



# Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 18 Issue 3

June, 2015

## Meetings in Fresno, California Reaps Baptisms!

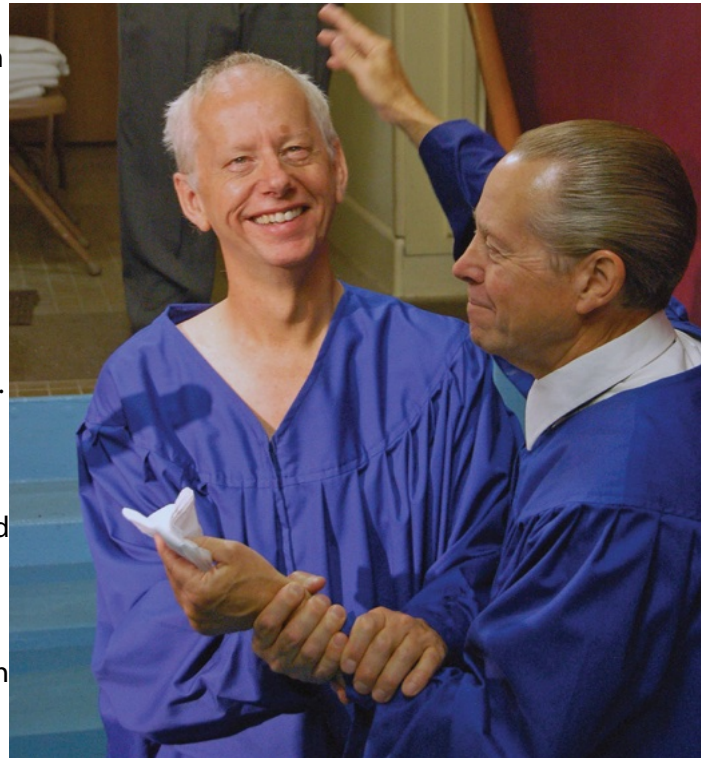
The *Truth for Today, Hope for Tomorrow* prophecy seminars with 3ADM Speaker/Director David Trexler was presented to the Deaf community in Fresno, California. A total of 16 meetings in 3 weeks were held starting on Tuesday, March 31st and ending on Sabbath, April 18th. The first seven meetings took place in the large conference room at the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center where many Deaf people often get counseling, peer and job assistance, and attend social events.

David Trexler is Deaf himself and uses sign language to preach to Deaf people in their own language. Keeping in mind that reaching the Deaf population is difficult, the net result of these meetings were excellent! Six Deaf people decided that they wanted to be baptized!

On May 9th, Leroy and Sylvia Cano and Wendy Kaestner were

baptized at the Madera SDA Church by Pastor David Dean. LeRoy Cano was a former Deaf Sunday-keeping church pastor in Merced. He has substituted as a pastor for the Fresno Deaf Church. Wendy Kaestner is a friend of Sylvia Cano. All three candidates attended two evangelistic meetings at the Madera SDA church a year apart through a sign language interpreter. But when the Deaf evangelist preached clearly in sign language, they understood Biblical truths. The Sabbath and State of the Dead are important truths that Satan failed to hide from them.

Jerry and Judy Blessing and Robert Snider were baptized June 6th at the Fresno Central SDA Church by Pastor Gary Jensen. Jerry and Judy Blessing had previously attended the Deaf congregation of the Fresno Central SDA Church. The prophecy seminar in sign language is what finally led them to decide to completely follow Jesus. Robert Snider had been regularly attending SDA church for a while. The message of hope and love compelled him



*Robert Snider's face beams as the old Robert Snider is about to be buried in the watery grave.*

to be baptized. These three new members will continue to attend the Fresno Central Church and the church services for the Deaf led by Bob Plubell in the Central Valley Deaf Ministries room.

