

THE INTERPRETER CONNECTION

Issue 13

July 2018

Interpreting Easter SonRise 2018

Easter was fast approaching! The annual SonRise Easter Pageant at Southern Adventist University was about to begin. My excitement was building! Every year, about 9,000-12,000 people walk through this pageant that begins in the Collegedale Church, then spans across the main campus of Southern Adventist University there in Collegedale, TN. This past April of 2018, I was invited by my friend Carin Bartlett, to help her and two other ladies interpret for the Southern Deaf Fellowship church members who would be attending the event. Also, this would be a service for other deaf individuals from the community and beyond, who would like to attend this special time slot with interpretation provided.



Interpreters at SonRise 2018 present the program in ASL.

Carin, an active member of SDF, was coordinating the details for the Deaf group, particularly the interpreters for the event. Carin knew I was already working as an interpreter for Hen-

derson County Schools in N.C., and had previous experience participating as a character actress in SonRise. As a result, she thought of me and that perhaps I would enjoy using my talents

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The Power of Prayer

I had almost given up on my dad. Some people had asked me, “Why do you keep praying for him? Maybe he doesn’t want to be in heaven!” I had to admit I was discouraged. Since becoming Adventist when I was fourteen, I had prayed that he would know truth also.

I came into the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of my mother. I and my three siblings attended church with her. My dad did not mind us attending church, but would not join us.



Family picture taken a week before dad passed away



As I grew older, I continued to pray for him and for the rest of my family. My siblings left the church for various reasons and I prayed that God would restore their faith.

Several years ago, my dad was diagnosed with cancer. My mother and I prayed that God would continue to work mightly on dad’s behalf. While his body underwent changes due to the chemo and the growth of the cancer, his heart remained untouched by God’s word. Then came the terrible news that no family wants to hear; dad’s body was no longer responding to treatment. The doctor gave him six months to live. While my prayers had been praying for dad’s heart to be touched, my new prayers were

pleading for God to intervene on his behalf. I could not imagine Heaven without my dad there. It was about this time that my siblings all came back to church and back into a relationship with God. We all prayed that God would work to change dad’s heart. We would have weekly group texts where we shared where God had a special quote or special scripture for that day. In addition to this, we would fast and pray for our dad to be saved.

It was such a blessed time and also a very sad time for us all. Several times we had tried to approach a conversation with dad about God; he did not have anything nice to say about God. We continued to pray and watched as dad’s health

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Deaf Congress held in Poland

The Deaf Congress in Poland for the year 2018 took place in northwest Poland the week of June 17-24. A total of about 40 Deaf and hearing individuals, representing three countries (Germany, Czech Republic, and Poland), gathered at an Adventist-owned camp (similar to Cohutta Springs which is owned by the Adventist Church) for spiritual food as well as fellowship and recreation.

Elder Patrick Johnson, director of Special Needs Ministries for the Trans-European Division, did a series during the first half of the week, I did the series during the last part of the week. Neither of us knew Polish Sign Language, German Sign Language, or Czech Sign Language, we had to rely on several interpreters. Yes, there were three different sign languages and they didn't always understand each other, just like spoken languages. (It was fun watching them trying to figure out what others were saying.) Anyway, in my case when I was preaching, there were two interpreters next to both of my sides, one interpreting into Polish Sign Language and the other one into German Sign Language. But, in order to make this possible, my wife Melissa voiced into English while Amelia, a young lady whose husband is a CODA, translated from English into Polish. The two interpreters next to me then each interpreted into their own sign language.

Included in the program was a full day touring the city of

Kolobzreg, which is a beach town overlooking the Baltic Sea.

Melissa and I, along with the group, took an opportunity to ride in a pirate ship out into the sea and back. After the boat ride, the group broke into different directions of their own choosing. Melissa and I, along with Pastor Janusz Pawlak and his friend, went up a light house overlooking the city and the sea. Then we walked over to the old section of the city. There was a statue of Pope John Paul II which stood next to a huge Catholic Church. (He was from Poland.) But, about a block away, there is a city hall, the government only allowed Adventist pastors to preach openly in the square during the communist reign. (Communism fell in 1989.) Interesting, isn't it!?

Poland has a membership of about 5,000 Adventists in a strong Catholic country (90% call themselves Catholic), with about 20 Deaf Adventists, mostly in the capital of Warsaw. Pastor Janusz Pawlak is their pastor and he continues to minister to the Deaf group. Elder Stanislaw Niedzinski, a retired ministerial secretary for the Conference, came to camp as he has much interest in Special Needs Ministries.

Pastor Janusz did an outstanding job in organizing the event. Please remember to pray for the Deaf work in Europe because it's huge and challenging!

Pastor Jeff Jordan is Honorary Associate Coordinator for Deaf Ministries under Special Needs Ministries.

