



Adventist Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 11 Issue 2

April 2008

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Shooting for New DVD Begun!

The DVD *Signs of God's Love* with Esther Doss has been easily accepted by many Deaf people across North America. This DVD has drawn the attention of Deaf people from all walks of life. No matter if these Deaf are Christians or not, they have been attracted to the beautiful scenery as Esther Doss walks through the snowy mountains of the Colorado Rockies. What they see is Esther pointing out the beauty of nature and telling about the Creator. She tells about God's love by carefully weaving stories and Bible texts. Now, we have been getting requests for a new one!

And we do need a new one! We have already given away thousands of *Signs of God's Love* DVDs all across the USA. Now, people are saying to us, "I already have this. I really liked it. Do you have anything new?"

We see these types of DVDs as great tools for sharing the gospel and important Bible teach-

ings.

We are praising God because at this time, we have already begun making another DVD! This one will be called *Signs of God's Love 2*. Esther Doss is the speaker again on this DVD. This time, she will be taking a walk along a beautiful creek weaving through the Ozark mountains in Arkansas. Instead of snow, viewers will see Spring in its beauty.

This DVD will be talking about what happens when we die and the hope of the resurrection when Jesus comes again. Flowers, cave entrances, an old grave-

yard and water will help to show people Bible truths.

This DVD should be finished this summer. This will be in time so that we can give these away at Deaf expos in the fall. The DVDs will also be made available for purchase, just like the first DVD.

Please pray for this project as it is being shot and edited. We pray that this DVD will answer many questions that people have. We also hope that this DVD will help them to see that Jesus is their Redeemer and that there is Hope in Him.

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



Lives Touched at Deaf Expos

All over the United States in the last couple of months, we have been sowing seeds! Eight expos in two months! Here are a few stories:

Austin, TX

By Esther Doss

We were busy! Kathy McCain was my helper. On average, we were giving away one packet every 1 ½ minutes, so we quickly ran out 12:30pm! Although we ran out of packets, we stayed in the booth to take addresses and meet people. People were still eager to stop by. One man saw our banner from a distance and eagerly made his way over, signing, "Fantastic!" So did others during the day.

Mateo asked me many questions. Some of the questions were very deep. After I finished answering one question, he'd sign, "Okay, Hmm...another question..." Seems like we covered every teaching in the Bible! He asked why we worshipped on the Sabbath and requested to see Bible verses of the disciples keeping the Sabbath. He was surprised by the texts he read. We talked about the Holy Spirit at great length. He came back an hour later just to thank me for my time to answer his questions and said he really appreciated it. He had told us that he is searching for a church with

true teachings.

While talking with Mateo, Teresa from Maryland stopped by. She had already seen the DVD we were giving away. At her place of work, some employees meet for Bible studies, each taking a turn in leading out. One co-worker used the DVD. The group watched it and then discussed it afterwards. Teresa enjoyed it and said that they talked about the Holy Spirit and they were stumped on some questions. She watched Mateo and I as we talked. She saw my answers on the Holy Spirit. When Mateo left, I turned to Teresa. She said that she was happy to see our discussion and asked more questions about the Holy Spirit. She wanted a copy of the DVD, so we sent her one.

One young man, Scott, spent a lot of time at our booth. He is a true Christian with a desire to bring many souls to Jesus. We had a very nice visit. Many times, we would say a long good-bye, and then a few minutes later, Scott was back again! He told many others to come to our booth to meet us and to take packets. He was helping us share Christ!

One pastor stood back, watching our conversations with others for a long time. She finally walked up and asked Kathy some questions. She said she was glad that we were there to

plant some seeds.

In 2006, I was in Austin for DeafNation Expo, so I looked for familiar faces. And I did see some! Each one was surprised I remembered them. One of them was a man that, in 2006, had stopped by our booth. He asked us if we knew anything about the Sabbath. He was studying this. Now, two years later... here he is again! This time, we talked for a while and he eagerly took materials and is seriously considering taking the Deaf Bible School course.

We met a number of Deaf people who use Mexican Sign Language, not ASL. They were so hungry for God's word. This reminded us of the desperate need for DVDs in MSL.

We noticed several times groups of people were having Bible discussions. Several times we saw someone tell a friend that they need to accept Jesus as Savior. Seems our presence sparked others to talk about God. We felt that angels were with us at our booth and the Holy Spirit was hard at work.