The Central Valley Deaf Ministries consists of groups at three sister churches in Madera, Fresno, and Porterville. Bob Plubell and Stephanie Walters are the leaders and five interpreters also serve. The Deaf church family has ten members and many non-members! Pray that Deaf ministries will be blessed to witness and to teach the Deaf population about Jesus.

*Bob Plubell*

### In This Issue:

- 2 California in Drought?
- 3 Deaf Young Adults for Christ
- 4 Fresno Baptism Photos
- 5 Zimbabwe Baptisms
- 5 It Is Written Devotional in ASL
- 6 In Memory
- 7 Catalog and Order Form

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## Speaker's Dialogue: Is California Really in a Drought?

California is experiencing its fourth year of drought. The governor declared an emergency water restriction management asking for 25% of reduction in water use. This drought is historic. For at least 75 years the snow pack in the Sierra Mountains have been measured. For the first time, the recent measurements showed that the snow pack was only 5% of normal. In the past, the record low measurement was 25% of normal! This drought is extremely serious. In fact, one measurement at Phillips Station, 90 miles east of Sacramento, was done on bare grass for the first time! The average snow depth there is 66.5 inches. But this year, there is no snow!

The weather has been so dry! As an example, Tahoe City got only 19.5 inches of snow between October and March. They normally get about 163 inches! As you can imagine, many people in California are praying for the end of the drought. What will happen in 2016 if the drought continues?

However, there is good news for, in contrast, there is no drought in Fresno and its outlying cities. Yes these places are in drought from lack of natural rain and snow. But it is drenched with a lot of spiritual rain, the rain of the Holy Spirit. 2015 saw Deaf baptisms through friendship and public evangelism. In addition, there are more Deaf interests in the three angels' messages.

I arrived in a parched, but yet thriving city of Fresno. How different the city was from my home in Maryland which was drenched with a lot rain and snow. It had been 15 years since I had given an evangelistic series in the region. In 2000, I worked with my right hand man, Bob Plubell in Escondido, California. I remained in Fresno for three weeks, giving 16 sermons to many Deaf people in the community. Some sermons were long but none of the Deaf visitors were getting tired during the meetings. They were in full attention. They seemed to have been so thirsty from the long spiritual drought; they kept drinking the Water of Life. I was very impressed with their enthusiasm and questions. Praise the Lord the total of six Deaf people who have been baptized! I encourage you to read Bob Plubell's report on the evangelism.

2015 is an important year for the Seventh-day Adventist church. This year, the world church will have its General Conference Session when church leaders, workers and delegates from all around the world will attend the church business meetings. The General Conference has been encouraging the members and leaders to participate in the 100 Days of Prayer in preparation for the GC Session.

The church needs the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to help delegates and leaders make the right decisions during the session, which will affect the working operations of the church all over the world. Some sensitive issues need to be resolved. It is very important for us as the children of God to submit our lives to God. If we allow Him to, God will guide us in the right way so that He will be glorified. It is easy for us to express our own human ideas and strongly support them instead of seeking out God's will, even in church business meetings.

We are in a very different world—a far cry from when I was baptized into the remnant church in 1969! So, it is urgent for the church to be ready for the great events in the future. We are facing serious global problems that we have never seen before in earth's history. But instead of improving, in the near future the world's problems will be far worse than we are experiencing today. Be aware that these problems can shake our faith in God.

Jesus wants us to perfect our character in Christlikeness before He comes to claim us as His own. We have waited too long for the second advent of Jesus Christ. "Ask the LORD for rain in the time of the latter rain. The LORD will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone" (Zechariah 10:1).

*Pastor David Trexler*



## Speaker/Director's Schedule

June 28-July 1—Austin, TX—CALLED Pastor's Convention

July 2-12—San Antonio, TX—General Conference Session

July 17-27—Milo, OR—Western Deaf Camp Meeting

July 30-Aug. 2—Chiapas, Mexico—Mexican Deaf Camp Meeting

Aug. 4-5—Silver Spring, MD—3ADM Board Meeting

Oct. 29-Nov. 1—Montebello, VA—DEAR Camp Meeting

*\*On Sabbaths when home, David Trexler preaches at the Silver Spring, Maryland SDA Church's annex building.*

# Deaf Young Adults for Christ Camp Meeting

On June 3-7, Deaf Young Adults for Christ (DYAC) met at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC for its annual camp meeting. The theme was "Stand Firm."

