



Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association

ELDA Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3
Fall 2008

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope you all had a nice summer!

We had a successful ELDA Conference 2008. There were 70 registrations from different states that came to Roseville, near St. Paul, Minnesota. There were 4 wonderful workshops - Deaf Hospice Project, Pink Deafies (cancer survivors), Caring Hands, and Deaf Community Health Workers. During the ELDA meeting, we passed a resolution to make ELDA a "Green" Organization. Please read the resolution of Environmental Awareness in newsletter and website for more detail. We visited the Mall of America and the historic Mill District Museum. I am sure everyone who attended the ELDA Conference had a new experience with storm during skits show on Friday night. We had to go to the basement for safety as there are several tornado warnings. We stayed in the hallways and waited for about 45 minutes until the storms passed over us. Two tornadoes actually hit nearby.

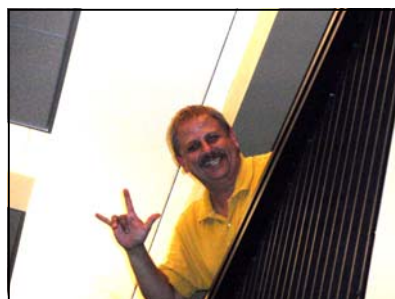
On Behalf of ELDA Board members, we all are very proud of the ELDA Conference 2008 Committee for their wonderful hard work to make the event successful. We would not have had this wonderful event without their guidance and arrangements. Again, thanks to the Committee for their time and dedication!!

I want to share an update about a neat event for youth. We are very proud to host a Christian Youth Retreat at Camp Lakodia in Madison, South Dakota on Aug 3 – 6, 2009. You will see more details inside this newsletter and on ELDA's website.

We have two important holidays coming up soon that we celebrate in very special ways the things God has shared with us! They're Thanksgiving and Christmas Season!!! Thanksgiving is when we share and give thanks for what we have on the Earth. Christmas is the very precious moment to celebrate Jesus' birth! We wish you wonderful Season's Greetings!

God bless you all!!!

President Mark Koterwski



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Resolution of Environmental Awareness

- Ratified at ELDA Conference in Minneapolis, MN July 2008

Whereas, global warming and pollution are having an increasing negative impact on our planet and natural resources (air, water, earth, plants, animals, etc);

Whereas, the earth belongs to the Lord and we are the caretakers and stewards (Genesis 1 and 2);

Whereas, many churches are looking for ways to educate their people and help them to be better stewards of their time, talents, resources and environment;

Whereas the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association (ELDA) is in a position to distribute information and serve as a role model for its members;

Be it so resolved that ELDA will attempt to serve as a “green” organization by 1) sharing information and tips for stewardship in its newsletter and website, 2) cutting down on unnecessary waste of resources at its meetings and conferences, 3) modeling the recycling and re-using of resources in a variety of ways, 4) attempting to purchase energy efficient and organic products when possible, 5) and urge member congregations to model ELDA’s efforts.

And be it further resolved that ELDA will focus their collective efforts on these issues at their next conference in 2010.

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SPOTLIGHT: Barbara Schmidt Honored for Volunteer Service

Editor's Note: This article replaces the Corners in this issue of the ELDA Newsletter.



Barbara Schmidt of Coon Rapids was honored nationally with the MetLife Foundation's 2008 Older Volunteers Enrich America Award. (Photo and article by Sue Austreng, staff writer for Coon Rapids Herald)

Barbara Schmidt's life overflows with activity, abounds with passion and permeates the lives of those around her with hope, with help, with life, with dignity.

Schmidt, a hearing-impaired resident of Coon Rapids, travels the country, holding hands, lifting hearts and opening eyes to the needs of her peers: the aging population of the deaf and hard of hearing.

For her passionate and untiring efforts on behalf of senior citizens, the MetLife Foundation recently recognized Schmidt with the Older Volunteers Enrich America Award.

Visit ELDA's website at www.elcadeaf.org to read the complete article.

HUMOR: A Little Help, Please

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for Bible class. As she ran she prayed, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...but please don't shove me either!"

