

# HELPING HANDS

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Institute of Christian Education



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## “Be still and know that I am God.” Psalm 46:10

~ by Bryan Eubank



**Pam Eubanks** describes me as a “busy boy.” On one of our trips for the mission she said

“I have watched you drive and you can't keep your hands still for more than 7 seconds.” In some ways this is a good thing. I can get a lot accomplished. On the other hand, it also means I can be very annoying due to my busy brain and interruptions that I may make. So one of my memory verses is from **James 1:19**, “*Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.*” It reminds me to bite my tongue and/or sit on my hands and let others talk before responding. I am wondering if any of you have the same problem?

**Psalm 46:10** is another important verse I have committed to memory out of necessity. It says, “*Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.*” **I have memorized this one to remind me of who is really in charge and it is not me.** It also reminds me to **stop, pray and think** before moving ahead with mission projects. I am sure that has kept me out of a lot of trouble. I also use it to slow down my brain and put things aside until the next day as I try to get some sleep at night. Yes, I am a “busy boy” at night. In these times of prayer and quiet thought and waiting, God often reveals a next best step, but not usually the whole plan. God also reminds us in **Proverbs 15:22**, “*Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.*” So I am very thankful for our board, staff and others who provide wise counsel.

Well, no matter how busy our bodies and minds are, there comes a time when we naturally slow down. Pam and I are noticing that at age 70. That being said, we don't want the mission of the Deaf Institute to slow down. We believe God has led us to two young men who are

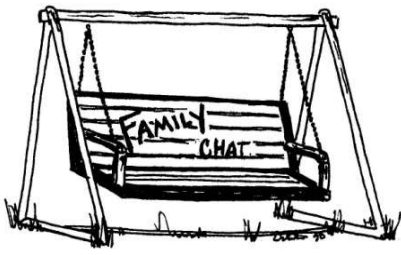


enthusiastic about our mission work. **Ash Huston (left)** continues his work with deaf teens on Zoom and is excited about finding opportunities for the teens to do things together as Covid 19 issues are resolved. **Will**

**Dickmann (right)** is actively involved in our mission work with a Deaf Bible Study, planning for the future of the mission, and internet development. He



will continue to serve part-time until after he and his family move here in the spring. It took a long time of being still and listening to others to find these two young men. We are also searching for two additional people to help us move forward. One person to take **Kim Irwin's** part-time position as **Administrative Assistant** and one to take Pam's part-time position as **Family Ministries Representative**. **We need your prayers to help us find the right people for these positions.**



## God Is NEVER Caught by Surprise!!!

By Pam Eubanks

“God, investigate my life; get all the facts firsthand. I’m an open book to you; even from a distance, you know what I’m thinking. You know when I leave and when I get back; I’m never out of your sight. You know everything I’m going to say before I start the first sentence. I look behind me and you’re there, then up ahead and you’re there, too—your reassuring presence, coming and going. This is too much, too wonderful—I can’t take it all in!” Psalm 139:1-6, from the Message.

Here we are, September 2020, six months after COVID-19 began in Ohio. **What good things have happened in spite of this pandemic?** We are in my favorite season of the year--Autumn! The leaves have begun changing color and some are starting to float to the ground. We’ve been enjoying our front porch and music sessions on the internet by **Ken Read** (Cincinnati) and **Julie Nevel** (Pennsylvania). We share Sunday morning Bible study and singing with **Tony & Annette Massi** (KY) via the internet. We share Wednesday night **Bible study with Deaf** via the internet.

**Paul Wernsing**, and **Melissa Kelly** have been our Summer Reading tutors. **Joanna and Nate Blair**



(left) began working with peers from **St. Rita’s School for the Deaf** to help them enjoy reading and signing together.

**Molly Jones**, whose family was one of our very first **Shared Reading Program** participants when she was in pre-school, is now actively involved in her church youth group Bible study sessions. Molly applied a Bible story she was learning to sign with Melissa Kelly (*next column*). The book for June was



## Jesus Teaches Us Not to Worry

, an Arch Book, taken from **Matthew 6:25-34**. Molly’s church youth leader was also working with her youth group to apply these same scriptures about praying instead

of worrying. He gave them writing activities to do, connecting worries and needs with writing prayer reminders to pray. **Cynthia Jones**, Molly’s mom, sent me pictures of her summer processing with Melissa and her youth group.



**Paul Wernsing** (below) has been a faithful



Shared Reading tutor with Deaf Institute since the program began in 2002. This summer he continued tutoring **Beni Blaj**, whose

family is originally from Romania. **Iosif**, Beni’s dad, has been worshipping with **Christ’s Church of the Deaf**, which meets in the middle building of **Western Hills Church of Christ**. On September 13, **CCD** began meeting again, with safe practices and social distancing. I was thrilled to see how Beni was attentively watching and participating. **AND** he is much taller these days!!