UPCOMING INTERPRETER/DEAF EVENTS

August 2-5, 2018

3rd National Congress of Adventist Deaf 2018

Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico

August 8-12, 2018

7th Day Interpreters' Conference
Southern Deaf Camp Meeting
Cohutta Springs
Crandall, GA

August 8-12, 2018

Southern Deaf Camp Meeting
Cohutta Springs Conference Center
Crandall, GA

August 24-28, 2018

Southern New England Conference
Deaf Camp Meeting
Camp Cherokee
Saranac Lake, NY

October 12-15, 2018

DYAC Camp Meeting
Kentucky (more information later)

October 25-28, 2018

DEAR Deaf Camp Meeting
Camp Blue Ridge
Montebello, VA

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once again, for Christ. Nervous excitement coursed through me as I received her invitation! I had prayed that God would use me in my choice of profession in some way to further the gospel, but didn't know exactly how He would answer this prayer. Upon participation, I was abundantly blessed and thrilled to be used of God in this way. This experience reinforced to me that this was my Calling. The following are a few memorable aspects of my experience I will share.

Let me begin by sharing that I thoroughly enjoyed "becoming" the SonRise characters. I interpreted the roles of Narrator, Gabriel, Judas, Octavius (Roman Legionnaire), and Pilate. Whether I was switching between characters or interpreting vendors selling their wares, I enjoyed changing roles and portraying these characters. For example, I felt the Holy Spirit working through me as I signed Gabriel's encouragement to Jesus and the results of His sacrifice. Another experience was during Pilate's Judgement scene. I, Carin, and another interpreter stood on a raised flower bed ledge to be seen over the crowd. We stood in a row and since we split up the roles, I would raise my hands to interpret Pilate, and then Carin's hands would come up beside mine to interpret the part of Christ and so on. We were a synchronized interpreting team of collaborators for Jesus!

Also, I was touched when one little boy (Hearing) answered Pilate's statement of choosing between Jesus



and Barabbas. The boy shouted, "Make the right choice!" I saw the serious expressions of the Deaf viewers as we continued to interpret as the angry tension from the mob increased around them. I witnessed Deaf individuals engrossed, as they could visually and tangibly immerse themselves into the story. Also, one Hearing individual approached us after the scene concluded, asking us if the university held ASL classes, because he wanted to learn sign language. This experience was humbling because I realized just how much the Holy Spirit was working through us to touch both Deaf and Hearing people. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed witnessing the impact of the gospel dawning on the faces of the audience.

Naturally, there were some negatives about my experience. In the church scene, the lights in the main sanctuary were turned off except for the stage. Despite previous planning, there was a breakdown

in communication for lighting provisions to shine on the interpreter. As a result, a small light was provided by hand to shine on the interpreter's hands, creating only faint light for facial expressions. Also, walking among a crowd of over 1,000 people was difficult at times to position ourselves for visibility.

I was overwhelmingly blessed through this interpreting opportunity! I enjoyed teaming up with other talented and trained ladies who were giving their time and talents for Christ. I was extremely blessed and felt the Holy

Spirit surrounding me and all those participating in this experience.

Ultimately, it was an honor and privilege to see, hear and feel the gospel touching lives through my fingers, face, and body. After all, using your talents for Christ and spreading His gospel is the greatest honor you could ever have in this life. I feel that all my education and training were being used in an amazing way, and I was humbled beyond words. I am eager to participate in more interpreting experiences like SonRise in the future.

Karly Pratt grew up in Chattanooga, TN. While attending Southern Adventist University, Karly took an ASL class from Deaf professor Jeffrey Jordan. Karly earned a B.A. in Communications and an A.A.S in Interpreter Education. Karly resides in North Carolina, interpreting in the K-12 setting and enjoys many hobbies including Ultimate Frisbee, creative writing, baking and reading.

Fireworks and Sacrifices

It was a cold day on March 5, 1770 and an angry crowd of four hundred unruly men stood in front of the Customs House in Boston, shouting and throwing rocks at the eight British soldiers standing guard there. Then suddenly someone shouted "Fire!" The frightened soldiers fired their muskets into the crowd without hesitation. When the smoke cleared, five Bostonians lay dead or dying; This incident was labeled as "The Boston Massacre" and had come after tension over some taxes made by the British on the American colonies. After the Boston Massacre, the British Parliament got rid of all the taxes except for a tax on tea.

On the night of December 16, 1773, a crowd of men and boys, who were angry about being taxed, got together and dressed up like Indians and dumped 342 chests of tea into Boston Harbor. The British Parliament was not happy and passed new laws which took away the rights of the American colonists and their sources of income.