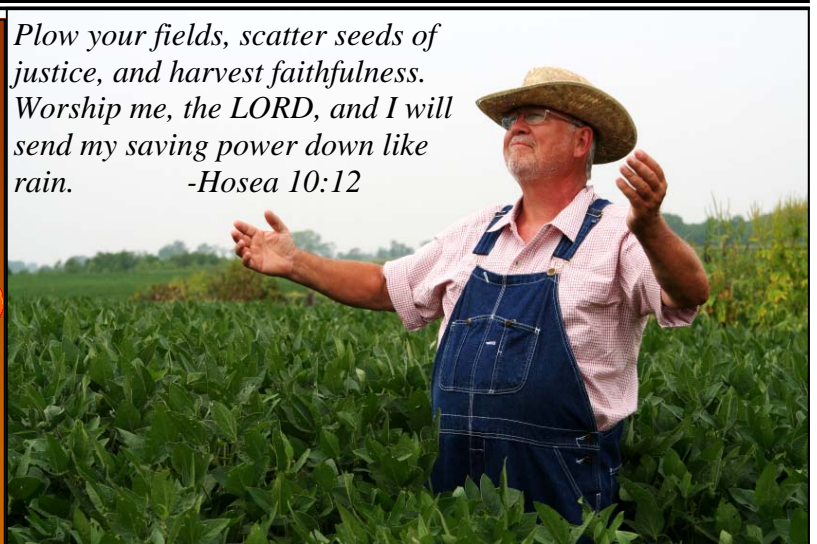
**The LORD is my God!
I will praise Him
and tell Him how**



I am.

- Psalm 118:28

Plow your fields, scatter seeds of justice, and harvest faithfulness. Worship me, the LORD, and I will send my saving power down like rain. -Hosea 10:12



Christian Youth Retreat At Camp Lakodia

Hosted by ELDA – Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association



45156 235th Street
Madison, South Dakota
Aug 3– 6, 2009

Deaf, Hard of Hearing, KODA, & Siblings

(Need to be able to use sign language to communicate and has to attend middle/high school in Fall 2009)



Social activities, structured activities, Swimming, Discovery - Course, community service, worship, devotional, and more.
Limited to 30 youth participants.

Registration form

Name(s): _____ Parents Name: _____

Cost per person:	\$160.00 before Dec 30, 2008	\$190.00 before Feb 28, 2009
	\$220.00 before April 17, 2009	\$250.00 after April 17, 2009

The costs in the list above include lodge, meals, snacks, and registration. You will be responsible for arrangements and expenses for travel. If you need assistance with travel arrangements, please feel free to contact me.

\$ _____ x # _____ = \$ _____ (Money Order or Check)

I will bring my child(ren) to Camp Lakodia on Monday, August 3rd after 3 pm, and pick them up on Thursday, August 6th before 1 pm.

I will bring my child(ren) to the Peace Lutheran Church parking lot (5509 W. 41st Street) in Sioux Falls on Monday, August 3rd at 1:30 pm. We will depart from the church at 2 pm. And, I will also pick them up at the church on Thursday, August 6th at 2:00 pm.

My child(ren) need to be picked up and dropped off at the Sioux Falls Airport.
 Arrival at Sioux Falls on Monday, August 3rd at _____ Airline: _____ Flight: _____
 Depart from Sioux Falls on Thurs., August 6th at _____ Airline: _____ Flight: _____

Mail Registration, Medical, & Liability Release form with check or money order to:
 Mark Koterwski, Co-Chair 225 N. James Ave., Tea South Dakota 57064

Contact me for more info; Voice: 800-340-4508, Videophone: markangela.no-ip.info, email: markangela@iw.net
 There will be no refund after April 17, 2009



**ELDA Christian Youth Retreat
Medical and Liability Release Form**
(One form for each youth participant please)

Participant: _____ Birth Date _____ Grade _____
 Home Address _____ School: _____
 City _____ State: _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ (TTY, Voice, Videophone)
 Email address: _____ Alt. Email Address: _____
 Mother's Name _____
 Cell Phone (Text Y/N) _____ Home Phone _____
 Employer _____ Work Phone _____
 Father's Name _____
 Cell Phone (Text Y/N) _____ Home Phone _____
 Employer _____ Work Phone _____
 Emergency Contact & Phone _____ Relation _____
 Insurance Co. _____ Policy Number _____
 Carrier _____ Parent Responsible for Medical Bills _____
 Family Doctor _____ Doctor Phone _____

Hospital: May be admitted to Madison Community Hospital (local) first. If person need more advanced care, he/she will transfer to Sanford Hosp. or Avera McKenna Hosp in Sioux Falls. Please circle your Preference:

Medical History _____
 Medical Conditions/Concerns: _____
 Allergies _____
 Previous injuries: _____
 Physical Limitations: _____
 Diet Plan/Restriction: _____

I give ELDA Staff permission to give my child the following medication(s):

ELDA and Camp Lakodia will make every effort to prevent accidents and injuries. However, We – ELDA will not be held accountable if such should happen.

