



Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

www.3angelsdeafministries.org

Volume 15 Issue 4

August 2012

Sharing at the DeafNation World Expo

With much hesitation, we reserved a booth for the DeafNation World Expo in Las Vegas July 30-August 1. We hesitated because two years ago we worked in the same city for the same event. It was very hot and if we parked in the hotel parking lot, we were forced to walk through a large gambling area. We felt as if evil angels were pressing around us. And very few people came to our booth.

But we were in for a surprise this year! The event was held in a different place and the building was very pleasant to walk in. On the first day of the expo, we were really swamped by many interested people and we gave away many of our gospel bags. We were concerned that maybe we did not have enough for the entire expo. We met many Deaf friends, including many SDA and former SDA members.

Traffic slowed down on the second



Photo by David Trexler

Esther Doss and Francisca Trexler work hard at the DeafNation World Expo.

and third days and we had enough gospel bags after all. But we were still busy talking with visitors to our booth. We were all worn out by the time the expo hall was closed at the end of each day.

Esther remembers one lady who came up and asked what church we were representing. "When I told her, she asked me why we worshipped God on Saturdays. I said only half a sentence when she interrupted me and told me that Jesus said himself that He was the last Sabbath. I knew she wanted to debate and decided to avoid it by asking her for the verse. She tried to find it, but could not. She said she would be back. She spent the day trying to find the verse and came back several times to let me know she was still working on it. Then she came and admitted to me, 'I know that I should be worshipping on Saturdays and the only church I know of that does is the SDA Church.

How can I go to your church?' I was stunned but thrilled. The Holy Spirit has obviously been working on her heart."

A young Muslim man who moved from Iran to America hesitated to take a gospel bag but we told him that he could just watch the DVD to get an idea of what Christians believed. He was willing to do that and watched the DVD that night. He came back the next day and said that he had no idea "that Jesus was so sweet."

As a bonus, Francisca Trexler enjoyed being with her friends at a reunion for her former school in California, the Mary E. Bennett School.

We were amazed at the response at our booth, which was much greater than at the last DNWE. We are thankful to God for the opportunity to plant these seeds among the 16,000+ Deaf people who attended DNWE.

David M. Trexler

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From the Speaker: Lessons from Bird Watching

Some Deaf people have asked Francisca and I how we know the Bible so well. They admitted that they did not know where to find verses in the Bible as they discussed a certain topic with someone. Also, they did not know how to find verses when someone asked them for proof in the Bible. They felt dumb when they compared themselves with us. Well, back in our early experience with the Lord we were like them!

This makes me think about how I first learned to identify birds. My interest in watching birds began when I was 9 or 10 years old. I had a good hearing friend who lived in our neighborhood. We had a hobby of collecting bird feathers and used a field guide to birds (a book with pictures or illustrations of birds) to identify the feathers. Searching for feathers led us to “hunt” the birds. As time went on, we wanted to get our own binoculars so we could identify the birds better. It was not easy to memorize the different species of birds but we spent many hours in the outdoors in search of birds. Finding and identifying a new bird so we can add it to our life record was a real challenge. We spent many years studying bird guides and being outdoors bird watching to become skillful in identifying many birds.

When I met Francisca she knew nothing about birds at all. I was an expert compared with her but I encouraged her to join me and she became interested in this wonderful hobby. She started birding when she was about 25 years old and has caught up a lot with me in identifying birds. We are really hooked to birding and of course it is one of the most healthy and challenging hobbies.

It is the same way with becoming skillful with the Bible, God’s love letter to us. Actually, the Bible is our guide to know God and His plan of salvation. The Bible leads us to eternal life. “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me” (John 5:39, ESV). Jesus made it clear that we need to search the Bible. Searching through the Bible is like searching for birds. The more we search the better we learn.

It is good for us to memorize many verses so we can help people to understand our beliefs. We can teach them in Bible study, and we can be strong to resist doubts and temptations. But mostly, the Bible will help us to know Jesus Christ. Knowing the doctrines without knowing Jesus is like knowing about the birds in pictures without going out bird watching and seeing them alive. Jesus is

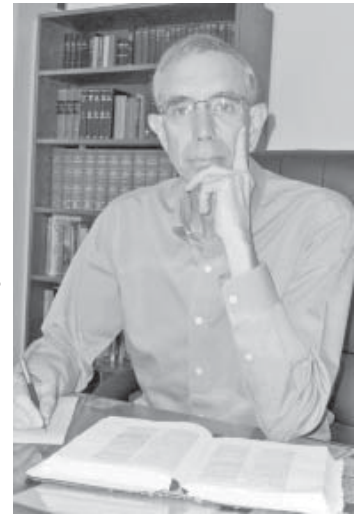
the reason for the Bible and we need to be serious about spending our time with the Lord through studying and reading the Bible faithfully.

