



## Deaf Ministry Week 2016



The goal of Deaf Ministry week is to reach out to the hearing and Deaf community and bring them together as a single church body for deep study of God's Word, the Divine Service and Mission work. In the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod there continues to be a need for interpreted or ASL worship services for the Christian men and women that are part of the Deaf community. There is also a deep need for devotional and mission resources for the Deaf community as this community grows together with the other communities within the church. It is the hope of Lutheran Friends of the Deaf, in partnership with Life in Christ Lutheran Church, to meet these needs and continue to foster a deep commitment by the church at large to the Deaf community.

In this packet are included: A list of classes, a list of instructors and a schedule for Deaf ministry week. We ask that all who plan to attend Deaf ministry week register at <https://millneck.org/deaf-ministry-week-2016/>. Currently the charge for the week is \$100. (This charge does not apply for 1. those attending only Deaf events or 2. members from Life in Christ Lutheran Church due to their partnership with LFD.) There is a scholarship available for those who need it.

If there are any questions or concerns please contact Pastor Tyler Walworth at [Tyler.Walworth@gmail.com](mailto:Tyler.Walworth@gmail.com).

# Classes

Name	Description
<b>Topics on Suffering, Prayer &amp; God's Word</b>	What Does the Christian life look like in action? These topics will explore Christian spirituality and the day to day life of the Christian. From Prayer to Suffering to God's Word, we will explore the impact of the Triune God as we live out our Christianity in a confusing world.
<b>Outreach Workshop</b>	What does it take to bring the gifts of Christ to the Deaf community? There are unique challenges for each situation. From hearing churches starting a Deaf outreach to a group of Deaf Christians looking to start a new church, it is important to discuss what outreach looks like and how it is done in this specialized community.
<b>Beginning ASL</b>	A basic course in ASL is a great way to begin a journey of bringing Christ's gifts to the Deaf. Maybe you are just curious about learning this beautiful language. Either way, this class will give you the basics for communicating on a simple level with the Deaf community.
<b>Hymns and Glossing</b>	English hymns can be difficult because of their specialized language, complex messages and heavy reliance on English rhyme and rhythm. It is important to communicate the depth of these poetic ideas with an equally deep, poetic ASL message that is faithful to the message in the hymns.
<b>Signing the Liturgy</b>	Just as the rhythm of life forms a deep impression on our minds, so the rhythm of the liturgy forms a deep impression on our entire being as Christians. Because of this, it is vital to clearly and effectively communicate the truths of the Gospel through the structure of the liturgy. Along with learning signs this class will include hands-on interpreting of a variety of liturgical services.
<b>Deaf Culture</b>	When bringing the gifts of Christ to any community, it is important to understand that particular community's habits, thought patterns and other unique elements that have become a deep part of the culture. This will allow for an effective application of Law and Gospel to the multiple situations that a pastor, interpreter or Christian will face when in the Deaf community.
<b>Preventing Burnout</b>	Learning any language is difficult. You have to become a child again and learn everything like it is new. This can put a lot of pressure on an interpreter or a Deaf advocate. What are some ways to relieve this pressure? This class will give some good suggestions for staying calm and getting support from Christ and His Church in times of need.
<b>Interpreting Scripture</b>	The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord. In order to communicate the very source of wisdom, it is important to understand deep and everlasting truths in scripture and communicate them clearly in ASL. This class will help understand the different genres of scripture and the way to clearly interpret the life-giving Word of God to sinners in need of grace.

<p><b>Interpreting Sermons</b></p>	<p>Interpreting a fixed text is one thing. Interpreting something new every Sunday is something totally different. On top of that, this proclamation is the living voice of God to His church today. Who wouldn't tremble at such a task as interpreting this living proclamation of God? This class will help the interpreter focus on the vital aspects necessary to clearly and properly interpret the sermon of the Pastor, so as to clearly convey the life-giving message being proclaimed.</p>
<p><b>Starting a Deaf Mission</b></p>	<p>The Holy Spirit works through the Word of God to create the Church throughout the world. How can you be part of this work? What does it take to bring this work to the Deaf community? This class will focus on the vital work of guiding a new church through the process of calling a pastor, becoming a member of the LCMS and the day-to-day functions necessary to administer this new body of believers.</p>
<p><b>Religious Signs</b></p>	<p>Although the true Church of God is one, there are many Christian denominations. These denominations have histories and thought patterns that have led them to create varying signs in accordance with their theology. This class will focus on Lutheran theology and signs, but will also increase your religious sign vocabulary with signs specific to your Christian denomination.</p>
<p><b>Intermediate ASL</b></p>	<p>This more advanced course in ASL teaches even greater communication skills in ASL. This will include increased vocabulary, better understanding of ASL structure and a deeper appreciation of the Deaf community.</p>
<p><b>Basics of the Faith</b></p>	<p>As Luther stated so long ago, the catechism can never be learned enough. Of course by catechism, Luther meant the most basic truths of the Christian faith. These truths are really the reality of the Christian life and world. These classes will offer a fresh look at the basic understanding of ourselves and the world around us through our Christian perspective.</p>
<p><b>Gospel of John</b></p>	<p>This class will take a look at the entire book of John. It will give a better understanding of the purpose of John's Gospel and the themes it presents to us today. It is the hope of this class to provide a framework for understanding John in your individual reading.</p>