I, _____, the parent of legal guardian of _____ do hereby consent to any hospital, medical, or surgical care, and treatment and the administration of anesthesia, determined by a qualified physician to be necessary for the welfare of my child while my child is under the care and custody of an adult leader of any activity sponsored by ELDA, and I cannot reasonably be contacted for consent. I understand that I am responsible for and agree to pay all costs and expenses incurred in connection with such medical and dental services rendered to my child pursuant to this Authorization.

Youth Signature _____

Parent Signature _____ Parent Signature _____

Dated this _____ day of _____ 200__.

 I grant my child permission to be photographed, videotaped, or interviewed for the website, publications, or press.

Parent Signature _____ Dated: _____

DID YOU EVER WONDER?

Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His Resurrection?

The Burial Cloth - Did you ever wonder and think: Just 'why' did Jesus fold up this cloth and lay it, separated from the other linen after His resurrection?

Or perhaps you have read the account in the Holy Bible, and didn't pay much attention to it. If so, I have a wonderful revelation for you!

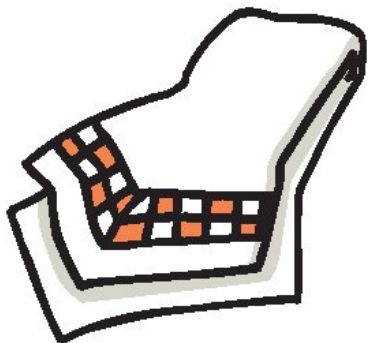
The Bible states, "Then Simon Peter . . . arrived and went into the garden tomb, in the Garden of Gethsemane. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen." (Gospel of John 20:6,7 NIV)

This burial cloth had been placed over the face of Jesus just before His burial in the tomb. Traditionally, in accordance with Jewish burial customs the strips of linen, cloth separate from the burial cloth over the face, had been wrapped around Jesus' body before burial in the tomb. While the strips of linen were simply lying there, the cloth that had covered the face of Jesus was folded up by itself, separated from the grave clothes, the strips of linen. Jesus had put aside His strips of linen and had taken the time to fold up his burial cloth and set it apart from the strips of linen. Why? Why does the Bible emphasize the importance of this, taking **an entire verse** to tell us about it? What is the importance? Is it significant? Keep reading for an amazing revelation!

In order to understand the significance of the folded cloth, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition. The folded napkin had to do with a clear message between a Master and his Servant. Every Jewish person knows this tradition. When the servant set the dinner table for his master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. After the table was perfectly furnished perfectly then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating. The servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

When the master was done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth and clean his beard. The master would then wad up that napkin into a ball and toss it onto the table. The servant would then know to clear the table. The wadded napkin give the clear message, saying, "I'm done."

However, if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table. The folded cloth give this clear message, saying, "I'm not finished yet. ***I'm coming back!***"



-Contributed by Betty Rose, Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church



2008
Thanksgiving Appeal



Any church or individual wishing to make a gift to ELDA in thanksgiving for the many gifts received from God during the year can do so.

Funds received from this appeal go directly into our general fund which finances operating expenses such as Board meetings, supplies and conference expenses.

Please be generous... send your check to:

*Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association
Office of the Treasurer
c/o 730 South New Street
West Chester, PA 19382*



Thank you!



ELDA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Many memorable moments occurred during the ELDA Conference this summer. A severe storm Friday night with tornadoes touching down nearby provided a little excitement, but thankfully everyone at the Conference was kept safe.

There was a wonderful youth presence at the conference - in fact, the youth skit took first prize at the skit competition! It was an enjoyable evening with much laughter, thoughts to ponder, and a friendly competitive spirit. We learned, laughed, ate and prayed together. (Note: More photos on ELDA's website!)



More photos on ELDA's website:
www.elcadeaf.org!

