



April-May 2023 Volume 26 Issue 3

Letter from the Interim Director

Greetings friends in ministry,

I am thrilled to share with you the incredible work that Three Angels Deaf Ministries has been doing lately. Our team has been very busy attending six different events in April and May to promote our booth ministry and to showcase our brand new booth look! Turn to the next page to read more about the new booth design that we're excited to reveal!

Through our presence at these events, we have been able to connect with so many people in the Deaf community and share with them the resources and materials that we offer. Each event has been a fantastic opportunity for us to engage with people, answer questions, and demonstrate the importance of our work. We have been greeted with enthusiasm and interest, reaffirming [showing] the value of the work we do.

I am proud of the work that Three Angels Deaf Ministries has been doing, and I am honored to be a part of this organization. We are committed to continuing our efforts to serve the Deaf community, and we look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. As I reflect on the work that 3ADM is doing, a Bible verse that comes to mind is **Romans 12:11** - "Never be lacking in zeal [enthusiasm], but keep your spiritual fervor [passion], serving the Lord."

Thank you for your support and for joining us in our mission to share the Three Angels' Messages to the Deaf.

Sincerely in Christ,

Amanda Colgan

Our Stunning New Booth Design for Deaf Expos

3ADM is excited to launch of our brand new booth look at DeafNation Expo! We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the committee members who have played a role in the development of our new booth design: Paul and Tina Kelly, Arlan and Tracy Howard, Amanda Colgan and Chuck McGehee.

The committee has worked hard to create a new booth design that will appeal to visitors. Our booth shows the unique and important work that 3ADM does. We have a new banner and a side banner that provides information about our mission and directs them to our websites.

Additionally, our booth will have 15 new tracts from Amazing Facts that have colorful covers. We wanted to provide more materials for children so we added Bible guides for kids,



Tina Kelly putting the finishing touches on our booth



cards of a painting of Jesus with children by a Deaf artist, and attractive bookmarks.

At 3ADM, we are passionate about sharing the love of Christ with the Deaf community. Our goal is to inspire and motivate visitors through our new booth design.

We invite you to visit our booth at the upcoming Expos and experience our new booth design for yourself!



Sharing the love and teachings of Jesus through Bookmarks, Cards, and Bible Guides for Kids



Fifteen new Amazing Facts tracts to share the gospel with the Deaf

3ADM Shines at National Family Retreat:

The Colgan Family Shares their Passion for Deaf Ministry

The Colgan family had the opportunity of representing Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) at the National Family Retreat hosted by Restoration International on April 5-9th. The event, held annually in Oklahoma, attracts families from all over the country for a time of spiritual renewal, fellowship, and learning.

The Colgans eagerly shared their passion for the ministry with hearing attendees, showcasing 3ADM's unique and significant contributions to the Deaf community through our booth.

The response from visitors was overwhelmingly positive. The Colgans were thrilled to have the opportunity to spread awareness about 3ADM and to connect with others who share their passion for serving the Deaf community.

Overall, the Colgan family had an amazing time at the National Family Retreat. They felt grateful for the chance to represent 3ADM and make new friends who care about the Deaf community. They left the event feeling inspired and motivated to continue supporting 3ADM's important work.







3ADM at DeafNation Expo in

Greensboro and Columbus

This year, DeafNation Expo is celebrating their 25th anniversary, which has drawn over a million attendees to many events across the United States since 2003. Three Angels Deaf Ministries (3ADM) has been



involved with the booth ministry at these events over the years. The booth ministry is one of the opportunities to do the gospel outreach to the Deaf community.

