appreciated so much your booth at the Expo this year in Fort Worth. It is so good to know that you are reaching so many people.

I used to teach deaf ladies Sunday School class and it blessed my

life so much. Most of them have passed on to heaven but I did get to see a few and many young ones I had interpreted for in college. Please come back again soon. I appreciate your work so much."

Patricia in Texas

"I received your book [*The Deaf Messenger*] at the Deaf Nation Expo that was held here in Fort Worth, TX in May, and it so inspired me. Each of the articles were very good. I will send my subscription form in today, but I just wanted you all to know how much I enjoyed the articles. I am hearing, but I am now taking a sign language class. Thanks for the great articles in your magazine."

Carolyn in Texas

Meet Patricia Deming

Francisca Trexler was a special speaker for the Deaf at the church in Northborough, MA March 25th to the 28th. She also gave counseling to a few Deaf people along with the presentations. Her presentations were well-received not only by the Deaf, but also by the hearing members who attended the worship service on Sabbath.

As Francisca prepared to fly back home, her husband David contacted her and suggested that she visit Patricia Deming, if at all possible on her way to the airport.

It was a very pleasant surprise for Patricia to see another Deaf Adventist. Patricia has been alone for a long time and desired for Christian fellowship.

Francisca said, "Patricia was so very pleased that Monifa [Francisca's ride] and I stopped by to visit her. Her tears really touched our hearts because she was so very happy to see Adventist people after

such a long time. She was so lonely."

Patricia grew up in the Congressional faith. When she was young, she did not see the truth in her church. Long ago, Pastor Arthur Griffith invited her to the camp meeting in Maryland. She studied the Bible and found the truth in the Adventist Church and was baptized. She mentioned that she refused to get involved with the Home for the Deaf activities on the Sabbath.

Patricia is now pleased that the Deaf group from the Northboro Adventist Church will come to see her on the Sabbath at her nursing home. Please keep her in your prayers.



Donations

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Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor; Paul and Mary Miller
Herbert Smith by Charlotte Porter

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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.

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