



# Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

Volume 18 Issue 4

September, 2015

## Mexican Deaf Camp Meeting

My wife and I were invited by the Chiapas Union Conference in Mexico to be the feature speakers of the Mexican Deaf Camp Meeting. The meeting was held at the beautiful campus of Linda Vista University, an Adventist university located in the cool mountains in south Mexico. Francisca's skill in LSM (Mexican Sign Language) allowed her to communicate with the Mexican Deaf. She also served as an interpreter for myself and other American Deaf visitors.

More than 60 Deaf Mexicans attended meeting. Most came from southern and central Mexico. One Deaf Adventist came from Tijuana which borders California. We were surprised to meet many Adventists from Adventist homes.

We also met and visited with non-Adventist Deaf people. Everyone was so blessed by the camp meeting experience.

Francisco Javier Diaz de Leon Gonzalez and his wife organized the camp meeting through the blessing of the Chiapas Union Conference. The university staff was very friendly to the Deaf campers and allowed us to use some rooms in some buildings for our meetings and worship, while students were on campus for the summer session. The whole atmosphere on the campus was very friendly and warm.

We were thrilled to meet our friend, Blanca Mendoza, who moved back to Mexico from Maryland. We have not seen her for years. Her daughter came as well. I was greatly honored to baptize her along with two other Deaf ladies on Sabbath afternoon. Also, I was honored to conduct the Lord's Supper on Friday night. It was a very memorable and hallowed experience for us. The Mexican worshippers took



Francisca Trexler speaks at the Mexican Deaf Camp Meeting with a colorful banner in the background.

Photo by David Trexler

the service serious with much reverence.

After the camp meeting we went to a park that has a beautiful waterfall. Some of us climbed into the cave where the water comes from. Then we went to a church in the city where church members provided supper for us. Then the campers went home. It was very difficult for us to say good-bye.

The camp meeting had a very strong impact on the Deaf campers. Some of them asked the director to consider having camp meeting next year. We appreciate the generosity of the Chiapas Union in providing a camp meeting for the isolated Deaf members and non-members who were so blessed by the Holy Spirit.

David Trexler

### In This Issue:

- 2 The Holy Spirit at Work
- 4 Camp Meetings
- 4 Sabbath School App
- 5 Deaf Bible School
- 5 CALLED Convention
- 6 In Memory
- 7 Catalog and Order Form

### Three Angels Deaf Ministries

PO Box 1946  
Greenbelt, MD 20768  
www.3angelsdeafministries.org  
3adm@3angelsdeafministries.org  
Voice/VP: 301-850-0542  
Fax: 866-986-2122

## Speaker's Dialogue: The Holy Spirit at Work in the Church

Did you know that the General Conference hosted its world session in San Antonio, Texas July 2 to 11? Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) had a booth among the hundreds of other booths in the large exhibit halls. My wife Francisca, Esther Doss, Kathy McCain, Paul and Tina Kelly and I were there to share about Deaf ministry to Adventists from all over the world. We all worked as a team to educate and help booth visitors know what 3ADM offers to lead the Deaf to Christ.

Our booth was probably in the best location. We were at the entrance into the exhibit halls. On the first day, we were very surprised to see the high interest in our booth. We were overwhelmed with visitors asking questions and collecting our materials. The interest remained high until the end of the session.

We rarely had a dull moment. We were grateful for Esther who communicated with the hearing and served as an interpreter between us Deaf and the hearing. Some hearing visitors needed to know what to do with the Deaf in their areas. Some parents of Deaf children sought "counseling." We met Deaf people who did not know that there was a Deaf ministry. Pastors and leaders shared their interest and news and asked for information. We were thrilled to meet some Deaf from Brazil. They were excited to see 3ADM, the only donor supported Deaf ministry in the world. A few Deaf ministries are in different places around the globe, but ours is operated by the Deaf, for the Deaf and of the Deaf. At least 51% of our board must be Deaf members of the Adventist Church. We also appreciate the hearing board members who are very supportive.

Our booth at the 2015 GC Session was a success. But I want to now look at how the Holy Spirit is working inside the church. We see changes in attitudes toward the Deaf. At the 2005 GC Session, we had very few visitors at our booth. We wondered if we had leprosy spots on our skin as we saw people look at our sign and walk quickly away. The 2010 GC Session was different and our booth was busy. We were surprised that we quickly ran out of some materials. But at this year's GC Session, we saw far more interest in the Deaf work than ever before.

Also, a few other booths highlighted the Deaf work. Adventist Deaf Ministries International had their booth behind ours. They urged leaders in other countries to do more for the Deaf. The Sabbath School/Personal Ministries booth had a graphic presentation featuring the Deaf and our booklet "Can You Hear Us?" It Is Written

heavily promoted their new interpreted daily devotional by showing a sample on a large screen.