I am sad that many Christians today know more about movie stars and sports players than the truths of the Bible. Something is wrong with their spirituality and they need to change their priorities. I am afraid that movie stars and sports players are their gods. But they cannot lead them to heaven. I am afraid that many of those who asked us about our knowledge of the Bible have spent too much time watching TV and reading magazines or sports news. Some of them are experts in knowing all about movie stars and players. I used to know most of them when I was a kid. But now, I do not know much about them anymore. We do not want to spend our time “copying” their worldly behavior by spending a lot time reading and watching them in the news, Internet and TV.

We need to use our will to focus on the Bible more than anything in the world. Of course, knowledge and skills for your job are important for our living today, but we often leave the Bible in the dust because we are focusing too much on “good” things to do. Let us put God first in our lives. Remember Jesus’ loving command, “But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you” (Matthew 6:33, ESV).

“Study to shew [show] thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth [needs] not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV).

*David M. Trexler
Speaker/Director*



Speaker/Director’s Schedule

August 30 to September 2 —SNEC Deaf Camp Meeting in Groton, MA

October 4-9—DEAR Camp Meeting in Montebello, VA

October 19-21—DeafNation Expo in Seattle, WA

November 4-7—DeafNation Expo in Chicago, IL

*Please contact 3ADM if interested in having David Trexler as a speaker.

Woman Walks to Church

This story comes to us from Latvia. Latvia was under Russia's control for almost 50 years after WWII but is now an independent country. Gunita is a Deaf woman in the country of Latvia who got to know about God from her best friend. Gunita is a farmer and lives in a farm in the Northern part of the Talsi region. She wanted to learn more about God and in 2004 she started to attend the Seventh-day Adventist church services.

Because of the shortage of money in Latvia, the bus runs are reduced all over the country. People who live in the country are most affected by the bus shortage. Gunita walked to church for about 10 km (over 6 miles). She walked the 2 hours one way every Sabbath no matter what the weather - be it hot in summer or freezing in winter. In summer she would use shortcuts to reach the church quicker, or sometimes other people driving to church along the same road would pick her up. In winter she could not use the shortcuts because snow covered the fields and she had to take the long way.

Gunita wants to be in church every Sabbath and her heart is filled with love for God. Her parents do not object to her wish to go to church. Early in the morning at 4 a.m. she milks the cows with the milking machine and then she starts her way to church. She studied the Bible lessons together with an interpreter and was baptized last summer in the local lake.

Deaf Adventists from Riga visit her in her church to talk about God and to encourage her to follow the example of Jesus. They were surprised to learn that she walks 2 hours to get to church and suggested her to ride a bike but she refused it. She is stronger than those who live in cities and she is happy to be together with her Lord and Savior.

What a lesson we can learn from Gunita! Let us also be fully dedicated to Jesus!



Gunita smiles after her baptism.

Our DVDs Seen in Africa

John Blake shared an interesting report about Deaf outreach in the African country of Togo. On July 27, Deaf children and adults along with some hearing people came together for a "film party." They began with prayer and watched our DVD Bible Adventures (for kids). After a break for food and drink, they watched another DVD Our World: A Theater in God's Universe (produced by John Blake). Afterwards, they had time for questions and answers. This film party was made possible by a deaf students association in order to educate on Deaf rights and their everyday life.

This is not the first time we have heard of our DVDs being used in other countries all around the world. It is amazing to see how God is using our humble DVDs in many faraway countries where we may never actually go ourselves. Keep the world-wide Deaf ministry in your prayers.



NAD Booth

The National Association of the Deaf conference was held July 3 to 7 with David and Francisca Trexler working in our booth. Trexlers visited with Deaf members and former members. David said, "We were surprised to meet some whom we had not met before. One Deaf lady, a former Adventist, said she knew us while we did not know her. How did she know about us? She saw us in the DVDs and 3ADM's website. We had a good talk and she came back from time to time, bringing her friends.