At the Greensboro, NC event on April 15, 2,000 attendees were present, while the Columbus, Ohio event on April 29 has drawn 2,200 attendees. They kept us busy at the booth sharing the gospel, giving away free materials, and interacting with attendees. The addition of a new backdrop banner, side banner and some new materials got attention of visitors, including Joel Barish, a co-founder of DeafNation who gave us a thumbs-up to our new booth look. Graham McGrath, a Deaf Adventist, was present at the Ohio event, having moved from Georgia last fall. He was wearing a Rubik Cube costume, demonstrated his expertise with the cube, especially using multiple cubes to put together an image of Joel Barish. We even had the pleasure of meeting with former students, our son's classmate, and a staff member from the school where we retired.

It is 3ADM's hope to continue the booth ministry and plant gospel seeds until Jesus comes again.

Paul R. Kelly









3ADM's Presence at the

DeafNation Expo in Pasadena, CA Amanda Colgan

The Three Angels Deaf Ministries booth in Pasadena, California was a successful event, thanks to the efforts of Aivars Ponkratjevs, Kevin, and Amanda Colgan. The booth was bustling with activity throughout the day, as visitors stopped by to learn more about 3ADM and the materials provided at the booth.

We enjoyed talking to people and answering some questions about the Bible. Some visitors even requested more DVDs and books that were all gone to be mailed to them, which was a clear sign of the impact that the materials had on those who received them. Many visitors also asked for information about local churches, and Aivars, a member of a local SDA church, handed out business cards with information about his church, where Darrell Strait preaches in ASL.



As we look back on the event, we pray that those who received the materials will be inspired to seek God and learn more about Him and His Word.

Paul R. Kelly

MAYFEST DEAF EXPO



Similar to that of DeafNation, Ontario Association of the Deaf hosted their annual Mayfest in Toronto, Canada on May 12 and 13. This year is their 46th Mayfest with the event returning after a pause in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, they are only a few years away from celebrating their 50th annual Mayfest. Mayfest gives their Deaf community an opportunity to socialize together and learn what various [different] agencies businesses have to offer. There were many attendees on both days.

We had booth ministry at Mayfest back then when





help deaf and hard of hearing immigrants.

As 3ADM, we are doing more by providing spiritual services, connecting deaf and hard of hearing with Jesus Christ through online Bible courses, live-streamed Sabbath school, sermons, etc. A lady named Mariola Trzcinska, originally from Poland, was highly impressed with our booth and expressed that ours is one of the best she has ever seen. She also recognized the importance of our mission as God's work. Reaching out to the deaf and hard of hearing continues to be a

we lived in Rochester, NY. We have noticed a growing number of deaf and hard of hearing immigrants moving to Canada. The city of Toronto is Canada's most popular place for new immigrants. With a low birth rate and many Baby Boomers retiring from the workforce, Canada actively welcomes immigrants to fill in its economy to keep it strong. There are several organizations such as Silent Voice and Canadian Hearing Society offer settlement programs to



Tina Kelly with Mariola Trzcinska

challenging work. As Jesus once said that "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few," reminding us of the need to pray for laborers to be sent out into His harvest (Matthew 9:37-38).

Join 3ADM on Facebook for Exciting Updates and Inspiring Content!

Exciting news! 3ADM has started sharing new and exciting posts on our Facebook page. We have fun things like Bible trivia and uplifting Christian messages for you to enjoy. Come join us at https://www.facebook.com/3AngelsDeafMinistries and be inspired by what we share. Make sure to like and follow our page and stay connected with 3ADM today!







Adventist Possibility

Ву

Larry R. Evans

Former Asstistant to the President Adventist Possibility Ministries General Conference of SDA

Online Course for Adventist Possibility Ministries

At the recent General Conference Session held in St. Louis, it was voted to include Adventist Possibility Ministries (APM) as a ministry of the local church. To help members of local churches understand what is involved in this ministry, a free online course was prepared [created]. The course, available in American Sign Language (ASL) and four spoken languages, introduces the need for this ministry.

APM is an "umbrella" ministry that links seven different ministries under one group. The ministries are Bereavement for Spousal Loss [people who have lost their husband or wife]; Blind and Low Vision; Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Caregiver Support [people who take care of others]; Stigmas [negative views] Related to Mental and Learning Difficulties; Orphans [children who do not have parents] and Vulnerable [weak, needs support] Children, and Physical Mobility Difficulties [people who have trouble moving around].