Flint, MI

On the same day, Marvin Budd and Howard Sturm were working at a booth. They marveled at how quickly people grabbed the packets. Like in Austin, TX, packets were gone by 12:30pm! They had

extra things on hand and gave them away. Seems that more and more Deaf people are hungry for the gospel.

Greensboro, NC

By Francisca Trexler

Julia Sutton and I enjoyed working at the booth for ADM. Two ladies told us that they felt backslidden from God. They mentioned that they should read the Bible more often. I told them that we all need to read the Bible more often so that we could be ready for Jesus' second coming. They heartily agreed. They were excited to watch the DVD with Esther Doss.

Later on, one Deaf lady stopped by, saying that she was happy to see the banner "Deaf Bible School" and said she completed the Bible study. She said she loved it so much and enjoyed the Bible study. I encouraged her to take another Bible course that we have. She said, with a smile, she would like to do this one, too.

Phoenix, AZ

By Francisca Trexler

My husband David, George and Arlene Belser and I worked together at this booth. I was thrilled to see three ladies signing in Spanish sign language and I went to meet them. I shared the good news about Jesus. They believe

in Jesus Christ as their Saviour and I told them that I too believed in Jesus Christ. They were surprised to learn something new about the Sabbath. They asked me to write down Bible verses about the Sabbath. They were eager to read them at home. We exchanged the email address to keep in touch.

A special person from Oregon now lives in Arizona. We have not seen him since he was young. He walked through the crowd and saw us in the booth. He said, "I know you!" David didn't recognize him. He spelled his name. David was surprised to see him. The Belsers likewise were surprised to see him again. It was so good to see him. We pray for him to come back one of these days.

San Diego, CA

By Lillian Davidson

This Expo did not have as many Deaf people as hoped. Many attendees were hearing. So, not as many seeds were planted at this event. However, the contacts were still good. Since Neil and I live in the San Diego area, we saw many we knew, including some of my students, some I have not seen for over 40 years.

While talking to one lady, we explained how the body is the temple of God. She was amazed and vowed to never touch

liquor or smoke. Another person studied with Neil. He had a thirst to understand the book of Revelation and peppered Neil with seemingly hundreds of questions. Neil and this man have been studying since.

Kansas City, KS

By Bruce Buzzell

The materials in the packet consists of a copy of The Deaf Messenger, a Deaf Bible School enrollment form, three different tracts, and *Signs of God's Love* DVD. Dana Edmonson and I also gave away Sign Language coloring books and tracts on Salvation.

When the expo opened its doors, a lot of people came to our booth to grab a packet. The DVD playing attracted many people's attention to our booth to look at the beautiful background scene of the snowy mountainside as Esther signed in ASL. Then after looking the DVD, people picked up a packet and went their way.

We are always thankful to our Lord for making this ministry work possible. It is the Lord who WANTS people to come and take a packet and learn of His love for them.

A young deaf lady came with her friend to our booth and we got into a discussion on the joy of the Christian life. She was so happy to get a packet from us and she told us how God helped her overcome many

problems at home and at college. Dana and I helped her with some Bible verses and gave her encouragement.

As usual, many people were surprised to find out our packets are free. Adventist Deaf Ministries' goal is to reach out to as many Deaf people with 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.

This ASL Expo welcomed 3,240 people to

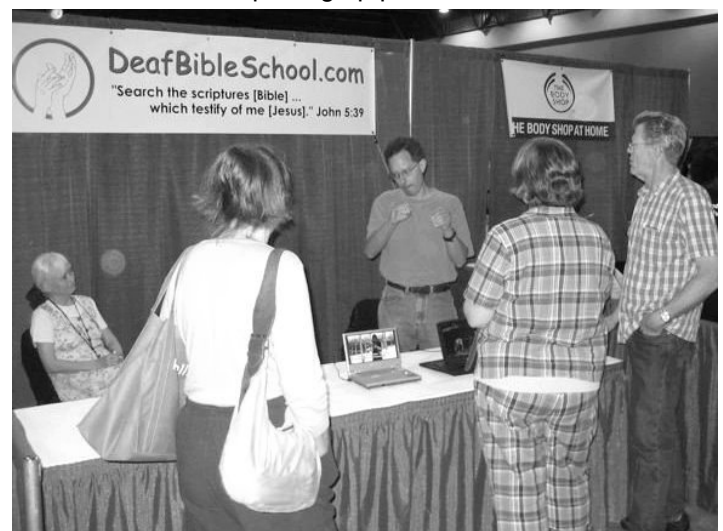
explore over 45 different booths. We do not know how many people will be saved from the work we did at the expo but God has a record in heaven and we will know the fruits we have reaped for heaven when Jesus comes for us.

