



Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

www.3angelsdeafministries.org

Volume 14 Issue 3

August 2011

Deaf Bible Student Baptized

Rachel Reichtell lost her mother to an illness when she was young. At that time, she moved in her grandmothers' home. Rachel's grandmother is a Seventh-day Adventist who shared with her the hope that is in Jesus Christ. Rachel learned to love God and wanted to follow Him, so she decided to be baptized at the age of 15.

However, Rachel experienced frustration because communication was so limited between her and others at church. She wanted to learn more about God, but no one else used American Sign Language. She read sermon notes, but it just was not the same. She longed to ask questions of someone who is Deaf who could teach her more about God and the Bible.

Rachel's grandmother somehow

learned about Three Angels Deaf Ministries and decided to contact us. She let us know about her granddaughter and we shared with her the services that we have for Deaf people. Rachel immediately enrolled in our Deaf Bible School. She was a student who rapidly went through her lessons. She began chatting with her Bible instructor by video phone and was excited to finally be able to ask a DEAF person questions and receive Bible answers with an explanation in American Sign Language.

She also benefited from some other services we have, such as receiving *The Deaf Messenger* and the Sermons on DVDs. Rachel even occasionally joined in some Sabbath School classes by video phone. She just soaked everything up.

Rachel realized that she had learned so much more about God, the Bible, and God's way that she decided to be re-baptized by Pastor Trexler at the Western Deaf Camp Meeting at Milo Academy. Traveling to Oregon from Colorado, this was the first time that she attended an Adventist Deaf camp meeting. Her desire to know more of Jesus was an inspiration to others. Then on July 16, 2011, her new-found friends witnessed her rebirth in the beautiful Umpqua river. Her joy was so radiant that someone said to her, "You looked like an angel!" To which, others agreed.

There are many others who are like Rachel, Deaf and struggling in church. This is why 3ADM exists. Pray for these souls who are hungry for God's Word.

In This Issue:

- 2 The Milo Moment
- 3 Special Appreciation
- 4 For Reading and Study
- 4 In Memory of Nona Rolls
- 5 Milo Photos
- 6 Letters in Our Mailbox
- 7 Catalog and Order Form

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From the Speaker: The Milo Moment

I did not attend the Western Deaf Camp Meeting last year; I missed it. But, this year, Francisca and I went and it was a much bigger blessing than we ever dreamed of!

We love Milo very much for its natural beauty in the country. Also, we enjoy the beauty of Christian love as we fellowship with those we have not seen for a year or many years. We have attended the camp meeting at Milo Adventist Academy most years since 1977, the official first year. There has been camp meetings in other locations before the first camp meeting in Milo and many others since.

We have always enjoyed swimming and diving in the beautiful river that borders the campus. But this year, the weather was too cool to swim. It was very unusual to have cloudy, cool weather for that time of the year, but we were not dampened by the weather at all because we were completely on fire for the Lord! During the whole week the campers were inspired by the presentations by the feature speakers—Esther Doss, Alan Meis, Chuck McGehee and Robert Fishbein. I also led out in the daily Bible study. The Holy Spirit inspired us to give messages of revival and reformation. We did not contact each other about their presentations before the camp meeting started, but because of the work of the Holy Spirit we were in unity in the theme: Growing Faith in a Loving God. Like the Bible that has more than 40 authors, the speakers were guided by the same Holy Spirit who directed them to say something we needed the most. How great is our God! This is not the first time it happened. This has happened in past camp meetings. When I, myself, was giving a series I was amazed at how my series and the other speakers were in perfect harmony. The Lord worked for us! I have seen it at other Deaf camp meetings as well.

Clearly, God sees much value in camp meetings and shows His care by guiding the speakers. These camp meetings are very important for the Deaf to attend in order to be inspired by God and to grow in grace to be like Jesus Christ. Camp meetings helps us to be prepared for the great day of the Lord—Jesus' second coming. In my words, every Deaf member must go there whether or not they can afford it! They should mark the camp meeting dates on the calendar so they would not allow any other event conflict with their plan for attending the Lord's annual convocation.

