

Adventist Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 12 Issue 6

December 2009

Inside this issue:

Thank You, Lord	2
Trexler Speaks to Church Leaders	3
More Seed Planting	4
Deaf Reach in Rochester, NY	5
Deaf Bible School	6
Order Form	7

Sharing
the Three
Angels'

Messages

with the

Deaf.

Signs of God's Love 3

Thousands of copies of Signs of God's Love 1 and 2 have been distributed all across North America through the booth ministry at various Deaf expos. These DVDs have been so well received that Adventist Ministries needs to continue making more in the series.

Esther Doss again is the host of Signs of God's Love 3. This time, a special guest, Chuck McGehee, joins her. Chuck McGehee is a Deaf man from Vancouver, WA. Chuck is a carpenter by trade, but he gives much of his time studying the Bible with Deaf people and leading out in Deaf Adventist groups in the Portland, Oregon area. In January, Chuck will become part of ADM's Board of Directors. He has also been the director of the Western Deaf Camp Meeting for several years.

The topic for this DVD is on God's Law of Love. Esther and Chuck walk through the woods of Arkansas and enjoy the beautiful scenery of autumn colors while they talk about God's Law.

Chuck flew to Arkansas for the video shoot at the end of October. Unfortunately, Satan seemed to try to stop their work. The same night that Chuck arrived in Arkansas. Esther became sick with the flu, quite possibly the H1N1 flu (also called Swine Flu). Plus, since they were going to shoot the video in the outdoors, they needed nice weather, but heavy rain fell for several days. Chuck had to postpone his flight home.

But, with prayer, they went outside to shoot the video between rainy days. One of those days, Esther still had a fever. She greatly depended on God to

provide strength, a clear mind, and the right words to sign. God answered those prayers.

At the time of this writing, the DVD is nearing the end of editing. A voice track will be added and then it will be ready for duplication. It should be finished within a short few weeks.

The DVDs will be mostly used for the booth ministry at Deaf Expos. But they will also be used as an evangelistic tool in other ways. They will be made available for purchase, as well.

We at Adventist Deaf Ministries want to say thank you to the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists for providing funds to make this DVD happen.



Speaker's Dialogue: Thank You, Lord!

When I was on the football team at the California School for the Deaf in Riverside, I learned an important lesson of what it means to give thanks from our hearts.

We were on the way back to school after losing a game against a hearing high school way out in the desert about two hours from Riverside. We were not happy and discouraged. It was hot and dark as we arrived at a desert town. Our coaches were in bad mood, of course. But, they kindly stopped for our dinner at a restaurant.

After dinner, we went out to our bus. But. someone stopped us as we were walking to the bus. One of our coaches confronted us angrily and scolded us for being so insensitive to a waitress. He signed angrily that a waitress approached him and said, "Thank you very much for a penny as a tip from one of your boys." Remember, it was back in 1967 or 1968. \$5 was a lot of money to me, but we usually gave tips much higher than one cent. I have to admit that we boys were not considerate or thoughtful toward those who served us well. My parents taught us to give tips when they

took us out to eat, but I did not know what the percentage should be.

Now, I do not know the motive of who left the penny. Why did this guy give only one cent? Was it a joke to tease an attractive waitress? Was it a form of revenge against a hearing person because we lost the game to a hearing high school? Or did the boy give the penny to the waitress because that is all he had? I will never know the truth about this.

Some countries require travelers to give tips for those who serve us. It is true that those who serve us-waiters. waitresses, busboys, shuttle drivers, etc. earn less than minimum wage. Sometimes we are not happy to give tips for some reasons. But. what I have learned from my travels and from the Bible that giving can be a way of expressing our thanks to those who have made our lives easier and comfortable. Often I feel so great when I gave a tip to someone for their service to us. Why? It is a natural way of getting the blessing from blessing someone. ("It is more blessed to give than to receive" Acts 20:35, NIrV.) It is a learning experience for

all of us.

