

# Adventist Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 12 Issue 4

August 2009

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

## **Deaf Reach - Orlando**

The Deaf Reach Workshop was held in Orlando, FL on May 22-24, 2009. The lay training workshop was made possible by the Florida Conference of the SDA church, Southern Deaf Fellowship, and ADM.

23 people attended the first meeting. The workshop was given by Pastor David Trexler and his wife Francisca. They both did an excellent job in keeping us interested and motivated.

On Friday, we were forced to cancel the meeting due to a big thunderstorm in Orlando, delaying David and Francisca's flight. Instead of arriving at 2:50PM, the Trexler's arrived at 7:00PM. After their arrival, they went to the hotel where the Deaf were gathered in the lobby. Everybody was so happy to see old and new faces but we were so tired from the long and wet trip, so we went to bed early to get much needed sleep.

Sabbath morning, we began at 9:30AM and at 12:30PM after a wonderful worship service, we moved into the next room where the ladies had prepared a delicious authentic Hispanic lunch. The afternoon workshop

was very informative and showed us what to do and what not to do when witnessing to the Deaf. We ended the evening with a delicious dinner and all went back to their homes or rooms with new knowledge and homework to do for the next morning.

Sunday morning, we met again for the final workshop. We practiced sharing our testimonies which brought tears to the eyes, also some chills and goose bumps. The Adventist Book Center (ABC), which is in the same building, and we had an opportunity to go in and browse through the store. The workshop finished around noon and we all went home sad to say good-bye but excited with new skills and tools that will help us witness to

the Deaf.

We are forever indebted to the organizations that provided this much needed workshop. We acquired precious knowledge that will empower us to bring others to Christ. I encourage those who have not attended this workshop to find out where the next one is and make sure to attend. You will be filled with the Holy Spirit and will have valuable tools that will help you in your everyday life as a Christian.

Mario Romero

### **Deaf Reach Dates**

Silver Spring, MD July 31 - August 2 Beaverton, OR September 11-13 Lodi, CA

Lodi, CA October 2-4



# Speaker's Dialogue: The Most Dangerous Mission Field

On an island in South Pacific. the several brave Christian missionaries were killed and eaten by the cannibals in the 1800's. This South Pacific island was not the only place where missionaries died. Many missionaries died in other countries that were against Christianity. They died because they the preached gospel that was different from people's cultures the and beliefs. Many died in dangerous primitive countries away from the comfort of their home in the United States or other civilized countries.

We often think of the mission field as dangerous because sickness, hunger, poisonous snakes and bad weather, bugs, persecution. and Missionaries died for the Lord because they tried to save the people from their destructive lifestyle and eternal loss. They were real martyrs.

article mγ the last newsletter, I shared with you about the gospel work in the world countries. third The membership in third world countries is growing rapidly while the rich countries in the USA, Europe, and Japan are experiencing slow growth or declining faith.

laskyouthis question: Which mission field is the most dangerous in the world? You would be surprised at my answer. It is in the very modern and technically advanced countries, with tall skyscrapers, clean supermarkets, and more televisions than people.

Which is more dangerous? A mission field where missionaries lose their lives — or the places where they lose their faith?

Which would be more dangerous? To do mission work in some distant pagan country — or to preach the three angels' messages in the "Christian" countries? America, along other Western countries, is fast becoming a pagan country — and the most dangerous mission field in the world!

It is no wonder why we see declining faith in our country, even though it sent many thousands of missionaries to other dangerous countries of the world in the past. Now, some poor countries are sending their missionaries to our country!

Paganism in our modern culture is very popular and destructive to our faith in God. More and more Christians are becoming more like the

pagans of other countries where many missionaries had died to share the gospel. It is becoming more difficult for us to see the difference between the true Christian and non-believers through actions, words and even clothes. We seem to feel comfortable to be around them daily. No wonder why the media (TV, video, movie, and radio) are powerful temptations to those who claim to have faith in God! Remember Jesus' warning: "False Christs and false prophets will appear. They will do great signs and miracles. They will try to fool God's chose people if possible" (Matthew 24:24, NIrV).

Many Deaf people in the USA and the Western countries have no interest in spiritual things. But there are some who are looking for truth that will satisfy their needs. They are looking for "truth" in music, news, education, and church, but the "truth" they are looking for is not the truth of the Bible. They missed the opportunity to know the truth of Jesus Christ. So. here in our country is the most dangerous mission field where some of the Deaf members areat have lost their faith.

Wehavearealmission field here to work in. We

have plans to evangelize Deaf community. the God has called us into existence to save the lost Deaf people at the risk of losing our faith in God. The temptation is strong, but with God's power and grace we shall stand firm until the end. "Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" Matthew 24:12-14.

