



A quarterly e-newsletter

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# Covid-19: What You Can Do

Hello, readers! As you all probably know, COVID-19 has caused a lot of panic around the world. It is for this reason that many of our events for this year have canceled or are in the process of being canceled or postponed. We apologize for the inconvenience that this has caused. There are, however, things that we can still do to help with deaf ministry. The number one thing is to stay calm and stay healthy. Follow the health advisories, wash your hands regularly and properly, practice good hygiene, and if you do get sick, stay home.



You will be more of a blessing to others by not spreading the sickness if you have it. For all of us, it is a good idea to practice social distancing and self-quarantine. Sorry extroverts, I understand how difficult this can be. You may be wondering, "How can I be a blessing to others and to deaf ministry if I am social distancing and self-quarantined?" The good news is, you can! First of all, we all need prayer. There is nothing more powerful than coming before God in prayer. Please pray, not only for deaf ministry, but for everyone affected by the Coronavirus. This is something everyone can do. You

can also take some time to send us some articles, if you are able. It does not have to be anything big, we just need you and your abilities. Please send us those articles! If you are involved in deaf ministry in your local area, remember to stay in contact with your deaf members. Even if you cannot see them face to face, try to keep in contact via phone, email, Skype, etc. whatever works best for you and them. Keep encouraging them and be a positive influence around you. People need to see the love of Jesus through whatever is happening. Stay calm and stay connected! 🙌

*Brennan Jarnes is the editor of The Adventist Interpreter Connection and lives in Westport, Washington*



# The Need for Deaf Camp

Have you ever experienced the joy of summer camp? Those exciting days when you would pack up and leave home for a week to enjoy outdoor adventures with new friends? While I did not grow up in the Adventist Church, I do remember my mom sending my

sister and I off to Leoni Meadows for the week shortly after we became Adventist. I attended Cowboy Camp and had the opportunity to ride horses all day every day for a whole week! My sister went to Indian Camp. During that first summer I decid-

ed that I wanted to be a wrangler at Cowboy Camp when I was old enough. When I was eventually old enough to be a camp staff, it changed my life forever. I made lifelong friendships there and made an impact on campers' lives for Christ. I even met my husband there, who was also a wrangler. Summer Camp holds a very special place in my heart.

That first summer when I was a camper at Leoni Meadows, I noticed that there was a special camp for children who were Deaf. My love for sign language tugged at my heart, and I really wanted to work with Deaf campers. Unknown to me, the funding from Christian Record Services was cut shortly after that summer, and Deaf camp was no longer held at Adventist Camps. In other locations, the funding which came from benefactors for Deaf camp was also cut, and the camp for Deaf children ceased to continue. While summer camp

still impacted me in a big way, the camps that would impact Deaf children were no longer possible.

The need for a summer camp for Deaf children is great. Stories have circulated from a camp held years ago at Camp MiVoden about the fun times the staff had with the campers, and the impact it made on their lives. Summer camp impacts children in a big way.

While praying over the need for a summer camp for Deaf children, last year a committee was formed of three individuals who requested

Washington Conference to host the Deaf camp at Sunset Lake Camp. Washington Conference immediately saw the need and began working to support the endeavor. While plans were originally set for 2019, it was increasingly clear that 2020 would allow more time to gather funding. We are working on raising enough funds to subsidize each camper and to pay for our own staff. God is raising the money slowly but surely.

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Check out archived meetings presented by John Bradshaw at [hopeawakens.com](http://hopeawakens.com)



# Update: Adventist Interpreters' Conference 2020

Sadly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the financial impact it has had, it has been decided to postpone the 2020 Adventist Interpreters' Conference. Shortly after making this decision, Southern Deaf Camp Meeting announced that they were postponing until 2021. Pray that we will be able to gather together next year in Georgia for our Adventist Interpreters' Conference! Updates in planning and how to register will be available at a later time. 🙏

## FROM THE EDITOR

Hello, readers!

I'm Brennan Jarnes, the new editor of the *Adventist Interpreter Connection*. I am seventeen years old and working under the supervision of my mom, Nohe Jarnes. Our previous editor (who wishes to remain anonymous) has stepped down due to technological differences. We are extremely grateful for all the work she has done for this newsletter.



You may have noticed a few changes to the *Adventist Interpreter Connection*, not the least being the new look and addition of end marks. The newsletter is now under the umbrella of the North American Division of Seventh-Day Adventists (NAD) and we decided to give it a new look and feel. I am also introducing a new goal for the *Connection*: to receive more articles without asking. The heart and soul of any newsletter is its readers and contributors, and we cannot continue without you. It does not matter how good at writing you are, that is why we have editors. Share those stories! Also, if you have any feedback about the newsletter or an article that you liked in it, we would like to hear your comments and publish them in a "Notes to the Editor" section. Share your feedback and comments with us! If you would like to send us those articles and comments, you can email them to us at [7th-dayterps@gmail.com](mailto:7th-dayterps@gmail.com).

God Bless, Brennan Jarnes 🙏

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While the money is slowly being raised, we desperately need your help. If you would like to be part of this project and impact Deaf children's lives in a huge way, donate money to make this week of camp happen! Donations can be made online through Washington Conference Adventist Giving. Go to [www.washingtonconference.org](http://www.washingtonconference.org) and hover on "give" at the top, then click on "online giving" in the list. That will lead you to a second page that has options you can give to. Click on "Sunset Lake Camp Deaf Ministries" and donate. Be sure not to click on "Sunset Lake Camp" because that is a different ministry altogether.

If you would like to send your money in the form of a check, please make out the check to "Sunset Lake Camp Deaf Ministries" and mail it to: Washington Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Attn: Treasury De-

partment 32229 Weyerhaeuser Way S, Federal Way, WA 98001.

If you have any questions about this wonderful ministry, please reach out to me! I would love to speak to you on this. If you are unable to donate money but still want to help, we desperately need your prayers. Please pray for this ministry as we make an impact on the lives of Deaf children for Christ!

Note: Deaf Camp for the 2020 summer has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Thank you for your continued donations, prayer and support. Please stay tuned for updates.

*Nohelani Jarnes is an interpreter and on the Sunset Lake Deaf Camp Committee*



## **2020 Ministry Cancellations due to COVID-19**

- GC Session postponed to 2021; no exhibits, only meetings
- Deaf Camp at Sunset Lake Camp postponed to 2021
- Southern Deaf Camp Meeting postponed to 2021
- Adventist Interpreters' Conference postponed to 2021
- Western Deaf Camp Meeting postponed to 2021
- Several conferences have postponed their local camp meeting until 2021
- Be sure to check and see if an event is canceled or not before making plans to attend!