Interestingly, it easy for us to criticize than to thank them for the service they have given. Whether the services we have received is perfect or not, we should always give thanks. We all try hard to do the right thing for the public—church, organization, business, friends, etc. Often we tend to criticize or pick on those who made honest mistakes rather than to give encouragement and support.

Does this remind of the Sabbath School lessons we have studied about the selfish Israelites who journeyed in the wilderness? Are we like the Israelites who complained to the Lord when things get bad (and better)? Well, we can't deny the truth about ourselves. Hopefully, the lessons have taught us to be thankful to the Lord and fellow people in our society.

Did you know that our actions are the expressions of our inner soul? Our tendency to be very biased has greatly influenced our behavior to those who work for us. Thankfully, God is not and will never be biased. He shows no favoritism. He is the Lord of life and health. He gives us everything for physical,



spiritual, emotional, and mental needs. He is very generous toward us, but we are NOT thankful to Him enough. Should we look into our hearts to see why we are not showing our love to Him enough?

From the Bible we learn that giving tithes and offerings are also an expression of thanks to God for His generosity toward us. God owns everything, but He allows us to get wealth through using His property. A person who is not happy with God or not happy with someone who works for the Lord usually gives little or nothing to the Lord. Let us rejoice like King David who often praised and thanked the Lord in good and bad times! You can see this often in Psalms.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Adventist Deaf Ministries, we humbly want to give praise and thanks to God for your prayers,

Continued, next page

Volume 12 Issue 6 Page 3

Trexler Speaks to Church's World Leaders

On October 8. Pastor David Trexler had the great opportunity to be the morning worship speaker at the General Conference (GC), the headquarters world the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Larry Evans, the Undersecretary of the GC, invited David Trexler to be the speaker for the morning devotional. During this time, the world Church leaders converged for the annual Fall Council.

Pastor Ron Friedrich, a Lutheran pastor for the Deaf in Silver Spring, was David's interpreter. Ron has been a longtime good friend of David,

knowing and working with him at Gallaudet's Office of Campus Ministry in the past. Ron was the bridge between the hearing people and David at the GC office.

Larry Evans gave a short introduction on deafness and David. During his introduction. explained Larry that there are an estimated 90 million deaf people in the world and only approximately 2000 of Adventists. them are He pointed out that the church has given muchneeded focus on various minority groups, youth, and women, plus concerted effort in the 10-40 window; however, the

Thank You, Lord, Continued

financial support, and volunteerism. The Lord has truly blessed ADM very much during the economic difficulties. we saw Last year unexpected increase of donations even when the economy was very bad. This year is different as we see decline in giving, but no programs services for the Deaf have experienced any cuts. Many other organizations have to cut their staff and services, but ADM has not experienced it vet. We pray for others to

be able to survive by God's blessings. God is in charge of His church and ministries. We are thankful for His protective care for us.

May God continue during bless you Christmas and the new year. The closer we are with Christ the more we give thanks to the Lord in forms of gifts, expression of thanks, etc. God continues to control our future, so let us rest in Him with trust and assurance. See you in 2010!

Pastor David Trexler

been given to the Deaf.

David gave a short message about a pastor of long ago who believed that the Deaf could not be saved because they could not hear God's word based on the wrong interpretation of Romans 10:17—"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Then David told about a Deaf man in New Guinea who lived in a remote village away from civilization. The villagers had no contact with white people and they did not know anything about the gospel. One night an angel of the Lord woke him up and taught him Bible truths. The angel taught him many nights, and the Deaf man taught the people about God's messages. Eventually, whole the village accepted the gospel and changed how they lived. Then a white Adventist missionary came investigate and found that the Deaf man already had the truth similar to the SDA Church. David closed with Revelation 14:6, 7, specifically on "nation" that refers to people group. Deaf is a people group that we need to reach out with the everlasting gospel.