Pastor David Trexler

# Pastor Trexler's Schedule

August 3-6 ADM Board Meeting Arkansas

August 29, 30 Bronx, NY Deaf Ministries Day

September 11-13 Vancouver, WA Deaf Reach

September 26 Secaucus, NJ DeafNation Expo

> October 2-4 Lodi, CA Deaf Reach

November 7 Chicago, IL DeafNation Expo Volume 12 Issue 4 Page 3

# **Baptism in New Jersey**

Robert Fishbein was baptized by Pastor David Trexler at Parkway South Seventh-day Adventist Church. Marmora. New Jersey on the Sabbath, June 27, 2009. Interestingly, this church is pastored by John Pifer. His twin sisters, Sandy and Suzie Pifer, are both Deaf. Pastor John was very helpful in arranging the baptism for Robert at this church.

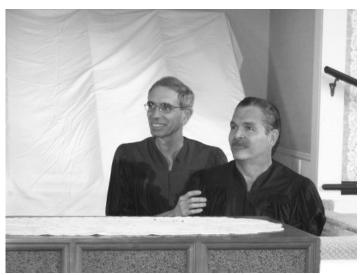
# Testimony by Robert Fishbein:

In January, 1980. my old buddy, Chuck McGehee, invited me and his friends to his house. There Don Martin gave us the presentation, "The Universal Drink Of Death." After his presentation Don gave presentation another "The Signs of the Times," showing the evidences of God's Word (Bible). I was really confused at first but the presentations convinced really me that he was telling the truth about God's Word. Eventually, I learned to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour.

October 18, 1980 Chuck McGehee, his wife Barbara, and I were baptized by Pastor Alfred Griffith at an Seventhday Adventist church in Stockton, California. My family was living in Oakhurst, California at that time.

In 1982, my family moved to New Jersey and I worked as a literature evangelist. enjoying being with the Adventist church members Marmora, New Jersev, I was involved with some mission work with them such as Ingathering. I had wonderful fellowship with the church members on the Lord's holy days until in 1985 some thing happened to me. I left the Lord and His church and I was astray for 24 years.

Last year, somehow in the Lord's mysterious way, He guided me to rent a DVD called "Fireproof." That DVD touched my heart and I decided to change my life. Now I have been joyful of being with the Lord since I returned back to God. I am delighted to be with God's family again. In the bottom of my heart I am really thankful to the Lord my God for He is so good to me and also for God's Great Merciful Love upon me as He has never left me nor forsaking since I was a prodigal son. I don't ever want that to happen again because my heart is completely in love for Him. Praise the Lord for His Great Love that endures for ever.



Robert Fishbein's baptism on June 27, 2009.

# **ADM** is now on Facebook!

Now there is an easy way to stay on top of ADM news! We have recently created a page on Facebook on the Internet. As ADM has news and photographs to share, we will post them on our Facebook page. "Fans" are able to make comments on the page, as well.

Facebook is a website that many people all around the world use as a tool to stay connected to family, friends, and more. This is a great way to send out urgent news to many people within seconds. So, if you happen to already be on Facebook, look us up!



Group photo from the MidWest Deaf Camp Meeting, July 17-21.

### **Adventist Deaf Ministries Report**

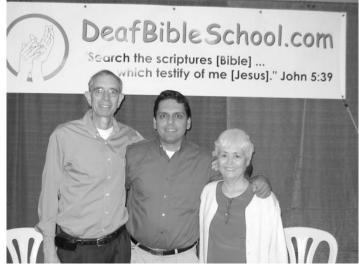


We were very busy at the DeafNation Expo in Puerto Rico! We unexpectedly ran out of packets by 11:15am, two hours after the expo opened! Most Deaf people in Puerto Rico use ASL.



Pastor Trexler in an interview for a TV program for Gospel Outreach, telling about Deaf ministry and ADM.





Pastor David & Francisca Trexler with Harold Molina in Puerto Rico. Harold is a hearing SDA who signs. He used to live in the Washington D.C. area. Harold came to help us in the booth.



Pastor Trexler and Pastor Blake make a presentation during the Gospel Outreach Rally on the weekend of May 16 at Walla Walla, Washington.

# Big Day and Baptism at Vancouver Deaf Congregation (Picture on left)

On July 4, the Sabbath before the Western Deaf Camp Meeting, there was a Big Day at the Vancouver, WA church. Over 30 Deaf members had a great time of fellowship with one another. Pastor Trexler was the guest speaker for the worship service. In the afternoon, Joanne (Bubbles) Molyneux was baptized. Through the loving and members of Vancouver Deaf members and the powerful conviction of the Holy Spirit, Joanne decided to return to the Lord. She is grateful to the Lord for His patience and love toward her.

