



# Three Angels Deaf Ministries Report

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## Hope in Sight

Coronavirus is still raging all over the world, but medical science gives us hope that this terrible disease will be gone by the end of the year or so. Several drugs makers announced that their vaccines against COVID-19 are very effective and are ready to be shipped to the public.

I am sure that everyone is looking for a day of freedom from wearing the masks and strict government restrictions to reduce the spread of the virus. Hope is what they need to survive. Unfortunately, before the vaccines became available many had died without seeing the signs of hope. The government has spent trillion of dollars to revive the economy, but unfortunately many businesses, especially restaurants, closed down for good. Many people suffered from mental health problems like depression because of isolation and remote learning and work. Now, they are hopeful by the medical breakthroughs. After all of these troubles everyone is looking up for a better day. They are looking forward to normal life.

Faithful and true Christians and non-Christians have experienced pain, sadness, loss of loved ones, and sickness but the Christians have a better hope than those who do not know God. They survive better. Why? They have the

true hope in the future. Jesus Christ the real reason for having hope while we suffer. They look forward to the perfect world in the near future as Jesus has promised (John 14:1-3).

Christians call it the blessed hope. . . . looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of

our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,” (Titus 2:13, NKJV). Hope lifts people’s heart. Hope encourages them to be patience until the end. Without hope nothing will succeed. “Faith means being sure of the things we hope for and knowing that something is real even if we do not see it” (Hebrews 11:1, NCV). “And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1 John 3:3, NKJV).

We have hope when we are safe in Jesus Christ by surrendering ourselves (100%) to Him daily. Knowing a lot about the future events of the last days as shown in the Bible will not help us if we do not know Jesus personally and we do not obey Him. My concern is that many of us are easily distracted to news of events and signs of the times that can keep our eyes off from the Source of Hope and Salvation. Salvation in Christ is the reason for being hopeful and joyful. Invite the Holy Spirit into your heart in order to have peace and hope in our lives every day. Let us be hopeful and cheerful that will shine the light of God’s grace to the public and home.

“There will be more and more evil in the world, so most people will stop showing their love for each other. But those people who keep their faith until the end will be saved. The Good News about God’s kingdom will be preached in all the world, to every nation. Then the end will come” (Matthew 24:12-14, NCV).

One more thing I need to point out is that the end of pandemic will NOT end the sufferings and problems we have in this sinful world. We will still have another pandemic, more new diseases, wildfires, droughts, murders, homelessness, divorces, abortions, wars, disagreement leading to fight and division, etc. We as the Christians should NEVER put our hope only in human’s achievements and governments that give promises that are like the sands. All of the human’s successes are temporary, but the world will move on the same as before. Sinful life and hate will grow more and more. Persecutions against Christians have increased a lot, but those who are followers of God who suffer have hope that keep them calm and peace in their hearts.

David M. Trexler

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## The Wedding of Jerry Roundy and Judy Halseth



November 14, 2020 was a very special day for Jerry Roundy and Judy Halseth when they married at the Springfield Seventh-day Adventist Church in Oregon. COVID-19 and rainy weather didn't stop them to be united together forever.

Originally, it was planned for Pastor Alfred Griffith to officiate the wedding for them, and Pastor David M. Trexler was to be a groomsman while Boyd Garner as a best man for Jerry Roundy. Diane Carpenter from Los Angeles, CA was a matron of honor and Alice Elkins from Coos Bay, OR a bride's matron for Judy Halseth. But, on the early Sabbath morning Alfred Griffith texted David that Cheryl fell injuring her foot badly. Alfred had to stay home, and he asked David to take his place to officiate the wedding. In the last minute rush Chuck McGehee as asked to take David's place. The wedding went beautifully as God had blessed it, especially to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Roundy.

How did Judy Halseth meet Jerry Roundy while she lived in Florida and Jerry in Oregon? In fact, both knew each other at their school for the Deaf in Berkeley, CA a long time ago. They didn't see each other until last year. Judy has been a faithful Christian and her husband passed away several years ago. She was chatting with Clarence Gerling on a videophone discussing the Bible. When Judy asked some questions Clarence advised her to talk with Jerry. It was a big surprise when Judy contacted him through the videophone. They had not seen each other for more than 50 years. After that they communicate with each other on the Bible. They developed good relationship and eventually Judy moved from Florida to Oregon in order to be with Jerry.

Finally, they married! May God bless Jerry and Judy on their new journey together.