DYAC members met with key church leaders invested in Deaf ministry during a planned activity. As DYAC toured the Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters in Silver Spring, MD, they met with President Ted Wilson in his office. Together they prayed for unity, the church leaders' important work during the General Conference Session and Deaf ministry. After viewing beautiful souvenirs of fellowship in other countries, they were invited by President Wilson to visit the Ellen G. White Estate, not yet open to the public, and provide feedback on the accessibility of this newly expanded museum.

This visit encouraged DYAC members to learn more about the structure and issues within our church. DYAC members met with North American Division (NAD) President Dan Jackson, NAD Vice President Debra Brill, and General Conference's Associate Director of Stewardship Ministries Larry Evans. Elder Larry Evans is also the Executive Director of Adventist Deaf Ministries International. They shared exciting updates about long-awaited advances to bring access to the Gospel for Deaf.

The camp meeting's guest speaker was Alan Meis, a teacher at Battle Creek SDA Academy. He suggested four keys to "Stand Firm" with Christ, the theme. Beginning with 1 Corinthians 15:58 during each presentation, he showed how standing firm with Jesus is connected continuous private prayer, daily Bible study, regular fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ, and getting up every time we fall.



DYAC in front of an bronze statue of Jesus's second coming at the General Conference Office.

Photo supplied by Margie English

Other highlights include: a tour by a Deaf guide at the National Gallery of Art which features Christian paintings created from the Reformation era; the Lord's Supper by Pastor David Trexler with members of a local Deaf church; and Bible Questions and Answers panel sessions. Everyone deeply enjoyed the fellowship and went home spiritually high.

Besides an annual camp meeting, DYAC offers weekly interactive online Bible studies led by participants. DYAC also provides monthly webinars presented by strong students of the Bible and facilitated by young adults. Participants become involved as committee members, facilitators, and Bible students or teachers. This has been possible with the North American Division Deaf Ministries Committee's support.

For more information, email us at [dyacdeaf@gmail.com](mailto:dyacdeaf@gmail.com) or visit [www.dyacweb.org](http://www.dyacweb.org).

*Amanda Colgan, Sheelah Kimbrough, and Margie English*



GC President Ted Wilson is visiting with Jason Kimbrough; Elder Wilson just learned that they are distant cousins! He is very supportive of Deaf Ministries.

Photo by David Trexler



Alan Meis speaks on being unmovable in the faith during the DYAC meeting.

Photo by David Trexler

## DeafNation Expo Outreach

Since our previous newsletter, we had booths at DeafNation Expos in: Atlanta, GA; Pittsburgh, PA; Baton Rouge, LA; and Pomona, CA. This booth outreach has given us many awesome opportunities for sharing large amounts of materials with the Deaf and making face to face connections and friendships. Please keep this work and our many contacts in prayer.

The picture to the right shows Daniel Campbell and Sheelah Kimbrough who helped at the booth in Pittsburgh, PA.



## More Photos From Fresno Baptisms



*On May 9th Leroy and Sylvia Cano and Wendy Kaestner were baptized in Madera, California.*



*Jerry and Judy Blessing and Robert Snider were baptized June 6th in Fresno, California.*



Photos supplied by Robert Plubell

Twenty two Deaf people from Madera, Fresno, and Porterville met at the Fresno Central SDA Church on June 6th to witness three Deaf people being baptized. The large Deaf group had a wonderfully blessed day starting with a Deaf Sabbath School class and then joining the hearing congregation for the worship service for the baptism.