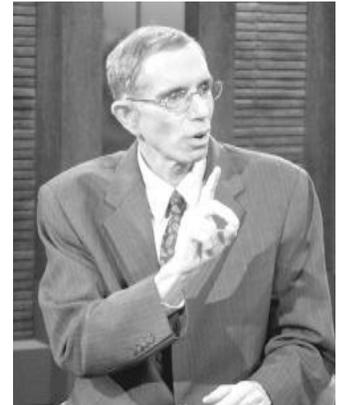
How many times did the Israelites go to their "camp meetings"—festivals or feast days? Seven times a year!

Today, many of us only go once a year.

The weekly Sabbath when we worship the Lord is almost like a camp meeting. The weekly Sabbath is very important. But we also should not neglect a yearly camp meeting experience. This is a great time for Deaf from near and far to meet together and listen to the Lord through His messengers in a special way. Paul made it clear that we should not try to miss or avoid meeting together on Sabbaths and other meetings. "Let us not give up meeting together. Some are in the habit of doing this. Instead, let us cheer each other up with words of hope. Let us do it all the more as you see the day coming when Christ will return" (Hebrews 10:25, NIRV). You see, he said that we need to do this more as we see the time of Jesus' Second Coming. We are at the threshold of eternity! We have seen the signs of the end of the civilization as we know it. So, we need to go to camp meetings and church more often than ever before. It is a time for us to stop making excuses for not going. It is time to get up and be refreshed by the Lord!

Francisca and I have not forgotten our revival experience at Milo and we cherish it here at home. We have determined more than ever that our sinful selves must die each day. Why? Because we have tasted the Lord and we love it very much! "Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!" (Psalm 34:8, NKJV).

* An update on our struggle with the woodchuck I have written about in a previous issue of the newsletter. Last year we trapped two woodchucks. We released them in the forest about five miles from here. We thought that was the end of the "war" with them. Alas, more woodchucks showed up this year. Our Deaf neighbor said that he saw four of them near his property not far from here. They invaded our garden and stole some of the produce. We trapped three more plus a raccoon. Since then, no invasion.



*David M. Trexler
Speaker/Director*

Special Appreciation to Lyle Cornforth

July 9th was a special high day at the Tabernacle SDA Church in the Portland, Oregon area. About 50 visitors attended. Many were from far away places, traveling to the Milo camp meeting. I had the privilege of preaching that morning and finished the sermon by asking Lyle Cornforth to come to the front. First, I explained how Elder Cornforth, who's love for Deaf people started with his own Deaf sister, Ruby Bishop, made a significant difference in Deaf ministry. Then we presented a plaque of appreciation from 3ADM to him.

The Seventh-day Adventist campus ministry at Gallaudet University began in 1968. At this time, Elder Arthur Griffith gave a month long evangelistic series which brought in about 15 Deaf students. A year later 10 students became Adventists. How did the evangelistic plans come about when Elder Griffith knew nothing about students who were interested in Bible truth?

Before Elder Griffith went to Gallaudet University, Elder Lyle Cornforth, prompted by the Holy Spirit, requested the conference leaders to call Elder Griffith to work at the university. He learned from Maxine Davidson, a Deaf member who had led another Deaf person to the Adventist truth, that there was great interest among Deaf students who were visiting a local Adventist church. Elder Cornforth was a pastor of another local Adventist church and had influence with church leaders. God helped him encourage church leaders to initiate an evangelistic program by inviting Arthur Griffith.

Noticing the growing interest and numbers of Deaf students, Elder Cornforth donated a set of *The SDA Bible Commentary* to Gallaudet's library. Also, he arranged for Deaf students to attend the church camp so they could socialize and study the Bible in a natural environment away from Gallaudet's campus. Francisca Trexler was one of the interested students who attended all of these events.

Elder Cornforth was concerned about the rapid growth of students who needed a permanent pastor for the Deaf. So he contacted the conference and explained the need for an experienced church worker to meet their spiritual needs. For the first time in the conference's history, Elder Alfred Griffith, Elder Arthur Griffith's son, was called to minister to them as a full-time associate pastor. As a result, more students were baptized.

I was one of the original baptized students. I was baptized in 1968. That same year, Francisca decided to be baptized, but she was baptized in Arizona, her home state. Many baptized students were on fire and shared their faith with others. Deaf ministry grew at a very rapid pace. Even today, we still experience the impact of this

first work at Gallaudet University.

This first Adventist Gallaudet ministry was one of the reasons why 3ADM recognized the silent effort of Elder Lyle Cornforth. He was most surprised with the plaque of appreciation and the loving thoughts expressed. He had no idea what my motive was when I encouraged him to visit the Tabernacle Church on July 9.