"I had a good visit with my friend, the pastor at a Deaf church near Chicago. He worked at Gallaudet University as a chaplain before moving to the Chicago area. We had a good long talk. Sabbath was the busiest day. Margie English and Cathy Ingram assisted us on Sabbath."

Was it worth it? Yes! We received several Bible school enrollment cards from Kentucky and Indiana. They were visitors interested in our ministry. The Lord blessed!

Milo Camp Meeting Breaks 100 in Attendance

The camp meeting at Milo Academy in southern Oregon was held July 15-22, 2012. This was a very high spiritual meeting. Many of us agree that we have had the best camp meetings three years in a row! The weather also was perfect, making us think of heaven. We were thrilled to have 102 campers, finally breaking the 100 mark!

Our presenters Alan Meis ("More Love Jesus Christ") and Francisca Trexler ("Who Do You Think You Are?") gave us very good and inspiring presentations. David Trexler gave an excellent series in the afternoon Bible study, leading to discussions that were never boring.

Jennifer Powell from Texas had a very interesting workshop/discussion for us Deaf American SDAs. During these discussions, we voted to choose and approve signs for SDAs to use. She will develop SDA sign language CDs for us and those who want to learn religious signs. For example, we have all used many signs for the apostle Paul. We narrowed them down to one sign, deciding that the proper sign for Paul would be making small circles with the letter "P" on the shoulder, reminding us that Paul was a famous missionary around Asia Minor. The discussion was lively and led to a closer look at the Bible. This workshop was not planned. Jennifer came up to me, requesting that we have this workshop. She hopes to do this workshop at different camp meetings around the U.S. Why? She has a friend who is a hearing SDA doctor

that can sign with her patients. She has a fund to create a CD with SDA sign language and asked Jennifer for help. We are so thankful to have the workshop so that we can avoid being like the people at the Tower of Babel, so that we can have the same signs for all SDAs to use.

Alfred Griffith had wonderful presentations on Monday and Tuesday evenings. He also led in the Lord's Supper on Friday evening with inspiring testimonies afterwards. We could see how our God is so good to us during the year.

The DYAC (Deaf Young Adult for Christ) joined us at camp meeting in Milo. We had 18 young adults there with some of their own meetings. We need to give them our support so that they can keep strong in the faith every day. Why? We see too many young people going out the back door, never to see them again. DYAC hopes to help establish the young adults in the faith and empower them with tools to share with others. Also, this experience gives many of them the opportunity to develop leadership skills.

Arthur Trexler and his fiancée came to help with the recreation. He did a marvelous job. Some had a memorable blast of a time white water rafting on the Rogue River. Many went to see the amazing Crater Lake, as well. The gym was also open in the evenings for volleyball games. Sure enough they enjoyed it.

The best part of the week was seeing four ladies show



their surrender to Jesus through baptism. Three of them were baptized in the church and another one down at the river. The baptism was amazing. We were completely surprised that Winona, our dear friend from Indiana, had decided to commit her heart to the Lord. Two others were baptized and another one was re-baptized.

Be thinking about joining us next year! Paul Kelly and Alan Meis have accepted our invitation as speakers for 2013. The date is unknown. We will keep you posted.

Also, the Sabbath just before the camp meeting, over

50 Deaf people met at the Tabernacle SDA Church in Portland, Oregon. David Trexler was the guest speaker for the meaningful worship service. After the delicious fellowship meal, a lemon cake was brought out as celebration began for George Belser's 80th birthday. Later in the afternoon, those remaining met together to study Daniel as a part of an ongoing Bible study series on Sabbath afternoons the Tabernacle SDA Church Deaf group. It was truly a high day!

Chuck McGehee

Photo by Esther Doss



David Trexler stands with the four ladies who were baptized at the Western Deaf Camp Meeting (L to R): Frances English (VA), Winona Alter (IN), Angel Lynch (CA), and Susan Costa (CA).



DeafNation World Expo booth workers: Esther Doss, Francisca and David Trexler, Aivars Ponkratjevs, Ivone and Mark McAlister.

