



# Adventist Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 10 Issue 6

December 2007

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## Finishing 2007 with Deaf Outreach

We are amazed at what has been done this year in Deaf Outreach! Praise God!

We were able to exhibit at 17 major Deaf events this year (compared to 13 last year).

At these events, we had access to 55,500 Deaf people. The most we have ever had.

**We gave away over 2600 packets!** That means that we gave away: 2700 NT Bibles  
2900+ DVDs  
2700 *The Deaf Messenger* samples  
12,000+ other pieces of literature!

Many times, we have run out of materials. We could have easily given away more.

We are amazed over how much has been given away. Last year, we were thrilled with about how much we handed out: 750 Bibles, 900+ DVDs, and 4600+ other pieces of literature. This year, we have given away more than triple that! We believe that the new DVD *Signs of God's Love* drew the attention of many. Also, having packets to give away has been very effective.

**Thank you to the 46 volunteers who helped us!** We really could not

have done without the volunteers.

Here are the latest reports from the last five events.

### Chicago:

Another DeafNation Expo came to Chicago on October 6. Adventist Deaf Ministries Board members Bruce Buzzell from Missouri and Marvin Budd from Michigan met with Rhonda Treviranus, who lives in the Chicago area at our booth. Rhonda is a deaf woman who graduated from two different correspondence courses in our Deaf Bible School. **She decided to become a Seventh-day Adventist after studying the Bible and taking the corresponding courses.** And now, she was excited about working in our booth.

We were expecting a large crowd at the Chicago DeafNation event so we brought more packets than normal. The materials in the packet consists of a *The Deaf Messenger* sample, a Deaf Bible School enrollment form, 12 different Bible truth tracts, and a DVD called "*Signs of God's Love.*"

We were blessed with a great spot. Our booth was right next to the main entrance into the Expo. People came by our booth first thing! People were interested in the DVDs they saw playing and were happy to pick up a packet.

A deaf man came to our booth and we got into a discussion about life, death and the soul. He believed people go to heaven right after death. We showed him simply what the Bible

*Making a difference in the lives of Deaf people...for eternity!*



Marvin Budd chats with a Deaf visitor in Chicago. Over 3700 Deaf people attended this event.

## Expos, continued

says in a few verses and then we encouraged him to read the materials in his packet that we gave him.

Many people were surprised to find out our packets were free for them to take. **Adventist Deaf Ministries' goal is to reach out to as many Deaf people as possible and to share with them the gospel of Jesus Christ.** Once people pick up a packet, the Holy Spirit takes over and works on those people to read the materials.

In the last few hours the packets were slowly being taken (but God knew what He was doing). There were about 25 packets left with about 30 minutes before closing time. Then at God's timing a Deaf man from Wisconsin came to our booth and he picked up a packet and looked at it. He asked me what denomination we are from. I replied that we are Seventh-day Adventists. He smiled and nodded his head and told me he had heard of the SDA church. He went to Gallaudet College in the mid 1970s and he met Pastor Arthur Griffith there. He admired Griffith as a man of God. **Then he asked me if he could take about 20 packets with him!** He wanted to give them to people during the Saturday morning prayer/Bible study group discussions that he attends. I gladly handed him 20 more packets. So

by the end of the day only 5 packets were left in the box. 245 packets were given away at the Chicago DeafNation Expo where over 3,700 people attended.

The Lord has blessed us in our service to God in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. The trip to Chicago was worth it. We do not know how many people will be saved in God's kingdom because of the work we have been doing at Deaf expos, but God has a record in heaven and we will know the fruits we have reaped for heaven when Jesus comes for us.

*Bruce Buzzell*

### Pleasanton, CA

4,100 Deaf people met October 27 for the DeafNation Expo near San Francisco. Once again, we had a very good booth, right by the door, so everyone had to walk by our booth.

Several people stopped by the booth who remembered Jim and Bunny Hovey from previous DeafNation Expos.

**Remarkably, all 200 packets were given away within the first two to three hours!** Pastor Alfred Griffith said, "We could have easily given out twice that much!" We did not expect that so many would want a packet. Thankfully, Pastor Griffith had brought an extra 50 *Our World a Theater* DVDs of his own,



Chad English & Billy Widener (both on right side) pose with the booth volunteers in Ontario, CA.

but they were also all quickly given away.