This was a meaningful moment for all of us. We the Deaf constituents have wanted to express our appreciation and praise to God for Elder Cornforth's silent dedication to the Deaf. This appreciation was long overdue.

In the past, 3ADM has given special appreciation to other dedicated individuals who contributed their time and effort in guiding the Deaf to the Truth. The work for the Deaf in the Adventist church has known disappointments, struggles, joys, and slow growth. But, God never abandoned us, no matter how small the membership. Satan hates us so much that he put many obstacles in the way of the Deaf work. We should thank God for the dedication and sacrifices of Deaf and hearing members who struggle in leading the Deaf to Christ.

Let me close with a beautiful text of God's love toward us: "For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the Lord loves you. . . Know therefore that the Lord your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations." (Deuteronomy 7:6-9 ESV)

By David Trexler



From left to right: Chuck McGehee, Lyle Cornforth, David Trexler, and Cody Alexander.

Study Materials for Spiritual Growth

With the camp meeting experience fresh on our minds, we have some recommended reading or study materials. To order, see the order form on page 7.

Story of Redemption: This book is an Easy Reading version of the book that Ellen G. White wrote. This is a thrilling book that tells about the great plan of salvation. The story begins in heaven before the creation of the Earth and goes through Creation, Bible stories in both Old and New Testaments, the coming time of trouble, Second Coming of Jesus, and the Earth made new. You will learn more of God's character, who He is, and His plan for you.

Margie Asks Why: "Why," asks Margie, "does God let people and animals suffer and die?" That question puzzled Margie after she had seen her friends left without a mother, and sadly watched a calf die. When Aunt Trudy came to visit, she told Margie the fascinating story of a great war between God and Satan. This is a story that explains how sin started and why people still

In Memory of Nona Rolls

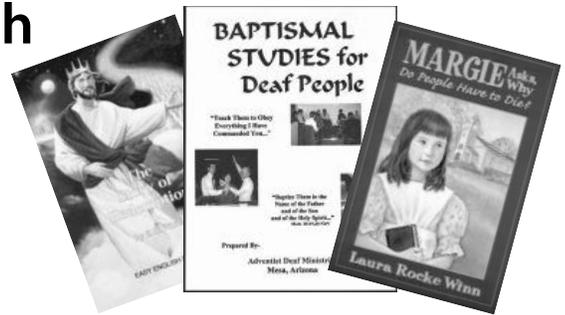
Nona Rolls, wife of Rex Rolls, passed away July 17, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. She was cremated and buried in Portland, Oregon next to Rex.

Nona was a close friend of Bunny Hovey's. Bunny wrote this heart-touching memorial:

It was so sad to hear that Nona Rolls passed away last month. Many of you know that she was from California and she loved sunshine. When living in well-known wet Portland, Oregon, she would go out as much as she could whenever the sun was smiling through the clouds. Oh, she would feel so good and so warm with a smile on her face. How fitting that she spent her last day sitting outside under the sun when she went to her final sleep.

Nona meant so much to me that I called her Mama. I first met Mama in 1980 when she and Papa (Rex) came to our house to give us a Bible study. I was determined to prove to them that SDA was a wrong church! But boy, they really had answers for me and knew which verses to share with me. I was very impressed with their presentations and they always quoted the Bible. I was baptized at the Western Deaf Camp Meeting in August, 1980. I have never regretted it. My heart is full of thanks to Mama and Papa for being so patient with me, leading me to accept the truth, even if I had to swallow my pride.

Mama and Papa always encouraged me to do a lot of things because they knew I could do them. They had faith in me and that really motivated me so much. I loved the



get hurt by it. This book is excellent for sharing with your friends about the story of the great controversy between Christ and Satan. Once you start reading, it is hard to put down!

Baptismal Studies for Deaf People: These 28 lessons explain the 28 fundamental beliefs of the church as taught from the Bible. These lessons are written in an Easy Reading style and use easy reading Bible references. Each of the 28 lessons has an emphasis on loving Jesus and serving Him because of that love. The lessons and pictures are prepared especially for Deaf people. It's really great for studying with others!

way Mama would laugh. Even though, she was not always feeling well, she would smile! She had a sense of humor and liked "silly" talk and/or simple jokes. Jim and I would always tease her, causing her to laugh, knowing she loved this.