We also had booths in Orlando, Florida and Santa Clara, CA.

Go to www.deafadventist.org to see photos!



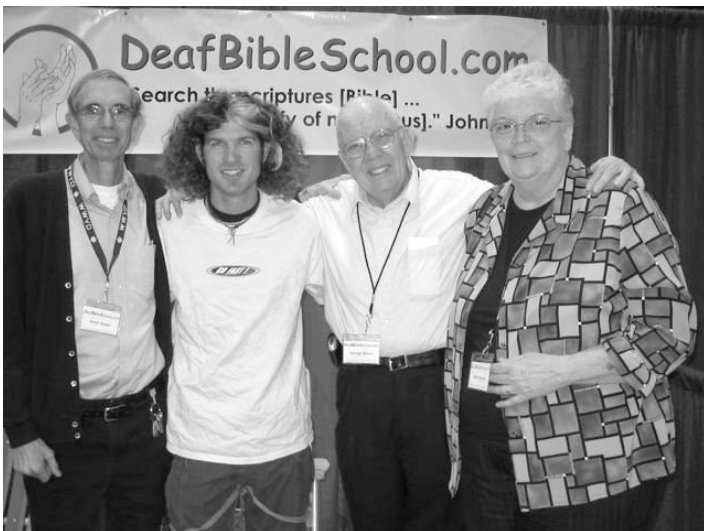
In Flint, MI, two ladies enjoy watching the DVD before picking up packets.



In Orlando, FL, Alan Beer tells about Jesus.



A gentleman chats with Kathy McCain in Austin, TX.



In Phoenix, AZ, Pastor Trexler, George and Arlene Belser pose for a photo with an old friend, Shaun McLaughlin.

Spring/Summer Speaking Schedule

Here Pastor David Trexler's Spring/Summer speaking and traveling schedule:

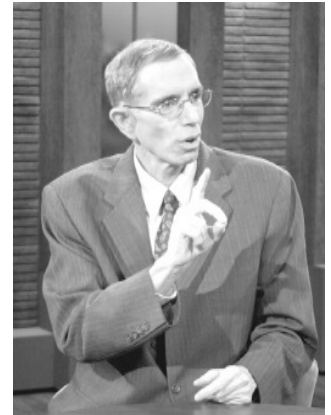
April 19
Omaha, Nebraska
DeafNation Expo

May 3
New York City,
New York
ASL Expo

May 10
Riverside, CA
Arlington SDA Church

June 4-8
Shirley, Arkansas
MidWest Deaf Camp
Meeting
Main Speaker

July 6-12
Milo, Oregon
Western Deaf Camp
Meeting
Afternoon Group Bible
Studies



Pastor Trexler is available if you would like to invite him to your church or event as a speaker.

Please be aware that your church or group will need to cover Pastor Trexler's travel expenses.

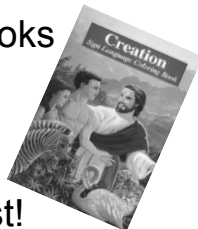
Contact Adventist Deaf Ministries for more information at:

adm@deafadventist.org
or write to:
Adventist Deaf Ministries
PO Box 6114
Mesa AZ 85216

Clearance Sale!!!

Revelation of Jesus Christ Series with Pastor David Trexler VHS **\$40.00**

Sign Language Coloring Books Set of 3 (Creation, Moses, Jesus) **\$8.00**



While Supplies Last!

Prices include shipping!
(You may use the order form in this newsletter)

Donations

In Memory of...

Ronald Schifano by
Eva Thompson

Sylvia House by
Clarence & Marian
Evensen, Cal & Ellen
Ferguson, Dorothy
Gradt, Jim House,
Marshall House,

Catherine Ingram,
Sara Johnston,
Philip & Jane Peters,
Gretchen Pike, &
Linda Shepherd

In Honor of...