## SNEC Has Guest Speaker

Elder Paul Kelly was the guest speaker for the DEAF group in Worcester, MA on May 30th. People came from Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. Paul Kelly's wife, Tina, also visited with the Deaf group; they live in the Rochester, New York area.

The DEAF group includes Adventist members from all over the Southern New England Conference. They meet monthly at Deaf member's churches in different places in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut. After interpreted church services, they have lunch, Deaf-led Bible studies and a fellowship activity, such as a walk. They also have an annual DEAF Camp, DEAF weekends, and more. These monthly meetings are critical for the Deaf who are isolated, geographically dispersed and have no access to Deaf churches or interpreters. For more information contact: [snecdeaf@gmail.com](mailto:snecdeaf@gmail.com) or call 617-934-1371 (video phone).

## Quarterly Online

For many years, Deaf members have been blessed by the Easy Reading Edition of the Sabbath School Quarterly. Did you know that the Easy Reading quarterlies are available online? To see this quarterly and others, visit: [www.sabbathschoolpersonalministries.org/international](http://www.sabbathschoolpersonalministries.org/international). Scroll down and click on the Easy Reading Edition.

## It Is Written Daily Devotionals Now in ASL

It Is Written's daily video devotionals called *Every Word in ASL* is now available for viewing!

John Bradshaw, the Speaker/Director of It Is Written has created a series of very short video devotionals for some time now. It Is Written wanted Deaf people to be able to enjoy the devotionals also. So, they contacted Melissa Jordan and expressed their desire to have *Every Word* in ASL. Melissa Jordan agreed to do the interpreting and went right to work.

The first *Every Word in ASL* was released June 1st. If interested, you can sign up for an email notification of the daily devotionals. When you do so, be sure that you scroll down and register for the ASL version at: [www.itiswritten.com/daily-devotional-signup](http://www.itiswritten.com/daily-devotional-signup).

We deeply appreciate John Bradshaw and the It Is Written ministry team for considering how they can make their materials accessible to Deaf people. May God bless you.

## Zimbabwe Deaf Evangelism

In May, hundreds of people traveled to the African country of Zimbabwe as part of a huge evangelism effort. Evangelistic meetings, free medical treatment, and other activities resulted in over 30,000 baptisms. The Deaf were not forgotten. GC President Ted Wilson's meetings in Chitungwiza near the capital city Harare were interpreted into sign language. Two Deaf men were among the very first who decided to be baptized. Since then, a total of 5 Deaf persons were baptized into the Adventist faith.

As a specific way to reach out to Deaf people, a cooking class was held. At least 17 non-Adventist Deaf attended regularly and was attracting more. Keep the Deaf in Zimbabwe in prayer!



Photo from It Is Written's Facebook Page

## In Memory

James Manuel of Upper Lake California passed away in San Francisco on May 7, 2015. He was born November 17, 1941 in Santa Monica.

An avid gardener, James was a multiple ribbon-winner at the Lake County Fair. His prized entry was always something out of his garden; often it was related



to the grape "tree" that he planted shortly after moving to Upper Lake in 1969. James was a life-long Seventh-day Adventist who considered the Lakeport church his home. He was proud of having been recently named a deacon of the church. He volunteered countless hours to the church and its school, Westlake Adventist School, including teaching sign language to numerous students over the years. James lost his hearing due to measles as a toddler. During his lifetime, James found numerous ways to provide for his family, they included: gardener, welder, upholstery, and recently beekeeper. This last endeavor allowed him to provide for his church family. As the bees produced honey, he was able to sell much of it and donate the money to the school. He is survived by a brother, sister, three children and six grandchildren. His memorial service was held May 23rd.