Several media ministries from the USA and other countries came to shoot interviews with us. They were excited to see God had a Deaf work and wanted to share that with their viewers.

But more than this, we were excited by what happened during the main sessions at the Alamodome. We do not remember ever seeing anything like this at any other GC Session in the past!

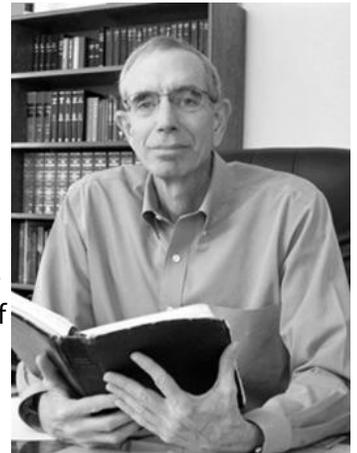
During Sabbath School on the first Sabbath, Dr. Larry Evans shared about those with special needs with an emphasis on Deaf ministry. Immediately after this, a group of four from the Sao Paulo, Brazil Deaf group signed Psalm 23 most beautifully. The Alamodome was quite full at this time and we knew that many Adventists around the world were watching. We noticed that more leaders came by our booth after Dr. Evans's presentation.

During one of the evening meetings, the Inter-European Division showed their video report. The video included a testimony by Taida Rivero from Spain. Taida is a CODA and shared her passion for Deaf ministry. No one had applauded during the evening meeting, but they did after hearing her testimony. We knew that this made an impact. Right after the video, Taida stood on the stage platform interpreting into Spanish Sign Language while the division president shared some words.

But there was yet more! Elder Ted Wilson, the General Conference President, gave a powerful sermon on the last Sabbath morning. He shared an inspiring conversion story of a Deaf person in Bolivia and his witness among other Deaf students at his school. The Alamodome was packed with 75,000 people and many more watched the sermon through the internet and television all around the world. We were amazed at how God put before His church the need for the Deaf work.

Plus, the ASL interpretation of the meetings could be viewed by anyone in the world through the Internet. We deeply appreciate the GC and Hope Channel for this.

Please correct me if I am wrong. But I believe that this exposure about the Deaf was unprecedented in our



church's history! Thank you, Holy Spirit for making it happen in our church!

Why do we see such a growing interest in the Deaf work like never before? More and more church members are praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Why are they praying and desiring God's work to move forward? The Holy Spirit is impressing them to move forward. The Holy Spirit is waking them up from their spiritual sleep. Spiritually revived born again Adventists will show the love of Christ for others, including the Deaf. As the end of time comes closer, the Holy Spirit and His angels are encouraging us to be more spiritually alive and to spread the last day's message to the whole world.

We also see more evidence of the Holy Spirit's work. More Deaf people are enrolling in our Bible school than ever before. Our Deaf Bible School worker, Francisca, has been very busy with such a growing interest that she is relying on some volunteers to share the work. So, we see an increasing interest in spiritual things and Bible study like we have not seen before.

Praise God for His everlasting love for the world. He wants everyone to know the gospel before the end comes. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14).

The Holy Spirit is urging you to allow Him to change your life. "Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (Philippians 2:12, 13).

*David Trexler*

"...If you think we are suggesting that we simply give these individuals more "sympathy" then we haven't made our point very clear. We believe that the blind, the Deaf and those with physical limitations should **not** only be recipients of our missionary endeavors but **should also be given** opportunities to be missionaries as well! Sometimes we have a too restrictive definition of what a missionary is. In fact, it is not necessary to cross an ocean or a country's border to be a missionary **nor must one have the ability to see, hear or walk**. God is calling all to His service!"

*Dr. Larry Evans*

*During the GC Session 2015 Sabbath School on July 4, 2015*



*Four precious Brazilian brothers and sister visited with us.*

Photo supplied by David Trexler



*Our booth stayed quite busy! In this picture, a father and hard-of-hearing daughter and a pastor's wife with a passion for Deaf ministry visit with us.*

Photo by David Trexler



*A variety of Deaf ministry workers and interpreters met at the Adventist Deaf Ministries International booth for a group photo. Taida is third from the right on the back row. Larry Evans is fourth from the right on the back row.*