Marvin Budd by
Luis Leonor

A Weekend of Revival in Massachusetts

The Northborough, Massachusetts church has two Deaf members, Syndey and Pamela Leith. The Leith's were isolated Deaf members, never having the opportunity to meet Deaf pastors or to see sermons in ASL. That is until last year when they attended the Southern New England conference camp meeting when Pastor Jeff Jordan and Esther Doss were invited to be speakers. They loved the sermons in ASL! Their interpreter, Jessica McGowan, saw their eyes light up and realized the big difference between interpreted sermons and sermons in ASL.

She discussed an idea with the Leith's and the church board. Then Pastor Trexler and Esther Doss were invited to the Northborough church for a very special Deaf weekend.

They invited as many Deaf people as possible, by contacting churches all over Massachusetts and nearby states with Deaf members and inviting their friends. Also, last year, nearby city Worcester hosted DeafNation Expo. They helped ADM with the booth and collected addresses from people who showed an interest in attending special Deaf events. She used that list and sent everyone flyers. No one knew who would come.

The theme for the

weekend was "Jesus is our Hope". Meetings were held on Thursday and Friday evenings. Sabbath was a busy day with meetings and activities.

Over 12 Deaf people came for the event. The Northborough church had never seen so many Deaf people! They came from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Plus some interpreters and hearing friends joined in. What a big blessing for all!

Chris and Janice from Rhode Island attended the DeafNation Expo and received a flyer in the mail. Janice is Catholic and they thought that this was a Catholic event, so they were surprised show up and find out this was actually an Adventist event. They stayed the weekend and had a really nice time making new friends and learning some very new things.

John and Winnie Tunison asked Pastor Trexler to spend a little time in Rhode Island. John invited friends to his church and he gave a presentation with the help of his pastor and Pastor Trexler. Twelve people altogether were at the meeting.

When Chris and Janice found out that Pastor Trexler was going to Rhode Island on Sunday afternoon, they were excited and asked where the church is. The church was very

near their home! So, they showed up to that meeting, too!

See www.deafadventist.org to see photos of the weekend!



Pastor Trexler telling of God's love on Sabbath afternoon.



Esther Doss giving a short presentation on Deaf awareness using personal experiences as a CODA.



Group photo on Sabbath afternoon with including Deaf visitors, interpreters and hearing friends.

Speaker's Dialogue: ADM in the 21st Century

Adventist Deaf Ministries (ADM) celebrated its tenth anniversary on April 1, on April Fools' Day. Yes, April Fools' Day! This important tax-exempt, non-profit organization began out of necessity after closure of the Deaf Department by the church's own organization in 1997, and a series of rejections by church's leaders to continue deaf ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We are still loyal Seventh-day Adventists. We love the church which does not understand deafness or the need to have a spiritual center to keep all deaf members together for nurture and growth. Many deaf members became unhappy with the church, but ADM has been working hard to keep them in the church. When they are motivated they are more willing to witness to Jesus Christ, resulting in baptisms of new members into the family of God.

Despite the pessimistic thoughts by some of the church leaders, ADM continues to grow each year, and the hunger for the gospel is growing faster than ever before as we near the day of Jesus' Second Coming. Thanks to the growing number of dedicated hearing and deaf donors, more and more church leaders and members are convinced of the importance of this deaf organization (ADM) that works with the church.

God has blessed ADM.

ADM is a self-supporting ministry for the Seventh-day Adventist church. It is independent from the church's system. The board of directors of ADM are both deaf and hearing who are sensitive to the needs and the culture of the deaf. The majority (at least 51%) of the board must be deaf. At the same time, the deaf are a very small minority in the hearing church system.

Why do we continue to have this deaf organization when the church leaders and members are becoming more enlightened about the deaf than ever before? Yes, more churches have a ministry to the deaf than before. That is a good sign. We have three pastors working for the conferences, but one is part-time. That is good. But, these don't tell the whole story about the many problems the deaf have to deal with in the hearing world. We do have wonderful concerned hearing church leaders and members who are sympathetic toward our concerns and frustrations we face in church, but they can not solve the problems. The church's policies and decisions are designed well for the hearing members. The church did not mean to put many obstacles to the Deaf work. In other words, the church's plans are naturally hearing-oriented, not geared to meet the needs of the deaf. The deaf is culturally and linguistically

different from the hearing. Ethnic groups in the church can grow dramatically, while the growth of the deaf is painfully and embarrassingly slow in the eyes of church leadership. In other words, we, the deaf, don't give much return to the church to financially support the Deaf work in the church's system. Most of the church's plans are based on the consensus of the hearing people who have no knowledge of the issues the deaf have to face. Really, they need to be deaf in order to understand deafness. If they were deaf they would understand how we have faced much discrimination and problems in the hearing world. If they could experience what deaf people go through, they would create plans that would work well for the deaf.