After worship. several people came to

same concern has not David to say that they were impressed by the message. Then Ted GC Wilson. General Vice President, invited David to the Council of **Evangelism and Witness** (CEW) which started after the morning worship service. Many of the world's Church leaders attended this meeting. Mark Finley, GC Vice President of Evangelism, secretary of this council. GC President Jan Paulsen and NAD President Don Schneider were there, as well. Soon after the meeting began, David gave a five-minute talk about the Deaf work. They all were aware of David's involvement with Adventist Deaf Ministries. independent, non-profit organization that works closely with the Church. David emphasized the importance for the Church to be actively involved with the Deaf.

"It was а great opportunity to share our convictions with the Church leaders," David Trexler said. "Thanks to Larry Evans who has a big heart for the Deaf. Pray for the Church leaders to be more sensitive to the needs of the Deaf all over the world, thus hastening the Second Coming of Christ."

More Seed Planting in Three States

This year, we went to 15 cities across the USA and gave away 4,300 packets at the DeafNation Expos. An estimated 50,000 people from all walks of life attended these expos. ADM thanks the army of volunteers who helped us share seeds of truth with the masses. The last three expos for 2009 were in Pleasanton, CA (San Francisco Bay area); Portland, Oregon; and Chicago, Illinois.

Portland, Oregon:

We had a good opportunity to have the ADM booth at DeafNation Expo in Portland, Oregon on October 17.

Jeff Davis was asked to help me at the booth. Jeff is Rosalinda's hearing husband. He is planning to get his theology degree at Andrews University and hopes that God will use him to be a future pastor for the Deaf. I felt that he needed this opportunity to meet many Deaf people and learn more ASL from them.

When the doors opened at the expo, lots of Northwest Deaf truth-seekers walked to our booth to pick up the Amazing Truth bags. I noticed that at first they were skeptical that the packets were free. We assured them that they were free. They were happy to take them.

We had two DVD players on the table. They were playing David Trexler's REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST and Francisca Trexler's AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS. Some of the Deaf attendees watched the DVDs for a while.

Many, at first, told me that they already have seen SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE before. I told them that this is a new DVD. What they saw was the first one and this one was the second DVD. They were happy to pick the packets up. I was amazed that they have an incredibly good memory.

299 packets were all gone at 4 o'clock, with two hours left to go. We chatted with the Deaf truth seekers about Jesus and His mercy.

Something interesting, the plastic bags are hard to count because they are so slippery. So, instead of counting to make sure we had 300, George Belser, ADM case manager, wildguessed, scooped them and put them in the box being shipped out. Sure enough, the count was 299. I was impressed!

We praise the Lord for His guidance in allowing ADM to be a part of this expo event to plant the seeds of God's Word to truth seekers. The Deaf still need to know God's Word. The booth ministry makes it possible to reach

out to more Deaf NW people and increasingly adding truth seekers to Jesus' paradise.

Chuck McGehee

Chicago, Illinois:

At Chicago DeafNation Expo on November 7, 300 Amazing Truth bags were gone around 5 pm, with one more hour to go. Deaf people were receptive, and they asked several questions about our ministry and the Bible.

An elderly lady stopped by and saw our banner. She paused as she thought for a moment then she asked me if we knew one young lady who was at the Oklahoma City DeafNation Expo. When I spelled the name Esther Doss, she was surprised we knew Esther. This lady was from Oklahoma and was visiting the Chicago area at the same time as the DeafNation Expo. She had just been to the expo in Oklahoma and she said that she enjoyed watching Esther's young son. Ethan. walking around in the booth. She was pleased to meet Esther. Before she left she asked me to give her regards to Esther. She felt comfortable with the materials and she took two Gospel bags for her two friends that she will be visiting while in Chicago.

Two Deaf ladies came to our booth at different

times. The first lady was so happy to find that we were willing to share God's Word with her. She also wanted some good advice about having a good marriage in the future. Since the expo, she has kept in touch with Francisca Trexler through VP (video phone) for Bible study. She said that she was very happy to learn more about God's love and enjoyed good advice. She believes that it was God's plan for her to meet us. It was a blessing to hear her positive comments.