Photo supplied by David Trexler

## Uganda Deaf Camp Meeting

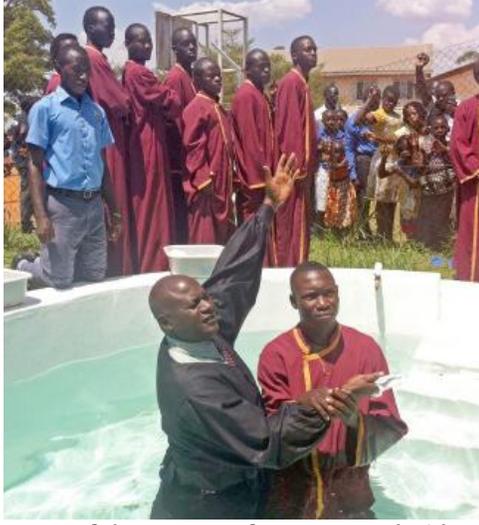


Photo supplied by John Blake

The very successful Kampala, Uganda (Africa) camp meeting for the Deaf was August 23-28. Over fifty Deaf attended and sixteen of them were baptized. The speakers came from Kenya and a few others came with them. But

most of them came from Kampala (the capital city) and three other nearby major towns.

The Kampala Central SDA Church fully sponsored this meeting. This church sees great potential in the Deaf work and because of their efforts, Deaf ministry in Uganda is quickly spreading.

There are plans for a joint Deaf camp meeting for the countries of Botswana and Zambia.

## Western Deaf Camp Meeting



Photos by Pablo Alejo

The 38th Western Deaf Camp Meeting was another Holy Spirit filled week. A good number of Deaf campers came to Milo Adventist Academy in Oregon for a spiritual feast. Speakers included: Paul Kelly, Esther Doss, Pablo Alejo, David Trexler, and George Belser.

## SDF Camp Meeting

Southern Deaf Camp Meeting took place at Cohutta Springs Convention Center in Georgia July 29-August 2. About 111 people attended! The theme was Hope for a Broken World with Elder Larry Evans, Adventist Deaf Ministries International Coordinator, as the main speaker. In addition to his Hope filled inspirational message, his world report of the Deaf work was also encouraging. The morning and evening sessions were live streamed over the Internet and are archived on SDF's website. The next camp meeting will be August 10-14.

## Sabbath School App

Want to have the Sabbath School lesson on your smartphone, tablet, iPhone, or iPad? Just download the Sabbath School 4 app! This app has all of the Sabbath School lessons including the Easy Reading Version of the Adult Bible Study Guide. When you open the app, click on "Adult". Then scroll down to "Easy Reading." This app can be very useful for many reasons. We thank the GC Sabbath School Department for adding the Easy Reading Version to the app!



## Deaf Bible School Continues to Grow

The Deaf Bible School continues to grow and we have been busy! The God's Way Course gained 73 new students this year! Also the Amazing Facts Course has 33 new students. So we have a total of 106 new students! Also, we have had 16 people finish, or graduate, from both God's Way and Amazing Facts this year.

These numbers do not include face-to-face Bible studies through videophone using Sharing the Word with the Deaf series or the weekly group Bible studies.

Many of the new students enroll as a result of meeting us at our booth at DeafNation Expos across the country. In fact, within a week after our booth in Baton Rouge, LA, several from Mississippi signed up. Some others began studying with us because of friends who urged them to sign up.

We also note that a few students are already Adventists or have been attended the Adventist Church for a long time, but still know very little about the Bible. This is because there is no one in their area who can teach them Bible truths in ASL.

We get many very positive responses from our students. One lady told us, "Thank you for making God's

Way Bible lesson!" Meanwhile, another lady wrote us, "I need to learn more about Jesus and understand more. Thank you!"

One Michigan student said, "Just to let you know I love the *Amazing Facts* (Easy Reading). Also please tell Pastor David that I love watching his sermons on DVD of each month. May God be with you and Pastor David."

"I love the Bible lessons and am thrilled to learn more about God," said a person from Ohio. "I love it with smile! I want to continue studying!"

One person from Canada emailed, "I would like to say thank you so much for everything about God's Way lesson 1-24. Thanks to God for helping me to understand about God's Way."

Another wrote, "That's wonderful! Wow! I still want to learn more about Word of God with my whole heart and my soul everyday. I want to learn new things every day. God is so good all the time. Thanks to the Lord so very much for everything and saving in my life. God is Amazing!"

We thank you, the donors, who help keep 3ADM up and running so that this work can continue.

## 2015 NAD CALLED Convention

The CALLED NAD Ministerial Convention was held in Austin, TX from June 28 to July 1. This was a special convention for all pastors and their families in the North American Division. 5,500 people attended and they had a large number of workshops to choose from besides morning and evening sessions. Two interpreters, Monica Mack and Melissa Beattie, were provided and several Deaf ministry leaders attended: Alan Meis, Margie English, Paul and Tina Kelly, Chuck McGehee, Alfred Griffith, Bob Plubell, Jeff Jordan and David and Francisca Trexler. The convention was a good learning experience for all of the attendees, including the Deaf.