## Baptism of David Barnes, Jr.



I was born and raised as a Christian from church to church and seeking for a Deaf ministry, but I followed my family to attend the church. Since I moved to my new apartment I didn't attend a church for a few months. I was praying for a new church. Then I saw a Seventh-day Adventist church which is two blocks from my home. I was impressed by the Holy Spirit to go to this church. So I decided to show up at this Adventist church on Sabbath. I found it was very interesting to listen to the pastor and the members were friendly. During the 1888 Message conference I saw Alan Meis and Marvin Budd who were interpreting on YouTube live recording, and I decided to go to this church to listen to the presentations. After the meeting, I talked with them about the Seventh-day Adventist church. From then on I kept attending this church for seven months and had the Bible studies with Associate Pastor Carlos Solomayor. A few months later during the study I asked the pastor about the baptism because I accepted the teachings of the church that are in harmony with the Bible. Desiring to follow Jesus Christ on December 12, 2020, I was baptized. After the wonderful baptism many church's members met me to congratulate me! And, it was raining when I walked home a member's car stopped by and he invited me to come in his car to take me to the apartment. I was really blessed on that day! The Lord was good to me.

Please pray for me because I need an interpreter to build the bridge between me and the Word of God as the pastor speaks.

David Barnes, Jr.

# In Memory of Rhonda DeVall-Gropp



Rhonda had her sunset on December 16, 2020 and her sunrise on September 24, 1954 in Lynch, Nebraska to Martin and Helen DeVall. She married Bill Gropp on September 21, 1996.

Rhonda was the president of Nebraska School for the Deaf Literary Society. She was a devout Christian who had participated in Bible Study; served as a deaconess of the Indianapolis South Seventh-day Adventist Church and served in the Social Committee at Pueblo First Seventh-day Adventist Church. Rhonda was employed by A.C. Nielsen as a customer service representative. She worked for eleven years at Woodman Insurance, for five years at the State of Nebraska Department of Revenue, three years at Oriental Trading Company as a packer and ten years as a food service worker at Indiana School for the Deaf.

Rhonda is survived by her husband of 24 years, Bill Gropp, daughter Dorlisa Sue DeVall, grandchildren Tyler and Tayah Souimanyphanh, son-in-law Von Souimanyphanh, brother Rod DeVall, two nephews Joe and Sam DeVall, and sister-in-law Cora Souimanyphanh.

She is preceded in death by her parents Martin and Helen Sue DeVall.

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# Rhonda I Know



Rhonda Duvall-Gropp 1954-2020

When I was a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, I worked at the Department of Revenue part-time. At the time, I didn't socialize with other Deaf people who work there. While there Rhonda heard a strange information about me as a vegetarian and an Adventist. At lunch I was outside to review the notes for my classes, Rhonda came to meet me. She was so curious to know why I was a vegetarian and an Adventist. It was good thing I had two lunch sandwiches—one for me and one for anyone who might be curious to taste it. I asked her to sit with me to chat a bit and Rhonda asked me what the sandwich taste like and I gave her the one-fourth of it. But she said, "Oh no!" I told her I had an extra sandwich for anyone to taste it. She had a pretty smile. She ate the whole sandwich and took the recipe of the sandwich. She loved it so much. Later, she told everyone at work that the vegetarian sandwich was very delicious.

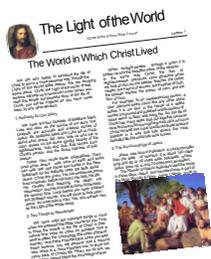
Every day she came to sit with me outside and I gave her a new recipe of another sandwich. After getting to know her I offered her to have a

Bible study with me. She said, "Yes" with enthusiasm." We agreed that I would meet her at her home for the Bible study once a week. While in study she was thrilled to know more about God and Jesus' love that she had never knew it before in her life. I was so excited about her falling in love with Jesus Christ and we continued the Bible study until she completed the lessons. While during the study she kept saying, "I want to be baptized for Jesus' sake." Actually, she fell love with Jesus immediately! I was impressed with her decision to accept Jesus as her personal Savior and Lord firmly. Because of her love for Jesus she shared with her friends and family. However, she told me that she was hurt that they do not care what she learned. I encouraged her keep trying to share with anyone, and let the Holy Spirit works among the people. Rhonda agreed with me with a pretty smile. Eventually, Rhonda was baptized in the Seventh-day Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Rhonda will be greatly missed by her family and friends. It will be great news that we will meet her when Jesus will call her to come out from the grave without any diseases and human's weaknesses. How thrill it would be on that wonderful day!

"I tell you this secret: We will not all sleep in death, but we will all be changed. It will take only a second—as quickly as an eye blinks—when the last trumpet sounds. The trumpet will sound, and those who have died will be raised to live forever, and we will all be changed. This body that can be destroyed must clothe itself with something that can never be destroyed. And this body that dies must clothe itself with something that can never die. So this body that can be destroyed will clothe itself with that which can never be destroyed, and this body that dies will clothe itself with that which can never die. When this happens, this Scripture will be made true: "Death is destroyed forever in victory." "Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your pain?" Death's power to hurt is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But we thank God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:51-57).

Francisca Trexler



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