The struggle is not between the church and the deaf, but between the hearing and the deaf. However, since the hearing control all of the decisions for the church, then naturally it becomes an issue between the deaf and the church. The hearing doesn't see as the deaf see, and vice versa. The understanding between the hearing and the deaf is difficult to reach due to the communication barrier. Because of this, ADM was established. We appreciate the recognition by the North America Division.

We need to thank

to our dear God for the resurrection of deaf ministry after it was buried. ADM is still here to minister to the deaf within the perspective of the deaf. We need to thank God for hearing people who have become sensitized to our needs. We need their voice in the church and their support to see that ADM continues to meet the growing demands of spiritual services to the deaf. May we work together with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

What can ADM do more in the 21st Century? I am praying that ADM will be a mission model in reaching out to deaf people who are widely scattered across the country and the world. There are many large cities where there are no programs to keep the deaf within the church. In these great cities there are no workers who would visit, teach, baptize and organize deaf groups that would in turn reach out to more deaf people. Our emphasis is seed-planting. Currently, our seed-planting is done throughout the country, but there is no follow-up if they want to become members of the church. We need your prayers and support for new ideas and plans to reach out to more deaf people successfully through the power of the Holy Spirit. "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," (Zech. 4:6). Finally, "even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev. 22:20).

Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping

_____	AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS VIDEO SERIES (DVD) 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 **
_____	THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES (VHS) THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES (DVD) 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.	VHS Price DVD Price	\$ 40.00 ** \$ 90.00 **
_____	KEEPERS OF THE FLAME VIDEO SERIES (4 VHS tapes) This 8-part series covers the history of the Christian church, as well as the history of the Adventist church. OPEN CAPTIONED (subtitled)	VHS Price	\$ 40.00 **
_____	SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE DVD Take a walk with Esther M. Doss in Colorado to learn more of God's love. 48 minutes.	Price	\$ 5.00 **
_____	OUR WORLD A THEATRE IN GOD'S UNIVERSE (DVD) 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 **
_____	THE FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY (DVD) An awesome 43-minute documentary that looks at what the Bible really says about the last days of earth history. (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)	Price	\$ 12.00 **
_____	CAN YOU HEAR US? (booklet - 10 copies) A 22-page quick reference guide to deaf Ministry. Order extra copies to share with family, friends, and church members.	Price	\$10.00 **
_____	DEAF DIASPORA: THE THIRD WAVE OF DEAF MINISTRY (book) 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 **
_____	MARGIE ASKS WHY, EASY READING EDITION A fascinating book about the battle between God and Satan.	Price	\$ 7.00 **
_____	STEPS TO CHRIST, EASY READING EDITION A book that leads us to a better relationship with Jesus.	Price	\$ 7.00 **
_____	THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, EASY READING Tells how sin began and how Jesus will save His people from sin & eternal death.	Price	\$ 7.00 **
_____	AMAZING FACTS, EASY READING EDITION A set of 12 attractively illustrated booklets.	Price	\$ 5.00 **
_____	SIGN LANGUAGE COLORING BOOKS (While Supplies Last) A set of 3 coloring books: Creation, Moses, and Jesus	Price	\$ 8.00 **
_____	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD LEARNING SYSTEM (DVD) 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 **
_____	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD DICTIONARY (DVD) Over 700 signs with photo illustration of sign (e.g. picture of "shoes").	Price	\$ 23.00**
_____	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD COMBO (DVD) ASL DVD Learning System and ASL DVD Dictionary. Save \$3.	Price	\$ 55.00 **
_____	CD-ROM: HYPERSIGN INTERACTIVE DICTIONARY OF ASL (CD-ROM) Full-motion video; age specific vocabulary. Requires Windows 98 or better.	Price	\$ 25.00 **
_____	AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FINGERSPELLING LESSONS (VHS) Want to improve your fingerspelling? Then this video is for you!	Price	\$ 27.00 **
_____	EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES 27 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates.	Price	\$ 10.00 **
_____	DONATION: I support ADM's ministry. Here is my \$ _____ love gift.		

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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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