The second lady just walked by our booth and asked us what our booth was all about. I told her that it was all about God's Word to be distributed freely. We wanted to share God's love to everyone who looks for the truth. She was surprised and asked if she could take the bag. She also asked me why we keep the Sabbath then I showed her several verses in the Bible regarding the Sabbath. She was pleased and asked me if I could give Bible study on VP.

Wow, after meeting these people, I said to myself, "The booth ministry is important in order to share God's Love to many who are thirsting to know."

Thank you, Rhonda Treviranus for your help at the booth.

Francisca Trexler

Volume 12 Issue 5 Page 5

Deaf Reach Rochester, NY

We are so excited about the Deaf Reach program, a lay training workshop! This year. approximately 165 people have been through this training at seven different events around North America.

One of these was on October 9-11, 2009. This time it was in Rochester, NY. Paul Kelly said, "The workshop was fabulous! We had 15 including the Trexlers during the lay training workshop."

Here are some comments from the attendees below:

"We learned a lot on how to prepare for Bible study. It'll benefit on our confidence."

"The Lay Training seminar was valuable. Pastors David & Paul gave us an 'easy-tounderstand' approach. We all understood our weakness, the fear of coming up to people --- old & new friends, strangers & relatives about the Gospel of Jesus, our true Messiah. We gulped! We Sure! need more faith, more

love for the others than for ourselves. Be more prayerful. The pastors and their wives helped us to think new thoughts and ways. The whole presentation was very positive & educational."

"None of us wanted to leave! But we all left with warm glow of renewed hope for the ministry to the deaf. May the LORD bless the deaf people in Rochester, as well as for our pastors who worked so hard, & their wives who support them. There is great love amongst them."

Pastor Paul Kelly "The attendees states. were enthusiastic learn how to share their faith to the Deaf in the community. Presently, our group in Rochester continues to study the past two Sabbaths and is beginning to mark their Bibles."

Deaf Reach will also be held in Oklahoma next April 9-11. For more information contact us.



Group photo of the Deaf Reach Workshop in Rochester, NY



Chuck McGehee visits with a thirsting soul in Portland, Oregon

Ferguson Josephine Engel by Paul Engel

October 10, Jeff Jones, Pastor Alfred Griffith and James Manuel (not pictured) gave away 450 packets at Pleasanton Deaf Expo!

Donations

In Memory of ...

Sylvia House by Dorothy Gradt and Carl and Ellen Parents and Brother by Harold Ihrig

In Honor of ...

Herbert Smith by Charlotte Porter

The Deaf Bible School

The Deaf Bible School continues to grow as more and more requests for the lessons come in from the deaf booth work at expos and from students who tell their friends about the lessons.

Currently, there are 283 **students** taking the God's Way course in the USA. Another 25 people from other countries saw the Deaf Bible School website and signed up for the course. They are from England, Kenya, Africa, Australia, and India, and others. Some graduates wanted additional studies, so now, another 23 students are also taking the Amazing Facts course.

Two of the students were baptized so far this year. Praise the Lord!

Francisca Trexler is the instructor for Deaf Bible School. She said, "Some students wrote us letters telling us they really enjoy the Bible school lessons and wish that there are some more Bible studies. They are really thirsty to know more about the Bible and Jesus Christ.

Francisca tells about some of the Bible School students:

One lady just finished her Amazing Facts

lessons and informed me that her two daughters are Adventists. She requested Sermons on DVD so that she could continue to learn more about God. That is a great news!

I got a nice letter from a lady who is 80 years old. She misses her husband who died 2 years ago. She said she enjoyed doing the lessons which are easy to understand.

One person said she learns so much and thanks God for the Bible She feels the lesson. blessing from studying the Bible. This person asked me if there are some more Bible studies because she would like to continue to study. We suggested some other Bible lessons, such as Discover from the Voice of Prophecy.

We received an email from a lady. She was in the hospital at the time and did not want to stop her Bible lessons.

One person wrote us a letter that said, "I was baptized SDA back in 1980. I am now doing Bible study and it helped me a lot."