They stayed at the booth, showing the DVD and visiting with people. They continued to take names and addresses for DVDs and *The Deaf Messenger*.

Two ladies happily stopped by and said that they were current Deaf Bible School students. Both said that they were enjoying the lessons very much.

Thank you for our volunteers: Pastor Alfred Griffith, Jeff Jones, Gwendolyn Tsujimoto, Tholia Taylor, and Theresa Davies.

*Esther M. Doss*

### Ontario, CA

Deaf MATA was a very large Deaf event that was held November 2 and 3, 2007 in Ontario, California. Ontario is in the Los Angeles area.

There were five helpers: Susan Plubell, Neil and Lillian Davidson, and Darrell and Lorna Strait. There were less booths

compared with what we had seen with Deaf Expos in the past, but there was a larger crowd. We were not sure if we had enough materials, so we split the bags to be sure that all who wanted one would get it.

Friday, approximately 3,000 people came to MATA. We gave away 150 bags.

Next day, there were over 5,000 people! We gave out 250 bags.

We also brought a half box of Story of Redemption books, a full box of Steps to Christ, and 20 sets of coloring books for children. They were all gone.

A young man came to our booth, glanced at the banner, signed to himself, "DeafBibleSchool.Com." He repeated this twice, then said, "that sign is so familiar. I've gotten the answered lessons, I'm on my 8th Bible lesson." Then he (Bill Widener) asked me if we are SDA.

We nodded. "PAH!" Bill responded. He had been searching for our booth for a long time. Bunny Hovey



People enjoy chatting with our booth volunteers and are often amazed that we were giving away free DVDs, NT Bibles, and other materials.



Lauren Eris Brown is ready for the start of the Secaucus, NJ DeafNation Expo. Unexpectedly, 200 packets were given away by noon!

was his teacher, correcting his lessons till she left the position. He told us that he goes to Glendale SDA Church since he was baptized.

A man was so bitter with hard feelings due to what a believer did to him. We told him that he would be remembered in prayer, that softened him.

Of course, there were many hugs among friends we haven't seen for years.

*Lillian Davidson*

### Secaucus, NJ

Deaf Nation Secaucus, NJ was on November 16. Secaucus is very near New York City.

Lauren Eris Brown and I handed out 200 packages.

Lauren said, "those small booklets about Death, Salvation, Jesus' Return, etc. ran out fast. The visitors seemed really curious about our beliefs and they find them quite interesting."

**We started around 9 am and by noon, we were out of packages!** Yet the bulk of visitors came

in the afternoon. Some of them signed up for us to send them a DVD and Bible lessons. I think we could have given out another 200 packets.

Brian McMahon, came by the booth. Brian is an Adventist but does not have a deaf group to worship with. He went to a hearing church but getting an interpreter has been difficult. We were showing a sermon by Paul Kelly on a DVD. ADM will soon have sermons available on DVD. He was very interested in the idea for those like him who do not have a deaf group nearby and have difficulties getting an interpreter. He was not the only one who was thrilled to see the sermons on DVDs. Many others expressed interest, too.

When we first arrived, a gentleman who was very agitated about our booth, signed, "E.G. White lie lie." This was a bit scary to see. We prayed and the guy stayed away from the booth and did not bother

those who stopped by. I was afraid he would harrass us but the Lord was good.

A lot of people came and chatted with us. Lauren and I were rather exhausted by the time we finished, but it felt good to have done something for the Lord!

*Jenny Witteborg*

### Gaithersburg, MD

On the same day, November 16, ASL Expo was held in Gaithersburg, MD near Washington D.C.

I arrived at 7:00 on a cold and windy Friday night. The expo coordinators did not send our booth number by email. I decided not to unload my van until I found someone who could give me a booth number.

Two buildings were being used for the exhibits and they were very cold. I went in to look for a table with ADM's name on it – none to be found. There were a few tables that had nothing on them, but I was not willing to take them

without permission. I saw a few old friends and one of them told me the coordinator was out and paged him.

