ELDA President’s Corner:

We had the ELDA Conference in Malvern, PA. Seventy people gathered last August 2010. ELDA Conference Committee had been worked very hard to make event successful! I want to say many thanks to Christ the King Deaf Church, Word of Life Deaf Church, St. Philip’s Lutheran Church of the Deaf committee members for their effort, time, and hard working. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet old and new faces. During ELDA meeting, we discussed new design for our website and newsletter, Global Mission guidelines, we responded to the ELCA draft on Human Disabilities, Interpreting Ministry, Midwest Retreat, and more. The most important is that we had a wonderful opportunity to meet Dr. Jensen Seyenkulo, Director for Disability Ministries and Deaf Ministry under ELCA. I am very pleased to have him with us during the ELDA Conference. He did a great job by involving us during various activities to learn about our culture and language. ELDA Board members and Jensen discussed how we can expand and improve Pastor Beth Lockard’s position as ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator and Interpreting Ministry. ELDA Board members are looking forward to working with him over the years!

We have more excitement coming up! We will have an interpreting workshop in PA in Spring 2011, Midwest Retreat (Location TBD) in Fall 2011, and ELDA Conference in Sioux Falls, SD in Summer 2012. Please keep eyes for more information over website at www.eldadeaf.org and ELDA newsletter. If you have not registered to receive ELDA newsletter quarterly, please go to www.eldadeaf.org to register.

Last, I want to say many thanks for those people who had donated to ELDA over the years. We continue to work to make sure we provide support and giving fund such as Haitian Timoun Foundation, Interpreting workshops, give the Zechariah Fund to those who attended seminary to study to become a pastor, and more... Without your support, it would not possible for us to be able to provide for them to be able to continue their ministries. If you are interested in donating, please send to Connie Wallace, Treasurer, Christ the King Deaf Church 730 S. New Street, West Chester, PA 19382.

Peacefully,
Mark Koterwski
ELDA President
Dear Friends in Christ:

It was a blessing to see so many of you at our conference in August! Almost 70 people gathered in Pennsylvania during our infamous heat wave. That made our tours uncomfortable but we enjoyed the inside activities at the retreat center: interesting workshops, fun youth activities, silly skits, delicious family meals, “green” arts & crafts, important business meetings, and chatting all night! We are ready to do it again in 2012 in Sioux Falls!

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the hardworking Committee from Word of life Deaf Lutheran (Lancaster), Christ the King Deaf Church (West Chester), and St. Philip’s Lutheran Church of the Deaf (Philadelphia). Connie Wallace was our chairperson and her crew was Luanne & Gordon Bartens, Bev Groff, Jenn Hagerty, Tracy & Jennifer Hallman, Pauline Johnston, Bill & Doris MacKay, and myself. We learned to work as a team and use our individual strengths. Our big challenge was having interpreters available for our Deaf-blind delegate.

I salute the winner of the Shining Light Award, Daniel Glenney. Dan died in December 2008 after a short illness. As a member of St. Philip’s (Philadelphia), Dan was active in every part of his church life, serving as lector, worship assistant, Council president for 30 years, assistant to the Deaf high school religion classes, and the man who always gave people rides to church, the doctor’s, the store, etc. We called him “Mr. Coffee” because he always arrived early to start the coffee and greet people. When St. Philip’s had pastoral vacancies, he kept the church open. Dan was very active in all the ELDA conferences we have had. His award was accepted by his two daughters, Janet and Karan, who interpreted our conference.

We also salute Heartland Ephphatha Ministries (Sioux Falls) for winning the City on the Hill Award. This church group has been active in serving their community in a variety of service projects, making DVDs, and collaborating with their hearing congregation, Peace Lutheran. HEM will be the next host of the 2012 ELDA conference.

Here’s a link to the video of our ELDA 2010 memories:
Of course, we need to thank the skit winners from Word of Life Deaf Lutheran. Runners up were Christ the King and HEM. WOLD will have the honor of decorating the cheesehead award for the next winner.