The colonies were very angry at how the British were treating

their fellow colonists in Boston. In September 1774 representatives were sent to Philadelphia for the First Continental Congress to discuss how to handle the situation. After talking about it for seven weeks, they asked Britain to stop taking away their



rights, respect them as equal British citizens, and peacefully remain in a Union with Britain. The King and his ministers in Britain rejected the colonies' plea for equality and a

peaceful union and decided to seize the ammunition stores in Concord. Paul Revere and William Dawes warned the towns of Lexington and Concord about the approaching British troops.

On April 19, 1775 the Battles of Lexington and Concord took place. The colonists beat the British back to Boston. Over the course of days and months, several battles took place and there were wins and losses on both sides. While most Americans still wanted to remain in a union with Britain, the British rejected this and tried to punish the colonies. In response, delegates at the Continental Congress asked that a Declaration of Independence be written. On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson, was approved and Americans began the long fight for independence.

Every year on July 4th, we celebrate that act of writing the Declaration of Independence with a holiday of fireworks, food, and wearing the national colors red, white and blue. The colonists in the 1700s fought against Britain for their freedom; how much do you appreciate their sacrifices for our freedom in this country?

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7TH DAY INTERPRETERS' CONFERENCE 2018

AUGUST 8-12, 2018

IN CRANDALL, GEORGIA

Come to enhance your skills and have fun!

2018 Interpreters' Conference will be held with Southern Deaf Camp Meeting at Cohutta Springs Conference Center in Crandall, GA. The interpreter workshops will help to enhance skill level and offer encouragement & support. All are welcome to attend!

Registration for the Interpreters' Conference is \$80 a person. For Lodging and food cost, please contact visit deafchurchonline.org for more information. This conference is open to all who are interested in learning sign language, interested in Deaf Ministry and/or have taken a sign language class. Those who are interpreting in the SDA Churches, Adventist professional interpreters, Certified Deaf Interpreters and Deaf Interpreters are highly encouraged to attend. RID CEUs are available. Please contact Nohe to register!



**Hang out with
Deaf campers and
make new friends!**

**Fingerspelling and
interpreting
workshops**

**Deaf Ministry
roundtable talk
and workshops**

**Revelation
Speaks Peace
workshop**

Cohutta Springs

**1175 Cohutta Springs
Rd. Crandall, GA 30711**

MORE INFO?

Please contact Nohe Jarnes,
Conference Director
7thdayterps@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook!
7th Day Interpreters

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Jesus Christ came to this earth a long time to sacrifice His life for our sins. The Bible says, “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners” Romans 5:8 (NLT). God loved you and I so much that He sent His only son for us. “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him” John 3:16-17 (NLT). God planned to rescue us from this evil world: “Jesus gave his life for our sins, just as God our Father planned, in order to rescue us from this evil world in which we live” Galatians 1:4 (NLT). Our God is amazing! Can you imagine giving up your only son for a lot of people who sin and did not care about God? I cannot. How much do you appreciate God’s sacrifice for you?

This year, while you enjoy watching fireworks and the holiday for Independence Day on July 4th, do not forget about the sacrifice that God made for you. God loved you so much that He was willing to give up His only son so that you can live with Him forever. Will you love God and give your heart to Him?

This article was written by Brennan Jarnes & Nohelani Jarnes and will appear in The Deaf Messenger. For more information about The Deaf Messenger, please visit www.3adm.org.

Sources: “Give Me Liberty” by John Freedman

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declined. While dad beat the doctor’s timeline, we knew that the end was nearing. Still, dad did not want anything to do with God. Then one day I got a text message from our mom stating that dad had just asked Christ to forgive him for his sins! I praised God for His intervening on dad’s behalf! I also knew that dad would die any time. While my mother was sure that God would give dad complete healing, I was sure that God would seal his decision with death. My dad passed away two days later.

I miss my dad every single day. While I wish that my dad was here, I praise God every time I remember my dad because of the miracles that we experienced. I know that when Jesus comes back, he will wake up dad and then we will have all eternity to talk!

Do you have loved ones who do not have a relationship with Christ? Keep praying and never give up on them. As long as they have a breath in their body, they have a choice too. Remember 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

From the Editor



Happy Summer! It feels like July sneaked up on us and now we are at the end of it. Hope that you and your family are enjoying the sunshine and time together. If you are able, get to a Deaf Camp Meeting! The list of camp meetings are in this edition. In our October edition, we will be enjoying our annual Camp Meeting edition where we see pictures and stories from the summer months. Enjoy!

Do you want to contribute? Send all articles, pictures or points of interest for *The Interpreter*

Connection to 7thdayterps@gmail.com. Thank you for all of your services for God!

—Nohe

DID YOU KNOW?

Older editions of *The Interpreter Connection* will be archived at Three Angel Deaf Ministries webpage. To see what you have missed, please visit 3adm.org and click on “ministries,” “interpreter” and then scroll to the bottom of the page. Click on the link labeled “Interpreter Connection.” Other locations for archived issues will be announced soon.