# Instructors



**The Rev. Thomas W. Dunseth** is currently the Director of Deaf Ministry at Mill Neck and also serves as the Special Ministries Facilitator in Asia for the LCMS Office of International Mission. He has attended all levels of CITI, and taught at CITI for 15 years. He served as a missionary to the Deaf in Macau, China, from 1993-2001. He speaks Chinese, and knows both Chinese and American Sign Languages. He graduated with a Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1993. Rev. Dunseth lives in Michigan with his family...mostly.



**Deaconess Tiffany Manor** serves the Mill Neck Family of Organizations as a Deaf Missions Facilitator. She also is a staff member with the New England District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and previously served congregations in Michigan and Illinois, as well as Concordia Seminary. After a first career in business, B.A. in Marketing and studying in a MBA program, Deaconess Tiffany received a M.A. from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. She lives in Connecticut with her husband and 4 children.



**Mrs. Heidi D. Sias** is a deaconess intern with Lutheran Friends of the Deaf through Concordia University Chicago. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Roosevelt University, Chicago, Illinois, and a Master of Arts in Religion degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana. After graduating with her BA, Heidi attended an ASL class at Harper Community College in Palatine, Illinois. She subsequently attended the Church Interpreter Training Institute (CITI) in Fort Wayne as a student for two summers. Heidi was later asked to organize the annual summer program, which she did for more than ten years. During this time she also served as a CITI teacher and as co-director. Heidi lives in eastern Montana with her husband, John, who is pastor of three LCMS churches.



**The Rev. Tyler Walworth** is currently Deaf Missions Facilitator for Lutheran Friends of the Deaf and also serves as Missionary at Large to the Deaf in Michigan and Pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Birmingham, MI. He performed his vicarage with two Deaf churches, has taken all Deaf ministry courses offered at Concordia Theological Seminary and was an Adjunct Professor for one year of the Deaf Ministry program at Seminary. He knows American Sign Language. He graduated with a Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 2015. Rev. Walworth lives in Michigan with his family.

# Deaf Ministry Week SCHEDULE

Week of

February 21

	2/21 SUNDAY	2/22 MONDAY	2/23 TUESDAY	2/24 WEDNESDAY	2/25 THURSDAY	2/26 FRIDAY	2/27 SATURDAY	2/28 SUNDAY
8:00 AM	Worship							Worship
8:30 AM	Breakfast							
9:00 AM	Rest Time							
9:30 AM	Bible Study	Apache Trails Deaf Community		Rest Time	Rest Time	Rest Time	Bible Study	
10:00 AM	Rest Time							Conclusion/ Final Q&A
10:30 AM	Lunch							Lunch
11:00 AM	Introduction	Service of Prayer (Interpreted)	Apache Trails Deaf Community	Service of Prayer (ASL)	Service of Prayer (ASL)	Service of Prayer (Interpreted)		
11:30 AM	Outreach Workshop (English/ASL)	Basics of the Faith (ASL)	Rest Time	Basics of the Faith (ASL)	Basics of the Faith (ASL)	Basics of the Faith (ASL)		
12:00 PM	Dinner							
12:30 PM	Choir/Service/Reading Practice for Chapel							
1:00 PM	Deaf Culture (English)	Basic/Intermediate ASL (English)	Rest Time	Signing the Liturgy/ Religious Sign (English/ASL)	Hymns and Glossing (English/ASL)	Preventing Burnout (English)		
1:30 PM	Devotion							
2:00 PM	Q&A Before/Topic: Suffering (ASL)							
2:30 PM	Topic: God's Word (ASL)							
3:00 PM	Religious Signs (English)							
3:30 PM	Snack							
4:00 PM	Chapel Service (ASL)							
4:30 PM	Basic/Intermediate ASL							
5:00 PM	Rest Time							
5:30 PM	Fellowship							
6:00 PM	Topic: Prayer (ASL)							
6:30 PM	Interpreting Sermons (English)							
7:00 PM	Hymns and Glossing (English)							
7:30 PM	Snack							
8:00 PM	Religious Signs (English/ASL)							
8:30 PM	Signing the Liturgy (English/ASL)							
	Snack							
	Q&A After Chapel							
	Basic/Intermediate ASL							
	Rest Time							
	Devotion							