APM's focus includes the recognition [notice] of the spiritual gifts of every person which also means their inclusion [include them] in the activities and mission of the church.

The Adventist Learning Community offers many different free courses other than Adventist Possibility Ministries. Visit https://www.adventistlearningcommunity.com, register and help people who are often ignored feel important and hopeful.

3ADM STAFF

Amanda Colgan
Interim Executive Director

Paul Kelly Evangelist/Deaf Bible School Manager

David Trexler Office Manager

3ADM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Beth Dobson, Chairperson
Margie English, Vice Chairperson
Sheelah Kimbrough, Treasurer
Bill Gropp, Secretary
Alfred Griffith
Bruce Buzzell
Paulino Patino

Are you a Deaf SDA member seeking to deepen your faith and knowledge of the Bible? Are you interested in learning how to share your beliefs with others? Do you desire to become a Bible Worker or a lay pastor? AFCOE (Amazing Facts Center of Evangelism) is here to help you achieve these goals and more.

AMAZING FACTS AFCOE AFCOE

During your training at AFCOE, you will learn to:

- Speak persuasively in public settings and lead small groups
- Identify your specific calling in ministry, such as Bible Worker or lay pastor.
- Confidently share your faith with others—anytime, anywhere.
- Persuasively present the Gospel and the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation
- Winsomely answer difficult Bible questions

We are thrilled to announce that 3ADM will sponsor Deaf students to attend the AFCOE training which takes place in **Rocklin**, **California at the W.O.R.D. Center from August 17**, **2023 to November 19**, **2023**. Two ASL interpreters will be provided by 3ADM to ensure access for the Deaf students.

To qualify for 3ADM sponsorship, you must meet all the following requirements:

- Be a baptized Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) member in good standing.
- Be deaf or hard of hearing.
- Be proficient in American Sign Language (ASL).
- Have a sincere desire to deepen your faith and knowledge of the Bible.
- Be committed to sharing your faith with others and positively impacting the Deaf community by sharing the gospel.
- Be able to keep up with a fast-paced and high-level learning environment.
- Be willing and able to fully participate in the AFCOE training program, which includes classroom instruction, outreach and hands-on evangelistic experience.
- Complete the AFCOE application process and be accepted into the program.

To learn more about AFCOE, visit their website at **AFCOE.org** and read their handbook. If you have questions about 3ADM's sponsorship, contact Amanda Colgan at <u>acolgan@3adm.org</u>.

If you meet the requirements and are interested in attending AFCOE with 3ADM's sponsorship, please apply by **June 16, 2023**, and contact Amanda at acolgan@3adm.org. Please note that the number of sponsored spots is limited and will be given on a first-served basis.

We look forward to helping you grow in your faith and become an effective witness for Christ.

JOURNEY OF FAITH:

Finding God's Guidance and Blessings in Life's Adventures

Romans 8:28

Life-Changing Testimony

I am incredibly thankful for the many blessings I have received from God. Even though I have faced difficulties and challenges, I have always felt that a higher power has been there to guide me, and that has made a big difference in my life. My journey towards faith began when I was in secondary school, and my school principal shared stories from the Bible with us. Even though my classmates did not understand or accept my choice to follow the Bible, I stayed strong in my faith, and my understanding of God's love continued to grow.

Growing up in a country where many people worshipped idols presented many challenges for me. But as I thought about the mysteries of the universe and how the world came to be, I was amazed by God's greatness and the beauty of His creation. It made me sad to see people defiling [messing up] and destroying God's precious creation and not honoring the Sabbath.