### Donations

#### *In Memory of...*

Robert Raymond by Southern New England DEAF

#### *In Honor of...*

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor

### 3ADM Board of Directors

Bruce Buzzell, *Chairperson*  
Paul Kelly, *Vice-Chairperson*  
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Alfred Griffith, *Secretary*  
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### 3ADM Staff

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

## Bible School Director Speaks

Our Deaf Bible School director, Francisca Trexler, was invited to speak to the Deaf congregation at the Tabernacle church in Portland, Oregon on April 11. Her presentations focused on married living and living single. Francisca asked a couple to act out skits to make visual and plain what married life sometimes is and how it should be. About 40 to 50 people attended and asked many questions related to her presentations.

While in Portland, Francisca met with some couples to help them sort through some issues. Due to Francisca's background in counseling, Deaf individuals and couples seek her help. There's very few Deaf people in North America with the kind of training that Francisca has. She felt that the meetings were helpful and that the trip was well worth it and was a blessing to others.

## SDF Anniversary

The Southern Deaf Fellowship celebrated their 10th anniversary on May 9th. Sixty-six visitors and members came for the special Sabbath, including Debra Brill, North American Division VP and Stan and Glenda Patterson. Stan was the Ministerial Director for the Georgia-Cumberland Conference and was the key person in establishing SDF as an official church. He is now at Andrews University.

SDF organized on April 9, 2015 at the Atlanta North SDA Church (in GA) with 34 charter members. They are now based out of the McDonald Road SDA Church (in TN) with 68 members. Deaf people have also been able to view church services on the Internet.

## Wedding Bells

On May 17th, Jessica McGowan married David Smith in the Cape Cod, Massachusetts area. Jessica McGowan is the Southern New England Conference Deaf Ministry Coordinator.

Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report is a bimonthly publication of Three Angels Deaf Ministries. Contributors to the ministry receive this report for two years from the date of their most recent gift.

Three Angels Deaf Ministries, a nonprofit ministry, shares the saving truths of Jesus Christ with the Deaf through easy reading literature, the Internet, public evangelism, outreach training, and more. For operation, we depend on the gifts and prayers of caring Christians who believe in our mission.

# 3ADM Catalog -- All prices include USA shipping

**AMAZING BIBLE TRUTHS SERIES** (7 DVDs) \$ 65.00  
14 Bible topics in ASL by Francisca Trexler. (no voice)

**THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST VIDEO SERIES**  
A set of 13 DVDs with 26 programs in ASL by Pastor David Trexler. Includes study notes. (with voice) \$ 90.00

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #1 DVD** \$ 7.00  
Salvation and God's love (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #2 DVD** \$ 7.00  
What happens when you die? (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #3 DVD** \$ 7.00  
God's law of love (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #4 DVD** \$ 7.00  
The Sabbath (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #5 DVD** \$ 7.00  
Jesus' second coming (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #6 DVD** \$ 7.00  
Heaven and choices (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #7 DVD** \$ 7.00  
The eight laws of health (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE #8 DVD** \$ 7.00  
The beginning and end of evil (with voice)

**SIGNS OF GOD'S LOVE DVDs**  
Orders of 20 or more - each DVD \$ 6.00  
Orders of 100 or more - each DVD \$ 4.00

**BIBLE ADVENTURES DVD** \$15.00  
8 Bible stories for children in sign language (no voice)

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

**OURWORLD A THEATER IN GOD'S UNIVERSE** (DVD)  
The full story of the battle between God and Satan.  
In Hard Case \$ 15.00  
In Paper Sleeve \$ 7.00

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

**THE FINAL EVENTS OF BIBLE PROPHECY** (DVD)  
What the Bible says about the last days of earth history by Doug Batchelor. (43 minutes - ENGLISH SUBTITLES)  
In Hard Case \$ 15.00  
In Paper Sleeve \$ 7.00

**CAN YOU HEAR US?** (Booklet - 10 copies) \$ 15.00  
A quick reference guide to Deaf Ministry.

**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.

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

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

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## Inside This Issue:

- \* Evangelism and Baptisms in California
- \* Deaf Young Adults for Christ
- \* Zimbabwe Outreach Brings Baptisms
- \* It Is Written Devotionals in ASL