She really loved Deaf people and cared about them. She was determined to learn sign language because Papa's Deaf brother was attending the same church with her before she met Papa. She was a good signer and we appreciated her. Also she was fond of her children whether they are hers or not (Deaf and hearing). She and Papa had good hearts and would help others with money. They did help us by sending money so my daughters could attend an Adventist school.

I miss Mama and Papa so much. I am looking forward to meeting them up there someday and I am sure it is going to be soon. I am so grateful that God led them into my life.

Bunny Hovey



Photo supplied by Thompson Kay

Western Deaf Camp Meeting

About 54 campers experienced an incredible spiritual revival of the Holy Spirit. The main speakers, Alan Meis and Esther Doss, presented powerful messages on revival and reformation that greatly impacted the

campers. Some of them testified that the Holy Spirit touched their hearts leading to re-baptism at the end of the series. Chuck McGehee, Robert Fishbein, and David Trexler effectively complemented these messages during devotionals, evening meetings, and Bible study sessions. Francisca Trexler gave a health class with sampling of tasty breakfast recipes. Some went to a historical museum and to a waterfall for a little fun. Friday evening, testimonies were given after the Lord's Supper. This was most unforgettable as many expressed a desire to follow Jesus all the way. Eyes were moist as hearts were touched. David Trexler gave a moving message on Sabbath morning. The Lord blessed the camp meeting with the baptism of four Deaf campers. To close the camp meeting after sundown vespers on Saturday evening, the group stood in a circle holding hands for a special prayer. Those with more energy viewed a slide show with photos from the week. This camp meeting was not like any in the past. This was the most spiritual experience!



Pablo Alejo gave an unforgettable testimony. He decided to give his whole life to God and to show this publicly by re-baptism.



Clarence and Sarah Gerling followed the prompting of the Holy Spirit to be re-baptized.



Jeff and Dani Mathisen dedicated themselves and daughter Lillie to God. Pastor Trexler has a special prayer while Francisca Trexler holds Lillie.



Deaf people witness the result of God's working on the hearts of those being baptized. Many were moved to tears.



To spend a little time enjoying God's book of Nature, many went to the South Umpqua Falls for a little swimming and exploring.

Photos by Esther M. Doss

Two Baptized in CA

Robert Arnold and Susan Fortner were baptized July 2, 2011 at the English Oaks SDA Church in Lodi, CA. Many years ago, Pastor Alfred Griffith once visited Robert in his apartment. Then another Deaf member moved to the same town where Robert lived and had an influence on Robert. After some time and studies, Robert decided he was ready for baptism.

Susan was another contact that Pastor Griffith made years ago. At that time, someone told Pastor Griffith about a lady who was living in motel room in Lodi who needed food and help. He and others took food to her and prayed with her. Years later, Susan married a hearing SDA member. Pastor Griffith then began giving her Bible studies. Praise God for these souls!

Photos supplied by Alfred Griffith



Pastor Griffith shares some words before Robert Arnold is baptized.



Susan Fortner is ready to walk down into the water for baptism.

Donations

In Memory of...

Sylvia House by Marshall House
Rex & Nona Rolls by Bunny Hovey
James Smith by Charlotte Porter

In Honor of...

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor and Paul & Mary Miller
Herbert Smith by Charlotte Porter
Jesus Christ our Loving Savior by Douglas & Immer Kittleson

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Public Relations & Development
George L. Belser
Office Manager
Francisca Trexler
Bible School Director/Chaplain

Letters in Our Mailbox

Again, thank you for the certificate, book, and the Ten Commandments. I like them so much. Here's __ dollars to put God first and put it toward your church.

Deaf Bible School student in Maryland

Thank you so much for your note indicating you would be praying for me. It is always comforting to know someone is lifting me up to our Great and Loving God. But, it was especially meaningful when I received your note a few days ago. You see, on June 16, I had surgery for a cochlear implant and your prayers were so appropriate and timely, and so appreciated. God bless you and your ministries. We are all in His tender care.

Florida

I am not deaf, but have given Signs of God's Love to a deaf woman from a nearby town and to a person in Alaska who sends them to her deaf friend up there. Also to a homeless man from a shelter who has access to a DVD player. This is not an "I did" letter but to tell you that your work is reaching just a little further via DVD's.