Eventually, I decided to stop following my family's worship of Buddha and idols, and I also stopped eating pork. My faith in God continued to grow and deepen. I prayed for guidance in my life, and God led me on incredible journeys of discovery and adventure. Through fortunate circumstances [events], I had the opportunity to explore the wild beauty of the African savannah and other countries, always feeling God's presence and guidance, which helped me understand His love and grace better.

When I was a teenager, I had a dream of being in a vast [large] and beautiful grassland, but I didn't know where it was. I never planned to come to the United States, but God had a plan for me. With the support of my school principal and other kind people, I completed a master's degree in educational psychology and counseling with distinction and found a good job. Even though many people doubted my success in America, God had everything planned for me.

Today, I live in the natural prairies of America with my two wonderful sons, and I am still amazed by the beauty of God's creation. I am grateful for His many blessings and eagerly look forward to helping others in His name.

Although it is challenging to share the love of God with my family and loved ones in my home country, I find comfort and guidance in my faith. While I feel sad for my family and loved ones who still hold on to their Buddhist, atheistic [do not believe in God], and idolatrous beliefs despite my efforts to share God's love with them, I trust that God's love will eventually touch their hearts if they seek it.





Share Your Life-Changing Christian Testimony!

Attention, readers! We are seeking your uplifting Christian testimonies. Whether you prefer expressing yourself through writing or creating a 2-minute ASL video, we encourage your participation. Please provide a brief article (at least one-third of a page) or an ASL video. ASL videos will be posted on the 3ADM website. Email your submission to editor@3adm.org. Your story has the power to inspire others. Join us today!

For many years, camp meetings have been a huge blessing to Deaf people. It's a time where Deaf members can come together to worship, fellowship, and create new memories with old and new friends. We cherish the memories made during these gatherings, especially the special moments of witnessing baptisms. We encourage you to attend a camp meeting and experience the blessings for yourself.

2023 Camp Meeting Dates

July 9-16, 2023

Western Deaf Camp Meeting Milo Academy 324 Milo Dr. Days Creek, Oregon 97429

August 9-13, 2023

Southern Deaf Fellowship Camp Meeting Cohutta Springs Conference Center 1175 Cohutta Springs Rd. Crandall, Georgia 30711

October 25-29, 2023

DEAR Camp Meeting Mt. Aetna Conference Center 10375 Retreat Way Hagerstown, MD

Summer 2023

Deaf Young Adults for Christ (DYAC) Camp Meeting Cohutta Springs Conference Center 1175 Cohutta Springs Rd. Crandall, Georgia 30711



3ADM Travel Schedule

Office Manager David Trexler

July 9 - 16 - Milo Camp meeting

Oct 7 - DeafNation Expo, Mesa, AZ

Nov 4 - DeafNation Expo, Chicago, IL

Interim Director Amanda Colgan

July 9 - 16 - Milo Camp meeting

Aug 2 - 5 - ASI Int'l Convention, Kansas City, MO

Aug 9 - 13 - SDF Camp Meeting

Oct 25 - 29 - DEAR Camp Meeting

Evangelist Paul Kelly

July 9 - 16 - Milo Camp meeting

Aug 9 - 13 - SDF Camp Meeting

Oct 7 - It's a Deaf Thing Expo, Lakeland, Florida

Oct 25 - 29 - DEAR Camp Meeting

Tributes & Memorials



If you want to give a gift in memory or honor of someone, you can go to https://3adm.org/donation and write a message or send your gift and a note in the mail. Your gift will help share the good news with the Deaf.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

IN HONOR OF

Edith Hotchkiss and Shaun Johnston

Marvin Budd

Margaret May Grove

Linda Croson

Connect with Us

https://www.3adm.org

Three Angels Deaf Ministries P.O. Box 1946 Greenbelt, MD 20768-1946

Email: <u>3adm@3adm.org</u> Voice/VP: 301-850-0542 "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:15



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What's Inside?

- New Booth Look!
- Deaf Expos
- APM Online Course
- 3ADM-Sponsored AFCOE Training
- Sampson's Testimony