ELDA CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



Evangelical
Lutheran Deaf
Association

ELDA HONORS

SHINING LIGHT AWARD

This award is for any individual in recognition of his or her outstanding Christ-like ideals demonstrated through his or her work.

Rev. Dayton Williams
Chicago, IL

*“Make your light so shine, that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in Heaven.”
(Matthew 5:16)*

CITY ON A HILL AWARD

This award is for any congregation or organization in recognition of their donation of resources, programs, or ministries that strengthen the Church's outreach to Deaf people with the Gospel anywhere.

Hands of Christ Deaf Ministry
Appleton, WI

“You are like light for the whole world. A city built on top of a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14)

Pastor Dayton and Hands of Christ Deaf Ministry each received a plaque engraved with their name and a big wave of appreciation for their service and dedication.

Congratulations!



Message from ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator

- Pastor Beth Lockard

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:



Where has the summer gone? It seems the older we get, the faster time flies. It was absolutely wonderful to see so many of you at the ELDA Conference near Minneapolis this past July. Each year we add a new memory to our experiences together and this year was the year the tornadoes passing nearby forced us to take shelter in the basement! This was a new experience for those of us who came from the west and part of the east coast. Storms remind us how powerful nature is and how much we depend on God for His care and protection! We thank the members of Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran for hosting us all so graciously.

I am delighted that our conference voted on the Resolution of Environmental Awareness that encourages us to be a "green" organization that cares for the beautiful earth God gave us responsibility for. Each of our Deaf ministries is encouraged to be a good steward of God's creation with our use and reuse of time, talents, and resources. Already two Deaf churches, Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran (Minneapolis) and St. Philip's Deaf Lutheran (Philadelphia) have sent in money they raised from collecting aluminum cans. Your trash can become cash and keep the earth "greener" in the long run.

Our new conference committee is composed of three churches in Pennsylvania (St. Philip's Deaf Lutheran in Philadelphia, Christ the King Deaf Church in West Chester, and Word of Life Deaf Lutheran in Lancaster). They are just getting started but the plan now is to host the next conference in July 2010 right before the National Association of the Deaf convention in Philadelphia which meets July 5--10. That means our pastoral workers would meet June 27--30, the ELDA Board on June 30--July 1, and all the delegates on July 1--4! How exciting to be in the America's historical birthplace during Independence Day weekend! The Committee will keep you posted with the details. Save the dates now!

ELDA 2010
PENNSYLVANIA
 MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
July 1-4, 2010

As we approach the holy day season, may you remember to thank our Heavenly Father for His many good gifts to us and celebrate His birth into our world. A gift to ELDA will be put to good use as we seek to reach more of our Deaf brothers and sisters around the world.

Joy,
 Pastor Beth Lockard
 ELCA Deaf Ministries Coordinator



Evangelical
Lutheran
Deaf
Association

WE'VE GOT A QUESTION

This is a repeat request - I didn't get any responses!! Please share - others want to know!

Do you use songs or music during worship?

Is music or song (signed) important in worship at your church? Why or why not?

Share your ideas, comments, suggestions - what works at your church, what doesn't work, and why.

Your responses will be shared in the next issue of ELDA's newsletter.

Please send your comments to the [ELDA Newsletter Editor](#). Prefer to mail? See below for my mailing address.

Please Contribute!

SUGGESTION: Send me your church newsletters! I'll even pay postage. I can use excerpts from your newsletters OR submissions from you. I've started receiving newsletters from some churches - thank you!!

Here is the DESIRED Publishing Schedule, established by the ELDA Board:

January 15
May 15
October 15

Your news and pictures need to be emailed or snail mailed to me **at least one month before** the next issue:

before December 15 (for January 15)
before April 15
before September 15

POLICY:

If I get your news too late for one issue, it will appear in the next one.

SEND ME STUFF!!

To email me: skyeyes@new.rr.com

I can handle email attachments of your articles as well as pictures. PDF, Word, pictures, etc. are fine.

HINT, HINT: **EVERYBODY LOVES PICTURES!!**

To mail to me:
ELDA Newsletter
c/o Leslie Riggs
407 W. Foster St.
Appleton, WI 54915

If requested, I will mail your "stuff" back. Don't forget to tell me which church or ministry you are "reporting" news from!

THANK YOU !