Finally, Chip, the coordinator, came in out of breath, muttering something about a long meeting somewhere. He asked me if I saw ADM's name on one of the blank tables. I said no and I also did not see anything with deafbibleschool.com either. He took me to one table in a small building, it did not look like a good spot to me as I did not recognize many of the other exhibitors. I had my doubts this would be a good spot, but since I had no other choice.

Another exhibitor came in to inform the coordinator that one of her staff had a death in the family and would not be able to stay to exhibit, but they had to drive back to Cleveland, Ohio that same night. So, I selected their table and offered to pass out her cards if someone came to look for her or her ASL videos. I also gave her a TDM magazine



## Expos, continued

and a DVD. God provided!

The booth turned out to be in a prime location – next to a relay service provider and all of us had a busy day! Praise the Lord!

Three wonderful people helped me at the booth: Angus English, Cathy Ingram and Mike Dobson.

A particular woman touched Mike Dobson's heart. He says, "One lady touched my heart. She is from Maryland, and she told me about a deaf school in Jamaica. When she saw our DVD playing in our booth, she fell in love with it so I gave her several copies. Wow! She was so excited!!!! She cannot wait to bring them to Jamaica to show others about God's Love through ASL."

Angus English remembers, "A hearing lady came by twice and admitted to us that she grew up as a Seventh-day Adventist, but had stopped attending church. She recognized Mark Finley's name on one of our books, and knew right away

that we were Seventh-day Adventists. She inquired about our church's whereabouts and seemed interested in visiting our church."

Jim House pointed out that the sowing we had done years ago continues to bear fruit. He says, "One young man came by asking for Bruce Buzzell, the chairman of our Board. He left his VP number with me and also filled out a form for the Deaf Bible School."

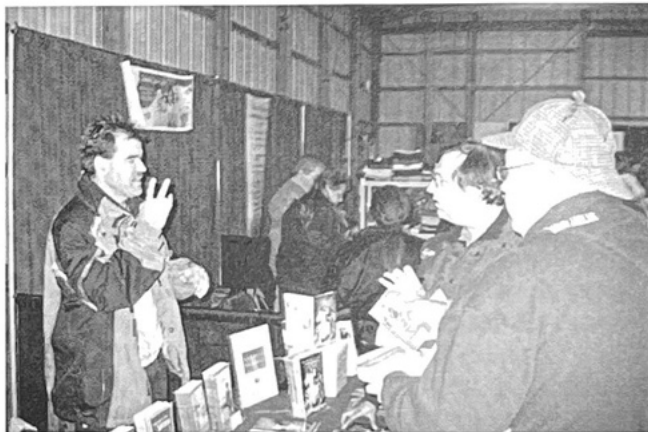
"A guy from a non-denominational church came and questioned about our religion," Angus tells us. "Once he found out we were SDA's, he felt obliged to 'correct us'. He told us to look at Hebrews 10, but I told him that I was familiar with this chapter, and that it only pertained to the ceremonial law. I wished that I could explain to him about Matthew 5:17, where Jesus says that he did not come to destroy the law but to fulfill it. Maybe if I had been better prepared, we would have had a good discus-

sion. This stressed the importance of studying and memorizing certain verses, especially before important events."

Angus shares, "Even though I was nervous, I re-

ally value this experience at the ASL Expo. In a way, this was an answer to my prayers, and I fully appreciate this opportunity to be involved in this event."

*Jim House*



Mike Dobson shares Bible truth with two men who stopped by the booth. Many Deaf souls are truly thirsting after righteousness and we must tell them of Jesus and the Gospel message!

## News from ADM Board

The Board of Directors converged on Silver Spring, Maryland for its annual meeting to discuss some very important business matters on November 10 and 11, 2007. We worked on a variety of issues on Saturday night and all day on Sunday. The members went home extremely exhausted, but it was worth the effort for our wonderful Lord Jesus Christ.

The Board carefully considered the suggestions given by Deaf people at the Constituency meeting held at Milo Academy in Oregon.

The Board is pleased to announce three new members will be joining them effective January 1, 2008 for four years. The individuals are Mrs. Kathleen Marciniak from Alden, New York, Ms. Cathy Ingram from Hyattsville, Maryland, and Pastor Alfred Griffith from Manteca, California. Mrs. Alberta Blake and Mrs. Beth Dobson have been reelected to remain on the Board for another four years.