We thank Pr. Russ Rockwell for all his technical leadership at the conference. He also put together a power point picture presentation to use when our guest speaker was unable to come. His work took much time and effort and our ELDA Board agreed to set up a tech team to take care of future conferences. We thank our childcare team of Jenn Hagerty, Jessie and Angie Shirk. They kept our youth busy and happy and set an example for future conferences.

And, at the business meeting, we voted in new secretary Jason Andera (SD) and new pastoral advisor Susan Masters (MN). They will be a good addition to our ELDA Board. While we say good bye to outgoing secretary Linda Fairbanks, we know she will be back on Board in the future!

Before the conference, I had the opportunity to lead the funeral of Amanda Zerbe Hoshauer, age 95, of Trinity Deaf Lutheran in Reading, PA. Amanda was actively involved as a member of the church for 72 years!! She served as Council president, worship assistant, Deaf Bible School, and the grandparents program among many other things. She is survived by her Deaf children Larry Hoshauer and Becky Fedio and her Deaf brother, Fred, who just celebrated his 90th birthday. Amanda now enjoys the blessings of the feast that has no end in heaven.

After the conference, we got word that Christ Through Hands Ministry in Faribault, MN, had hired a new director of Deaf Ministry. Joyce Atchison is Deaf and a youth and family counselor who is a member of Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran in Minneapolis. Joyce is a dedicated Christian and feels God led her to the right place at the right time. She is eager to meet all of you in the near future.

Enjoy the fall. May you be thankful for the many gifts God showers our way!

Pr. Beth Lockard, ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator
IN LOVING MEMORY...

As the ELDA newsletter was being prepared for mailing, we received the sad news that our sister in Christ, the Rev. Jeanne Beadle, died suddenly of an apparent heart attack on October 11. Although she was dealing with health concerns since Spring, taking a month’s vacation for doctor’s care and evaluation during the summer, in recent weeks she seemed much better and was planning new activities for her congregation at Trinity Deaf Lutheran in Reading, PA. Many of you will remember her from the recent ELDA conference and pastoral workers’ retreat which she attended all week in August. She was 63 years old.

Jeanne served as the Associate Pastor at Trinity since 2003 when she was ordained and installed February 23. She served both the Deaf and hearing congregations. She started a monthly Deaf Senior Center and served as chaplain for the “I Can” group. Before her ordination, she volunteered at Trinity with a program for Deaf school kids. She was devoted to her congregation and will be deeply missed by all.

Eleanor “Jeanne” Angstadt Beadle was the widow of John who died in 2007. She is survived by her mother Elizabeth Angstadt, a son Christopher (husband of Linda Czeiner) and a daughter, Wendy (wife of Steve Tucci). Jeanne was the grandmother of Ariel Tucci, and Ella and Tyler Czeiner.

A private family funeral was held. A memorial service is being planned for 2 p.m. October 24 at Trinity, 527 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601. Memorial gifts may also be sent to Trinity.

http://www.oldtrinity.org/beadlememorial.html

Cards may be sent to her children: Christopher Beadle, 505 West Morlatton Road, Douglassville, PA 19518 and Wendy Tucci, 115 Juniper Drive, Douglassville, PA 19518. Please remember them in their prayers during their time of grief and for the members of Trinity Deaf, that the promise of the resurrection may comfort them. Blessed are those who die in the Lord!
DATE:  Fall 2010
TO:   All ELCA Deaf Ministries
FROM:  ELDA Treasurer Connie Wallace

Dear Friends in Christ:

We have received some generous gifts to Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association during the ELDA conference in Pennsylvania. The delegates gave a total of $233.00. I would like to thank everyone who have made contribution at the conference for your love gifts. Your offering went into the HOPE Fund to help our Deaf mission outreach.

As we approach the fall season, we encourage each church to remember our annual Thanksgiving Appeal. Gifts to this appeal go into ELDA General Fund to help us pay for the many costs of running our organization. Expenses such as Board meetings, office supplies, awards, interpreters, and other items are covered by the General Fund. We give these gifts in thanksgiving for all God gives us each day. Thanksgiving donations will be accepted through December 15.

