



UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON DEAF AND HARD-OF-HEARING MINISTRIES

To share Jesus' love by equipping and advocating access through effective communication and leadership among the diverse Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, Late-Deafened, and Deaf-blind communities.

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Deaf Choir to Perform at General Conference



The Deaf choir from Christ United Methodist Church of the Deaf in Baltimore, Maryland was one of several choirs selected to perform at General Conference in Portland, Oregon in May of 2016. The choir has performed at past General Conferences



and is delighted to be able to perform at the conference once again. The Deaf choir has an opportunity to promote Deaf awareness across the denomination and highlight the importance of Deaf ministry. Delegates from annual conferences, representatives from United Methodist agencies, and the Council of Bishops will be in attendance at General Conference. General Conference is The United Methodist Church's legislative body. (Continued on p. 2)

Deaf Ministry – Best Practices

Providing fellowship opportunities is this quarter's Deaf ministry best practice. One aspect of Deaf culture is community. Having Deaf fellowship at your church is an extension of this. Hosting potlucks, gathering for ASL storytelling, showing Deaf-related movies, and doing missional work are just a few examples of Deaf fellowship.

Check out our
website at
www.umcdhm.org

Join us on Facebook

Deaf Choir continued...

The Deaf choir is doing fundraising to help pay for their trip. They are accepting gifts and donations. Please send checks made payable to Christ UMC of the Deaf. Put "2016 GC" on the memo line. Mail checks to:

Christ UMC of the Deaf
1040 S. Beechfield Ave
Baltimore, MD 21229



INTERPRETING AT CHURCH



A PARADIGM FOR SIGN
LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS.
4TH EDITION

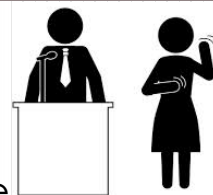
LEO YATES, JR.

NEW BOOK AVAILABLE FOR INTERPRETERS

Individuals and churches who have an interpreted ministry will be interested to know that *Interpreting at Church, 4th Edition* is now available at Amazon.com. New updates, an enhanced sign dictionary, and new resources are included in this edition. The author explains various facets of interpreting, as well as recommendations from other seasoned interpreters. It's a great resource for any church library.

Interpreted Ministry - Best Practices

This quarter's *best practice* for the interpreted ministry is **professional development**. Professional development often includes skill development and furthering of one's knowledge about the profession in general, ethics, and knowledge about specific interpreting settings. Workshops, seminars, mentorships, and conferences are typical venues for professional development. Interestingly, professional development is common among disciplines, which include psychotherapists, teachers, nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, and among others.



The Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf (RID) has a database of professional development opportunities, and frequently update their website about new workshops. The website is www.rid.org. Also, the Christian organization, Deaf Missions, offers periodic conferences for Christian interpreters. The website is www.deafmissions.org. Along with these, The Professional Christian Church Interpreters (PCCI) conference offers professional development opportunities. More information can be read at www.GodsHandsAgency.com.

Reading journal articles, RID Views articles (a published magazine), as well as interpreting-related and Deaf ministry-related books are recommended.



Grants Available

The United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries offers grants for seed money for new ministries, domestic and international mission outreach, Deaf camps, communication access, and scholarships. To read the guidelines and to get an application, download it from www.umcdhm.org/download/grant.doc.

DEAF MINISTRY CONSULTATION

The Rev. Dr. Tom Hudspeth is the consultant representing The United Methodist Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries. This free consultation can include what resources are available, program planning, recommendations for improving your Deaf ministry, available grants, and among other needs. Rev. Tom can be reached at thudspeth@lumc.org.

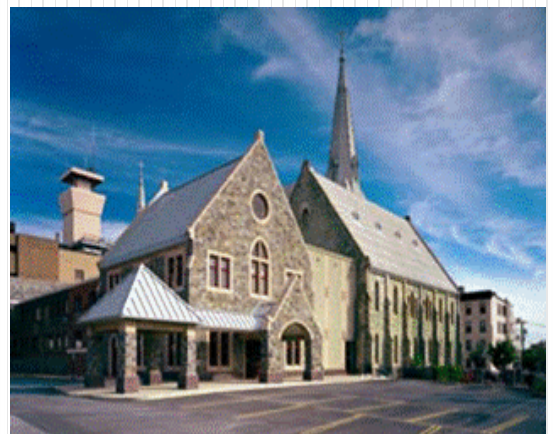


Deaf Ministry - A Closer Look

~ Grace United Methodist Church

Grace United Methodist Church is highlighted in this quarter's, *A Closer Look*. Grace UMC is located in the Pen-Del annual conference. The history of the church itself goes back to 1865, and the Deaf ministry at Grace UMC started several years ago. Karen Miller, a Deaf lay-servant, is the director of the Deaf ministry. "Our pastor, Rev. Anne Pruett-Barnett, is very supportive of our Deaf ministry," says Miller. Grace UMC has an interpreter during Sunday worship. Also, Miller provides case management, does hospital visits, coordinates the annual tax preparation day for Deaf people, offers support to Deaf people in the community, is an advocate, and promotes Deaf awareness. Grace UMC is located at 900 N. Washington St. Wilmington, DE19801

www.gracechurchum.org/



To have your church or ministry highlighted in a future newsletter, please contact Rev. Leo Yates, Jr. at leoyjr@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.

Save the Dates – July 17-19 and 21-24, 2016

July 17-19, Deaf Church worker training, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota. This is a Lutheran led event open to all denominations.

July 21-24, Gathering of the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf, Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association and Episcopal Conference of the Deaf, St. Catherine University, St. Paul, Minnesota. For costs and registration, contact Rev. Tom Hudspeth at thudspeth@llumc.org or by vp 469-522-2974.

Be Sure to Check Out our Sister Committee



*Disability Ministries Committee
of the
United Methodist Church*



www.umdisministryministries.org

News from ... **United Methodist Congress of the Deaf**

A history making ecumenical partnership is forming between the Deaf Ministries of the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf, Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association and United Methodist Congress of the Deaf. Nine (9) clergy and lay representatives of the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf (ECD), the Evangelical Lutheran Deaf Association (ELDA), and the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf (UMCD) met July 24-25, 2015, at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas and finalized the proposed partnership which is being called Deaf ELM. "Our effort goes beyond 'talking and agreeing' and works toward doing and serving together in ecumenical ministry," stated Rev. Dr. Kirk VanGilder, vice-president of UMCD and newly appointed Moderator of Deaf ELM for the coming year. "As fellow mainline Protestant denominations, our similarities are strong enough to create bonds between us as we envision and create shared ministry and mission."



Left to right: Rev. Marianne Stuart, President, ECD; Lee Holland, ECD; Cass Martensen, ECD; Don Rosenkjar, ELDA; Rev. Beth Lockard, ELDA; Mark Koterwski, ELDA; Rev. Tom Hudspeth, UMCD; Carol Stevens, UMCD; Rev. Kirk VanGilder, UMCD.