*Beth A. Dobson*  
ADM Board of Directors  
Secretary

### Signs of God's Love DVD Prices

\$5.00 for each DVD

Orders of 20 or more \$4.00 each

Orders of 100 or more \$3.00 each

Shipping is included.

See order form for details.



**WESTERN DEAF CAMP MEETING**  
**MILO ACADEMY**  
**324 MILO DR.**  
**DAYS CREEK, OREGON 97429**  
**JULY 6-13, 2008**  
**Phone: (541) 825-3626**

Room fee is \$15.00 per room up to 3 persons or \$7.50 each for 2 persons and an extra \$5.00 per person in the same room.

Each meal is \$5.50 per person, child (3-12) \$4.60, child (2 or under) Free.

Registration is \$3.00 per person per day.

Registration will begin Sunday, July 6 about 1 PM.

If you are not able to walk up the stairs, please let us know. We will try to reserve a room for you.

Bring: Bible, sheets, blankets, or sleeping bag, pillow, towels, soap, bathrobe, walking shoes, Sabbath clothes.

Parents are responsible for their children at all times. No bicycles, skateboards, and inline skates are allowed on the sidewalks during camp meeting.

No selling during camp meeting.

No smoking and no drinking of alcoholic drinks.

If you need to be picked up at an airport or bus station, please let us know two weeks before camp meeting begins. Be sure fly in PDX before noon.

If you have any questions please write, call, or e-mail:

Chuck McGehee  
2900 NE 143<sup>rd</sup> Ave.  
Vancouver, WA 98682  
TTY/Fax/VP: 360.433.2923  
Voice Mobile: 360.813.0064  
Text: 360.513.7861

Pager: chucktrades@tmail.com  
Email: chucktrades@comcast.net

Alfred Griffith  
23607 Brown Rd.  
Manteca, CA 95337  
209.599.7895

We pray you will now begin to make plans to come and be blessed by God's love.

(Directions to Milo on the back side of this page)

**Directions to Milo Academy  
Milo, Oregon**

**From North of I-5**

Take EXIT 98 toward CANYONVILLE / DAYS CREEK 0.2 miles  
Turn LEFT onto CAYNYONVILLE-RIDDLE RD. 0.1 miles  
Turn RIGHT onto OR-99 / S MAIN ST / CR-1 0.1 miles  
Turn LEFT onto TILLER-TRAIL HWY / OR-227 / SE 3<sup>rd</sup> ST / CR-1  
Continue to follow OR-227 / CR-1. 17.2 miles  
Turn RIGHT onto MILO DR (Covered Bridge) 0.1 miles  
Turn RIGHT to stay on MILO DR

**From South of I-5**

~~Take the OR-62 E / OR-238 exit - EXIT 30 - toward N. MEDFORD /~~  
CRATER LAKE. 0.3 miles

Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp.

Turn RIGHT onto CRATER LAKE HWY / OR-62 E. Continue to follow  
OR-62 E. 21.9 miles

Turn LEFT onto OR-227 / TILLER-TRAIL HWY. Continue to follow  
OR-227. 31.9 miles

Turn LEFT onto MILO DR. (Covered Bridge) 0.1 miles

Turn RIGHT to stay on MILO DR. 0.1 miles

# The Trexler's Invitation to Japanese Deaf Camp Meeting

Pastor David Trexler and his wife Francisca flew to Japan to be speakers for the Japanese Deaf Camp Meeting November 23-25. Pastor Alfred Griffith from California was also invited to speak. They enjoyed meeting our Japanese and Korean brothers and sisters and look forward to meeting them again in heaven.

In the picture on the right, Deaf ministry leaders from Japan and United States

stand together as workers of the Gospel. Standing on the left is Shindo, who is a close friend of Pastor Arthur Griffith. He was a lawyer who gave his life to Deaf ministry. The others in the picture are: Yoshinori Yamanaka (Deaf lay pastor in Nagano, Japan), Pastor David Trexler, Pastor Alfred Griffith, and Hiromasa Kobayashi (Deaf president of the Association of Deaf SDA).



Two interpreters sign while Pastor Griffith preaches. This man is a Korean pastor translating for Deaf members who came from Korea. There are about 8 SDA Deaf in Korea.