Oregon

I do appreciate the good work you are doing! And have recently found eager recipients for whatever you mail to me.

California

I enjoyed reading *The Deaf Messenger*. I really appreciate it as it helps me to understand the Bible verses and stories better. I grew up going to an oral day school in Chicago and I went to church. My parents thought I understood. When I married, I learned ASL. A friend advised us to look in the Bible if we had a problem. I always remembered his advice. I didn't really understand what some Bible verses meant but I just felt God did help us somehow. Now I'm back to Deaf Bible Class with some friends. So the more I read your *The Deaf Messenger* and study with Deaf friends, I hope to improve myself to be able to know God's ways.

Arkansas

Received *The Deaf Messenger* today. Read y our article about the terrorist and wanted to tell you it was good. It came at the right time because someone asked me the other day about Satan. Also about "hell." So Praise the Lord for this magazine so that I can share it with this person.

Oregon

Thank you for your continued faithful ministry to the Deaf in the name of our Lord Jesus. Praying all will be prepared to greet Jesus in the clouds. Pray for His soon return.

Oregon

3ADM Catalog -- All prices include USA shipping

AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS SERIES (7 DVDs) \$ 65.00
 A set of DVDs covering 14 Bible topics in ASL by Francisca Trexler. (No voice)

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES
 VHS Price \$ 40.00
 DVD Price \$ 90.00
 A set of 13 VHS or DVD videos in ASL by Pastor David Trexler. Includes comprehensive set of study notes. (With voice)

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #1 DVD \$ 5.00
 Salvation and God's Love

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #2 DVD \$ 5.00
 What Happens when you Die?

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #3 DVD \$ 5.00
 God's Law of Love

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #4 DVD \$ 5.00
 Sabbath

OUR WORLD A THEATER IN GOD'S UNIVERSE (DVD) \$ 5.00
 The full story of the battle between God and Satan.

KEEPERS OF THE FLAME SERIES (2 DVDs) \$ 45.00
 This 8-part series covers the history of the Christian church, as well as the history of the Adventist church. **(ENGLISH SUBTITLES)**

THE FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY (DVD)
 In Hard Case \$ 12.00
 In Paper Sleeve \$ 5.00

A 43-minute documentary about what the Bible says about the last days of earth history. **(ENGLISH SUBTITLES)**

THE SEVENTH DAY (5 DVDs) \$ 75.00
 A documentary about the history of the Sabbath. **(CLOSED CAPTIONED)**

CAN YOU HEAR US? (Booklet - 10 copies) \$ 10.00
 A quick reference guide to Deaf Ministry. Order extra copies to share with others!

MARGIE ASKS WHY, EASY READING EDITION \$ 7.00
 A fascinating book about the battle between God and Satan.

STEPS TO CHRIST, EASY READING EDITION \$ 7.00
 A book that leads us to a better relationship with Jesus.

THE STORY OF REDEMPTION, EASY READING \$ 7.00
 Tells how sin began and how Jesus will save His people from sin & eternal death.

NirV BIBLE (Hard Cover) \$ 15.00

EASY-READING BAPTISMAL STUDIES \$ 20.00
 28 fundamental beliefs studies for baptismal candidates.

SIGN LANGUAGE COLORING BOOKS \$ 8.00
 A set of 3 coloring books: Creation, Moses, and Jesus.

ASL DVD LEARNING SYSTEM (DVD) \$ 35.00
 Includes 2 DVDs: "Getting Started in Signing" and "Say It With Signing."

ASL DVD DICTIONARY (DVD) \$ 23.00
 Over 700 signs with photo illustration of sign (e.g. picture of "shoes").

ASL DVD COMBO (DVD) \$ 55.00
 ASL DVD Learning System and ASL DVD Dictionary. Save \$3.

CD-ROM: HYPERSIGN INTERACTIVE DICTIONARY OF ASL (CD-ROM) \$ 25.00
 Full-motion video; age specific vocabulary.

ASL FINGERSPELLING LESSONS (VHS) \$ 8.00

Product Name	Quantity	Price	Subtotal
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Inside This Issue:

- * The Milo Moment
- * Deaf Bible Student Baptized
- * Western Deaf Camp Meeting Revival
- * Appreciation to Lyle Cornforth
- * Two Baptized in California

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