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**Baby Dedication** 



Jeff Thompson helps Neil Davidson bury Lillian's remains during a special service.

# Western Deaf Camp Meeting

Another memorable Western Deaf Camp Meeting was July 5-12 in Milo, Oregon. Pastor Jeff Jordan and Rosalinda Davis were the speakers. Pastor Trexler led out in the daily Bible study while Francisca Trexler held a family seminar. Some people will not forget their rafting adventure on the Rogue River. A BIG first this year was the Adventist Interpreter's Workshop with Esther Doss and Rosalinda Davis as presenters. Sabbath was a very busy day. Baby Marie and her family were dedicated during worship service. Baby Marie's mother, Dani Mathisen and Billy and Pamela Butler were all baptized on Sabbath afternoon. Immediately afterwards, everyone made their way to the middle of campus for the burial of Lillian Davidson's remains. Milo was one of Lillian's favorite places. Although we miss Lillian, we look forward to the Resurrection morning. This camp meeting had another special year.



The three souls who were baptized



Adventist Interpreter's Workshop Group Photo

## **Donations**

### In Memory of ...

Cindy by Marti Schack-Voth
Ruth Dabney by Stephanie, Scott, Matthew &
Sarah Proestel
Sylvia House by Dorothy Gradt
Frances Nevin by Lorraine Schell
Wesley Powell by Stephanie, Scott, Matthew &
Sarah Proestel
Deaf Woman in India by Steven & Farrah Santiago
Josephine Engel by Paul Engel

#### In Honor of...

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor
Arthur and Alyce Griffith by Connie Olson
Herbert Smith by Charlotte Porter

# Thank you, Blakes!

Deaf ministry is not what most people think. It is very difficult work. The results of doing this work can be disappointing with frustration, tears, misunderstandings, etc. God honors those who put their love for the Lord and their fellow people first.

I do not recall the Blakes ever receiving the long overdue recognition of their dedication and hard work for the Deaf. The Blakes sacrificed their time and lives to reaching out to the Deaf for many years since the birth of their Deaf daughter, Judy. While Judy was still young, the Blakes adopted a small Deaf boy. They have written tracts, made videos and DVDs, lead out in Deaf ministry in Canada, raised funds, and many other things. The Blakes have postponed their retirement, surrendered their dreams of ease and relaxation, and dedicated their lives for the good of the gospel ministry to the Deaf. We felt that it was time to show the Blakes our deep apprecation for their work.

We wanted to give the Blakes this recognition during the Milo camp meeting, but due to Alberta's health, they could not attend. So, Paul Kelly and I made plans to give them this surprise in their home province in Canada. We tried to keep the plan a secret as much as possible. Paul Kelly and his family planned to vacation in Edmonton to be with Paul's parents and relatives this summer. We told Alberta of the secret award to her husband and encouraged her to plan a Big Deaf Day with Paul Kelly as the guest speaker and ask some of the church leaders to attend. But, somehow there was a communication breakdown leading to have Deaf Reach. Then, we agreed that I would lead the Deaf Reach. John Blake expected Paul Kelly to present the Deaf Reach workshop and did not know anything about Francisca and I coming with the award. Alberta knew about it but did not know that the award was also for her as well.

Using two \$300 vouchers from volunteering to give up our seats on the trip to Puerto Rico and an award ticket from sky miles, both Francisca and I were able to fly to Canada. We thought that we successfully kept the plan a secret. We stopped to eat dinner after we arrived in Canada. We walked into the restaurant and saw Greg Greenwood eating with his friends. Francisca and I knew we could not run away from him. Of course, Greg was very surprised to see us in person in Canada! We told the secret and asked him to be quiet. He agreed and we had a very good visit.

Next morning, when we parked at the church, we saw John Blake walking to the church's entrance. We

hid from view until he entered the church. As soon as we went in the church John Blake saw us as he was standing by the stairs. He was in a complete shock! We were afraid that he might fall down the stairs so I moved him away from them. He continued to show shock with disbelief. He was wondering why in the world were we in Canada. Then, during the break between Sabbath School and church worship service, we presented the special award to both John and Alberta Blake. Alberta was surprised, too. Alberta Conference's secretary Romulo Daquila was also present to give his testimony about the Blakes' unselfish service to the Deaf.

Thank you, John and Alberta, for allowing God to use you in many special ways. You have made a difference.

Pastor David Trexler



Pastor Trexler and Pastor Kelly present the award to John and Alberta Blake.



About 15 attended Deaf Reach in Edmonton, Canada.

# **Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping**

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Mesa, AZ 85216-6114

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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.

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