A side trip was taken to visit a nursing center for the Deaf. Visiting these precious people was a very special experience for the American visitors.



A beautiful group of souls! More than 120 people came to the Japanese Deaf Camp Meeting. Most of them are hearing people who work in Deaf ministry. There were about 41 Deaf attendees, some were non-Adventists.



Some may remember Sayoko (Onaka) Mine. She interpreted between the Americans and Japanese.



## For the Hearing Among Us

The Deaf community affectionately call their world, with all of its culture, values, and norms, "Deaf-World." Those who are a part of the Deaf-World are people who possess Deaf-World knowledge and share the experience of what it is like to be deaf.

Many hearing people feel that they can not join in the Deaf-World because they can hear. And they often feel awkward because they can not communicate with Deaf people in sign language. They feel nervous, even scared. Some hearing avoid Deaf people because they are in different worlds.

The Deaf are more accepting than hearing people realize. In fact, Deaf

individuals are often far more accepting than hearing people are. Relax, Deaf people do not bite. Just think about how they must feel on a day-to-day basis!

"The historic Deaf community is amazingly accepting of people who are different whether by birth, race, disability, communication style, or personality...There has historically been a desire within the Deaf community to build meaningful relationships with those who are willing to be true friends. Deaf people have generally experienced enough discrimination and separation; therefore they have little tolerance for cutting-off others based on perceived differences. **The key de-**

**sirable traits for friendship in Deaf-World are authenticity, a willingness to treat people as equals, and an avoidance of trying to control the Deaf person.** This has historically been a universal and fundamental value within Deaf-World." Bob Ayres, *Deaf Diaspora* p. 23 (emphasis added).

Deaf people do not want to be treated as a novelty. They want to be treated as real people.

"It is not true that hearing people are unwelcome among the Deaf. It's just that Deaf people, like all people, have a need for being, at least part of the time, with others who share the same language and culture, values and con-

cerns. In this regard, the Deaf-World might be likened to a revolving door that spins at its own rate. **If you are able to walk in and keep up the pace and, more importantly, are committed to staying the course, then you are more than welcome.** Most hearing people, however, only want to go around once or twice and then exit back to their own circle of friends." Harlan L. Lane, et al, *Journey into the Deaf-World* p. 6,7 (emphasis added).

As you befriend a Deaf person(s), plan on making this a friend(s) for life.

## Do Not Forget to Use Our Website!

Have you been on our website lately? You may want to check it out from time to time.

**Family News:** You can see news from our friends and see pictures of events. Right now, you will see photos from several camp meetings, from a special wedding, and of a newborn baby! If you would like to send us a photo or some special news, please let us know! Email Esther at: [esther@deafadventist.org](mailto:esther@deafadventist.org)

**Directory:** Are you moving or traveling and would like to spend Sabbath with a Deaf group or another member? Why not look on

our church directory? We have a list of all the churches we know of that have interpreters or Deaf services. You also may want to check to see if your church is on the list.

**Calendar:** Wonder what the dates are for a camp meeting or another event? Just take a look. We have a calendar with the information and who to contact.

**Online store:** You can purchase any of our products in our online store. You can pay by credit card or automatic bank draft.

**Donate:** You can also donate through our website,

so you do not have to mail in your checks or money orders. You can also set up an account so you can automatically donate each month.

**Deaf Culture:** Take a look! Several pages tell you about Deaf ministry and culture. Also instructions are given on how to make a relay call or use an interpreter.

**Links:** And do not forget our links! We have a list of many different kinds of webpages! We have links for the Easy Reading Sabbath School Lesson, Deaf SDA webpages, SDA websites, the Bible, veg-

etarian recipes, children's activities, and more.

So, do not forget to take a look at our website! In fact, visit our website often!