Please pray for these people who are thirsting after God's truths. Thank you, donors, for your support.

In Our Mailbox

Sermons on DVD Deaf Bible School Subcriber: Student:

"Yesterday I received a DVD, The Day After (part 1) by Jeff Jordan and this morning (Sabbath) I watched it. The DVD is very wonderful and neat and I like it very much because it has a sermon and PowerPoint. Is Jeff deaf or hearing because he is an excellent and highly-energetic minister. It is wonderful that God leads him. I enjoy watching it! May the richest God bless you and Jeff."

love [The] Deaf Messenger story and read Bible book. Real wonderful Signs God's Love on DVD and feel spirit my body. Wow beauitful snow mountain in Colorado. God wonderful made everything thank God. I love Jesus. sister brother. and God Bless!!

Jim

Christine

Pastor Trexler's Schedule

February 20 Tampa, FL DeafNation Expo

March 6
Phoenix, AZ
DeafNation Expo

April 8-11 Tulsa, OK Deaf Reach

April 17 Birmingham, AL DeafNation Expo April 24
Dallas/Fort Worth, TX
DeafNation Expo

May 1 Pomona, CA DeafNation Expo

July 18-22 Las Vegas, NV DeafNation World Expo

Can You Hear Us? Booklets

This little booklet is a great little tool to share with hearing people to help them understand about Deaf culture. Great for churches!

The booklets are only \$1.00 each!

Postage is included.

See order form to place order.

Order Form -- All prices include USA shipping \$ 65.00 ** AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS VIDEO SERIES (DVD) Price 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) **THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES**A set of 13 VHS or DVD videos presented in sign language by Deaf Pastor \$ 40.00 ** VHS Price **DVD Price** \$ 90.00 ** David Trexler with voice track. Includes comprehensive set of study notes. SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #1 DVD Price \$ 5.00 ** SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #2 DVD Price \$ 5.00 ** \$ 12.00 ** THE FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY (DVD) Price An awesome 43-minute documentary that looks at what the Bible really says about the last days of earth history. (**ENGLISH SUBTITLES**) CAN YOU HEAR US? (booklet - 10 copies) Price \$10.00 ** A 22-page quick reference guide to Deaf Ministry. Order extra copies to share with family, friends, and church members. DEAF DIASPORA: THE THIRD WAVE OF DEAF MINISTRY (book) Price \$ 20.00 ** Planning to or already involved in Deaf ministry? Gain valuable insights into the ministry to Deaf people in the new millennium. Includes useful discussion guides. MARGIE ASKS WHY. EASY READING EDITION Price \$ 7.00 ** A fascinating book about the battle between God and Satan. STEPS TO CHRIST, EASY READING EDITION Price \$ 7.00 ** A book that leads us to a better relationship with Jesus. \$ 7.00 ** THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, EASY READING EDITION Price Tells how sin began and how Jesus will save His people from sin & eternal death. SIGN LANGUAGE COLORING BOOKS Price \$ 8.00 ** A set of 3 coloring books: Creation, Moses, and Jesus AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD LEARNING SYSTEM (DVD) \$ 35.00 ** Price 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. AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD DICTIONARY (DVD) \$ 23.00** Price Over 700 signs with photo illustration of sign (e.g. picture of "shoes"). AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE DVD COMBO (DVD) Price \$ 55.00 ** ASL DVD Learning System and ASL DVD Dictionary. Save \$3. CD-ROM: HYPERSIGN INTERACTIVE DICTIONARY OF ASL (CD-ROM) \$ 25.00 ** Price Full-motion video; age specific vocabulary. Requires Windows 98 or better. AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE FINGERSPELLING LESSONS (VHS) \$ 27.00 ** Price Want to improve your fingerspelling? Then this video is for you! **EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES** Price \$ 10.00 ** 28 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates. **DONATION**: I support ADM's ministry. Here is my \$ love gift. U.S. Funds Only \$

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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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