The Deaf attendees were pleasantly surprised when they were acknowledged from the platform as pastors for the Deaf. Pastor Gabriel Perea made this announcement and he also challenged the pastors to learn how to sign. They learned Pastor Perea is a pastor for a church in San Antonio, TX that has a few Deaf members.

The Deaf met several pastors who knew sign language and had an interest in the Deaf work, including a couple who moved to America from a different country and are reaching out to the Deaf in their work.

During the Convention, Jeff Jordan and Paul Kelly were interviewed on camera and a short excellent video

was made by the NAD and is posted on Vimeo. You can see the video at: [www.vimeo.com/132405460](http://www.vimeo.com/132405460).

The CALLED Convention was immediately before the GC Session 2015 in San Antonio, TX. Many pastors came to our booth at the GC Session who were made excited by what they saw at the CALLED Convention. They wanted to learn more about Deaf ministry and how they can help the Deaf know about Jesus and present truth.



Deaf ministry workers pose for a group photo with the interpreter and a few new friends.

## 3ADM Board Meeting

3ADM Board of Directors and our Speaker/Director met August 4th and 5th at the General Conference at the Seventh-day headquarters in Silver Spring, MD to discuss, brainstorm, and vote on various topics during the two day session.

Our brainstorming session included how to improve the Bible study mentor and student follow up relationship with their progress on the lessons. Another item for discussion was how each board member should spend more time throughout the year on 3ADM activities such as planning, setting goals, fund raising, and strengthening their roles on various committees.

Bruce Buzzell, Paul Kelly, and Alfred Griffith were elected to another four year term as Board of Directors. Bruce Buzzell (Chairperson), Paul Kelly (Vice-Chairperson), Chuck McGehee (Treasurer), and Alfred Griffith (Secretary) were elected to their respective officer positions for the 2016 fiscal year.

The board welcomed a new member named Margie English (Deaf) to our meetings. She replaces Julius Vold who stepped down at the end of his term as a board member. Margie is involved with Deaf Adults for Christ (DYAC), a highly active group of Deaf young adults.

Please continue to pray for the 3ADM board members as they work with Speaker/Director David Trexler in carrying out the commission to spread the good news about Jesus Christ to Deaf people all over the world.

### Donations

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

Denise Black by Eva Thompson

Joyce Goodson by David and Francisca Trexler

Sylvia House by Dorothy Gradt

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

Marvin Budd by Luis Leonor

### 3ADM Board of Directors

Bruce Buzzell, *Chairperson*  
Paul Kelly, *Vice-Chairperson*  
Chuck McGehee, *Treasurer*  
Alfred Griffith, *Secretary*  
George Belser  
Marvin Budd  
Margie English

### 3ADM Staff

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

## In Memory - Sandi Goodrich

On July 6, 2015, Deaf ministry had a real loss. Sandi Goodrich, of Double Oak, TX, passed away after a long battle with ALS at the age of 67. Sandi was born July 16, 1947 in Dallas, TX. Sandi married Joseph Goodrich on December 13, 1968 in Dallas. She was a member of the Lewisville, TX SDA Church and worked as an interpreter. Sandi is survived by her husband Joe, two children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Sandi met a Deaf boy in high school and they became sweethearts. The relationship did not work and they broke up. Shortly after Sandi was baptized, she began interpreting for a little Deaf boy in church. Sandi decided to be educated in ASL and began interpreting at a high school.

For a few years the Texas Conference paid her to start a Deaf ministry. Sandi traveled all over Texas with her mother. They also made video tapes. Everywhere she went, she talked to the Deaf and she was very friendly. Thru the years, Sandi taught several ASL classes to hearing people, with hopes that someone would join her as an interpreter. Over all she has interpreted for 40 years! Sometimes she would serve the Deaf even when she was sick.

Sandi was always there for the Deaf people she loved. She would interpret for them at other times outside of the church, such as at doctors' appointments. Sandi was also a very passionate advocate for the Deaf. She had long prayed and hoped for a pastor for the Deaf in Texas. The Deaf community was her second family and they loved her dearly.

When Sandi started getting sick, she went to many doctors. No one could tell her what was wrong. Then a medical student discovered she had ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. Prayers and belief that God could heal her is what kept her and family going. She was anointed twice, once by Speaker/Director David Trexler. Other pastors including Pastor Jeff Jordan also prayed with her.

May all of the interpreters in our churches be as dedicated! Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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:

- \* Deaf Bible School Grows!
- \* Deaf Work Gets Attention!
- \* Mexican Camp Meeting
- \* Easy Reading SS Lesson on App