### Donations Received

#### In Honor Of

Ava James

Collin Carter Haig

#### In Memory Of

Cindy



# Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping

_____	<b>AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS VIDEO SERIES (DVD)</b> A set of 7 DVD videos covering 14 Bible topics presented in sign language by Francisca Trexler. Includes listing of all Bible verses presented. (No voice track)	Price	\$ 65.00 **
_____	<b>THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES (VHS)</b>	VHS Price	\$ 50.00 **
_____	<b>THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES (DVD)</b> A set of 13 VHS or DVD videos presented in sign language by Deaf Pastor David Trexler with voice track. Includes comprehensive set of study notes.	DVD Price	\$ 90.00 **
_____	<b>KEEPERS OF THE FLAME VIDEO SERIES (4 VHS tapes)</b> This 8-part series covers the history of the Christian church, as well as the history of the Adventist church. <b>OPEN CAPTIONED</b> (subtitled)	VHS Price	\$ 40.00 **
_____	<b>SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE DVD</b> Take a walk with Esther M. Doss in Colorado to learn more of God's love. 48 minutes.	Price	\$ 5.00 **
_____	<b>OUR WORLD A THEATRE IN GOD'S UNIVERSE (DVD)</b> A 2-hour video in American Sign Language by Esther M. Doss that gives the basic story of the Bible and plan of salvation ... from the beginning to the end of sin.	Price	\$ 20.00 **
_____	<b>THE FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY (DVD)</b> An awesome 43-minute documentary that looks at what the Bible really says about the last days of earth history. <b>(ENGLISH SUBTITLES)</b>	Price	\$ 12.00 **
_____	<b>DEAF DIASPORA: THE THIRD WAVE OF DEAF MINISTRY (book)</b> Planning to or already involved in the deaf ministry? Gain valuable insights into the ministry to deaf people in the new millennium. Includes useful discussion guides.	Price	\$ 20.00 **
_____	<b>MARGIE ASKS WHY, EASY READING EDITION</b> A fascinating book about the battle between God and Satan.	Price	\$ 6.00 **
_____	<b>STEPS TO CHRIST, EASY READING EDITION</b> A book that leads us to a better relationship with Jesus.	Price	\$ 6.00 **
_____	<b>THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, EASY READING</b> Tells how sin began and how Jesus will save His people from sin & eternal death.	Price	\$ 6.00 **
_____	<b>AMAZING FACTS, EASY READING EDITION</b> A set of 12 attractively illustrated booklets.	Price	\$ 5.00 **
_____	<b>SIGN LANGUAGE COLORING BOOKS</b> A set of 3 coloring books: Creation, Moses, and Jesus	Price	\$ 14.00 **
_____	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD LEARNING SYSTEM (DVD)</b> Includes 2 DVDs: "Getting Started in Signing" and "Say It With Signing". Makes learning ASL easy and fun for yourself or as a gift to family and friends.	Price	\$ 35.00 **
_____	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD DICTIONARY (DVD)</b> Over 700 signs with photo illustration of sign (e.g. picture of "shoes").	Price	\$ 23.00 **
_____	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD COMBO (DVD)</b> ASL DVD Learning System <u>and</u> ASL DVD Dictionary. Save \$3.	Price	\$ 55.00 **
_____	<b>CD-ROM: HYPERSIGN INTERACTIVE DICTIONARY OF ASL (CD-ROM)</b> Full-motion video; age specific vocabulary. Requires Windows 98 or better.	Price	\$ 25.00 **
_____	<b>AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FINGERSPELLING LESSONS (VHS)</b> Want to improve your fingerspelling? Then this video is for you!	Price	\$ 27.00 **
_____	<b>EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES</b> 27 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates.	Price	\$ 10.00 **
_____	<b>DONATION:</b> I support ADM's ministry. Here is my \$ _____ love gift.		

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED:**

**U.S. Funds Only \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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**P.O. Box 6114**  
**Mesa, AZ 85216-6114**

\*\* For orders shipped outside the USA, please contact us first.

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Beth Dobson, Secretary  
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Marvin Budd  
Neil Davidson  
Alfred Griffith  
Cathy Ingram  
Kathleen Marciniak  
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**ADM Staff**

David M. Trexler  
Speaker/Director  
Esther M. Doss  
Public Relations & Development  
George L. Belser  
Office Manager

Adventist Deaf Ministries (ADM) 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, ADM was subsequently recognized as a tax-exempt nonprofit organization by the State of Arizona on May 9, 2001. ADM has been granted the right to issue tax-deductible receipts for donations made to Adventist Deaf Ministries.

**Adventist Deaf Ministries**

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