Thanks to all the Deaf ministries who sent in their 2010 dues. Kindly pay your dues if you have not yet done so. We want to keep ELDA doing “God’s work with our hands.” All checks may be sent to “ELDA” at the above address on the letterhead.

In Christ,

Connie Wallace,
ELDA Treasurer
WHAT'S HAPPENING

This is the part of the newsletter where you can help! We want to know “what’s happening” in your ministry. Send us stories, pictures, articles or anything of interest. Please email to jason@peacelutheran.com

St. Philip’s Lutheran Church of the Deaf (PA) • Chicago Deaf Lutheran Ministry (IL), Word of Life Lutheran Church of the Deaf (PA) • Trinity Deaf Lutheran Ministry (PA) St. Matthews (CA) www.stmatthewsnoho.org • Hands of Christ Deaf Ministry (WI) www.hocdeaf.org Christ the King Deaf Church (PA) www.ctkdeafchurch.com Bread of Life Deaf Church (MN) www.breadoflifedeaf.org Heartland Ephphatha Ministries (SD) www.deaffaith.com

Christ Through Hands

Christ Through Hands Ministry in Faribault, MN, hired a new director of Deaf Ministry. Joyce Atchison is Deaf and a youth and family counselor who is a member of Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran in Minneapolis. Joyce is a dedicated Christian and feels God led her to the right place at the right time. She is eager to meet all of you in the near future.

LEFT PHOTO: Here is a photo of our Deaf Youth Group at our first meeting last Wed Oct 6th. We were playing a “getting to know you” game by tossing a ball of yarn crosswise across the group and we ended up forming a star! There are fourteen 9-12 graders in this Deaf Youth Group and 4 Deaf adult volunteers assisting me, Joyce Atchison, Director of CTHM. (Faribault, MN)

RIGHT PHOTO: In photo: L to R: Deaf Senior Citizens Corrine Peterson and Kathy Potter. With the arrival of Joyce Atchison Bouley, new Director of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Christ Through Hands Ministry in Faribault, MN, we started a Deaf Senior Citizens Coffee, Tea, and Devotionals group (CTD) this Fall. This lively discussion group meets bi-weekly downtown at the Coffee Shop in Faribault MN to focus on prayer, spirituality, and fellowship.
Christ the King Deaf in Pennsylvania

This ministry just completed their new website at www.ctkdeafchurch.com

They have their new social services program

**DEAF CAN! Deaf Community Action Network = DeafCAN!**

PURPOSE: DeafCAN! is a new social service outreach program established in September 2010 to help an increasing number of Deaf and hard of hearing people coming to or contacting Christ the King Deaf Church for assistance.

SUPPORT: This project was selected by Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries to receive a three-year seed grant to help with establishing outreach support. Additional resources are being sought.

CURRENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES:

- Beginning, Intermediate and Advanced ASL classes
- Coordination of the Deaf Women Connection
- Prisoner advocacy and visitation
- Information and Referral
- Literacy classes for Intellectually & Developmentally challenged

DEAF CAN! COMMITTEE: Our Church Council has established a “DeafCAN!” Committee to advise them on the needs of Deaf and hard of hearing people, best service possibilities, finding resources, and keeping Deaf/HOH people in the forefront of all decisions and planning. Four of the seven Committee members are Deaf and hard of hearing. The following are members of that Committee:

Kate Carbone, Kathie Gray-Plotkin, Michele Krech, MSW, Rev. Beth Lockard, M.Ed., William Lockard, M.A, Dr. Virginia Sutton, Connie Wallace

Heartland Ephphatha Ministries

Just finished another sign choir video. This song is “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”. The song was translated by James Johnson, Angela Koterwski and Sarah Andera. The members of the sign choir are Belinda Panek, Angela Koterwski, Alison Lounsbery and Stacie Miller. Go to www.DeafFaith.com to watch the song.
Go to www.ELDADeaf.org for pictures, information, videos, links to ministries and more.