Photo supplied by David Trexler

Griffith and Belser Recognized for their Service

During the worship service at the Western Deaf Camp Meeting at Milo Academy, two special people were recognized for their service in Deaf ministry. In the left photo, Chuck McGehee and David Trexler present Alfred Griffith with a plaque, showing our appreciation for his many years of dedicated service in Deaf ministry. Alfred Griffith has recently retired as pastor for the Deaf in California. On the right, David Trexler presents George Belser a plaque with Arlene Belser looking on. George has been instrumental in Deaf ministry in the Portland, Oregon area. But more than that, among other activities, he has served on a number of boards and committees, including the 3ADM board and the Deaf Ministry Committee at the North American Division.



Photos by Esther M. Doss

In Memory

Nancy Bielik passed away May 28th surrounded by family after suffering severe injuries due to an accident during a bike ride. She was from the Sacramento, California area.

Bill Freeman from the Lodi, California area also passed away. His memorial service was at the English Oaks SDA church, in Lodi on June 23.

Valerie Gordon from Knoxville, Tennessee died June 26th. She died while recovering from heart surgery. She was 66 years old.

These three precious souls are dear to us and they are missed tremendously. We look forward to the day when Jesus comes when we will see our dear ones and never experience death again.

Correction

In the last issue, we made a mistake in the article about the Pomona Deaf Expo. The last name for Donato and Brenda was not Cordova. It should be Barreras. Also, the name for Silea Magu should be Sisilia Manu.

Donations

In Memory of...

Deborah Deming by Patricia Deming
 Shirley Dennis by William and Ava Dennis
 Dixie Ellison by Roseann Baker
 Thelma Evans by Larry and Carolyn Evans (?)
 Sylvia House by Dorothy Gradt
 Florence Nevin by Joshua Piccerillo
 Rex and Nona Rolls by Bunny Hovey
 James Smith by Peggy Joseph
 Jeannine Wendel by Valerie Wendel-Filkins

In Honor of...

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor
 Frederick Deming by Patricia Deming
 Herbert Smith by Peggy Joseph

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David M. Trexler
Speaker/Director
 Esther M. Doss
Public Relations & Development
 Francisca Trexler
Bible School Director/Chaplain

Letters

Thank you for lifting my name up in prayer. I consider this as a God given blessing. Your note deeply touched and uplifted my spirit. God blessed me with hearing for a number of years. Slowly, through the years my hearing has faltered and now find it necessary to mostly read. Hence I am able to relate with problems the Deaf experience. Soon our Jesus will return and physical and mental abilities renewed. Praise the Lord for His amazing love and bounteous blessings. God applauds your ministry and so do I!

Oregon

Our Father in heaven is blessing and smiling on the love and support that is being given to His Deaf community. Thank you for sharing Christ's beautiful message of truth to those who are unable to hear.

Oregon

Thank you for sending me a thank you note through your handwriting on behalf of our support for 3ADM. God bless you to be much involved in booths in different states that enable 3ADM to grow gracefully. I still pray for you.

Maryland

I see that outreach at expos are good. More and more people today are seeking God, yet some people feel no need for God. I am sending a ___ donation. May God add His blessing upon it.

Pennsylvania

Thank you for sending me your newsletter reports. I really enjoy reading the stories and testimonies of all the great opportunities you have to share the Good News and Bible truths with the Deaf! I enjoyed meeting you and spending time with you at your booth last year at the DeafNation Expo in Michigan. I'm praying for you. Please pray for me so I can learn ASL better and faster!

Michigan

3ADM Board Met

Eight 3ADM Board members met at the General Conference of SDAs building in Maryland on August 7 & 8 for their annual meeting. They met and discussed a variety of topics. The board decided to reduce the number of Board members from 11 to 9 to keep expenses down. The Executive Committee officers remain the same for 2013.

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 study notes. (With voice)

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #1 DVD \$ 5.00
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 What Happens when you Die? (with voice)

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

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #4 DVD \$ 5.00
 The Sabbath (with voice)

SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #5 DVD \$ 5.00
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BIBLE ADVENTURES DVD \$12.00
 8 Bible stories for children in sign language (no voice)

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)
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 In Paper Sleeve \$ 5.00
 A 43-minute documentary about what the Bible says about the last days of earth history. (ENGLISH SUBTITLES)

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 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.

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

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

ASL FINGERSPELLING LESSONS (VHS) \$ 8.00

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