*We are very thankful to the Greater Cincinnati Foundation and other community organizations for partnering with us to help families with deafness during Covid 19*





Will with Rochelle & Nathaniel at CCU

### Why Is DI Important To Me?

Great question. It is something I need to ponder. How did it influence me and who I am now? Ok, let's rewind back to where Deaf Institute started helping me in Fall 2006. I decided to attend **Cincinnati Christian University**, learning how to possibly lead a deaf ministry. Why CCU? I had started to attend **Southport Heights Christian Deaf Church** in Indianapolis. The deaf preacher, **James Wines**, mentioned his time at CCU occasionally and it grabbed my attention. I was already impressed with his knowledge of the Bible and how he expressed it in ASL. James explained everything clearly and he's not afraid to tell the truth with gentleness.

So, I arrived in Cincinnati and I needed a place to live. **Deaf Institute** came into the picture. **Bryan Eubanks**, the Director, offered me a room in one of the apartments above the Deaf Institute office with his son, **Nate** and **Matt Belwood**. Matt is now the Director of **Deaf Teen Quest**. We had lots of fun together. I do have one scary moment where I thought my life was over, but it ended up being a prank. I will tell you this story another time. Thanks a lot, Matt, ha ha.

It began with a relationship with Bryan. He would converse with me in church, in his office,

and outside of the Deaf Institute building, throughout my schooling at CCU. He would pick up me to attend Bible Study. Bryan and **Pam Eubanks** would invite me over to their house for Sunday gatherings or to provide lessons with deaf youth in their dining room. *The bottom line is, they believed in me.* **I am here today to pay it forward to invest in deaf, hard of hearing, and signers so they can become leaders.**

#### A Note From Bryan

**Michael Galagan** is the current chairman of our board. Mike is Deaf and a great leader. Two of his notable accomplishments are helping us to bring Will on to train as Assistant Director and helping us to come up with an official sign name for Deaf Institute. That sign name is simply a "D" and an "I" in sign language. If you use the words Deaf Institute to a deaf person the first thing that comes to mind is a residential school for the Deaf. We are not that. "Deaf Institute" is our legal DBA name. Our original/official name is "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Institute of Christian Education." Cecil discovered most people would not remember that so we gained a DBA of "Deaf Institute" and a sign name of "DI."

#### Memorial Gifts

In Memory of **Michael Briggs**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of **Terry Dowling**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of **Carey Haynes**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of **Joe Kortyna**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of **June Lang**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of **Amanda Lynch**  
Bryan & Pam Eubanks



## Prayer Requests and Praises

**“I pray that the God who gives hope will fill you with much joy and peace while you trust in Him.”**

**Romans 15:13, English Version for the Deaf**

**Pray** for wisdom for our **Board** on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> as we consider choices for the mission work of **Deaf Institute**.

**Pray** for more **Deaf Leaders, Youth Workers** and **Christian Interpreters** to reach deaf kids, teens and adults with good news.

**Pray** for **Ash Huston** as he works with Deaf Teens and helps with other mission needs.

**Pray** for **Will Dickmann** who is serving part-time as our Assistant Director and training to become the Director while preparing to move to the Greater Cincinnati area in 2021.

**Praise** for your help in providing a balanced budget in the midst of Covid 19.

**Pray** for **Deaf & Family & Friends Camp, VBS for Deaf Kids** and **Lake James School of Missions** as we prepare for 2021.

**Pray for ICOM in Indianapolis, Nov 19-22. We will not be attending this year due to Covid 19 concerns. Go to [www.theicom.org](http://www.theicom.org) for more information and an internet link for activities.**

**Praise** for help from you and organizations like **GE & GCF** who partner with us to help families with deafness through our **Gifts of Hope, Shared Reading Program** and **SummerTime Kids Activities**.

**Praise** for **Deaf Missions** as they celebrate their **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** and the completion of the translation of the **ASL Bible**. Go to [www.deafmissions.com](http://www.deafmissions.com) for more information.

**Pray Corey and Sara Stapp** as they continue their training for Deaf Ministry at **SIBI**.

**Praise** for **Kim Irwin** who has been serving as **Administrative Assistant of Deaf Institute** for



over 30 years. Her faith and unique blend of people skills, office management, financial skills, editing, and sign language make her a valuable asset for the mission. She would like to be able to train her

replacement before she retires.

**Pray** for God to provide someone to fill Kim's shoes and allow the mission to continue moving forward in an efficient way. **This is an immediate need.**

***Your prayers and support help make a difference in the lives of families with deafness.***

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