

HELPING HANDS

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Institute of Christian Education



Visit us at www.deafstreetlight.com or e-mail us at staff@deafinstitute.org

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What's Next? ~ by Will Dickmann

That was the main theme of the **National Christian Convention for the Deaf (NCCD)** hosted by the **Anchor Christian Church** in Rochester, New York on October 7-10, 2022. Let's give all the credit to the NCCD Board members for continuing with the event for the last 27 years since 1994 when it all started.



There were great workshops and sermons by the deaf leaders. Their messages were all connected even though they had not really communicated with each other beforehand. It was the work of the Holy Spirit! Thank you, **Tom Wink** for making NCCD 2022 memorable for all the attendees. Thank you, **Bobby Ringle**, **Ken Warso**, **Tim Fausnaugh**, **James Wines**, **Chris Bacus**, and **Matthew Poe** for delivering outstanding lessons and messages! Thanks also to the **Anchor Christian Church** and its wonderful volunteers.

The theme was based on **Philippians 3:13 NLT**, ***"No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead."***

Forgetting the past can be difficult for many of us. However, when you overcome the first part with God's help, then the second part allows us to see with excitement what God has in store for each one of us. Why? He loves us so much He sent his one and only Son to

live among us and die on the cross for our sins so we can live forever. We carry this hope everywhere! Things will get better. We have this hope to look

forward. We look to the heavenly prize of eternal life through Jesus Christ. That's why we have utilized the word, "light" to represent the purpose of our organization. We are to be the light of the world to anyone we encounter in the deaf, hard of hearing, and signing community. Our mission is to connect Deaf individuals with community, families, Jesus and his church.

What's next for us? We will host a **Deaf Day event at the Waynesville, Ohio Fall Fest** in October and we look forward to our **Kid's Hope drive with GE** in December. Additionally, we are excited to announce that **Deaf Streetlight** will present **Deaf Family Connect (formerly known as All About Deaf Kids Fair)**. We will use this event to focus on serving everyone not just kids, but also teenagers, young adults, and families. Please mark your calendar for **March 4-2023 at St. Rita's School for the Deaf** in Cincinnati, OH. The theme is **Let's Shine!** Come and let your light shine! Thank you to **Pam Blair and her leadership team** for planning and promoting this event! We look forward, with excitement, to a successful event!



DEAF STREETLIGHT



by Pam Blair

And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. John 1:16



Let me introduce you to my son **Nate** (right). Nate came home to us when he was 12 years old. He was born in China in an extremely poor, disadvantaged area. Nate, who

is Deaf, has poor vision (though you would never know by the way he has learned to compensate for it!) He suffered from a Brachial Plexus Injury (BPI) at birth, which has left his right arm severely deformed and mostly unable to use. And yet, Nate stays cheerful and positive. He is an overcomer!

It was at **Deaf Camp**, six years ago, when Nate discovered other Deaf people existed. He had only been home three weeks and had not met any other deaf people. When he arrived at camp, he did not realize there were other Deaf people like him. He was astounded to find other people using the same signs we were using, and these signs meant something. They were not just gestures. He could communicate with far more than just his family - he could communicate with all the people at camp! This was an amazing discovery for him!

In previous years Nate watched the Archery



activity because with his arm, he did not have a way to pull the bow back. Once we realized this issue, my husband **Chris** and Nate went to work watching You-Tube videos. They devised a way with a tiny tab that Nate could clench between his teeth, then meticulously place the arrow, with one hand, into the notch, while resting the bow on his shoulder, he slightly tilts to the side so the arrow does not fall off. Slowly, gingerly, he finds his target, pulls back the string, and lets it soar. The first several times doing this, the arrow would fall off the bow. He had to patiently try over and over to get this technique down. It was painfully tedious to watch. But he was determined and persistent. He was finally able to make the arrow glide through the air. He was finally able to participate in the archery tag with his friends, family, and mentors.



Nate was able to kayak independently for the first time as well. This we had not planned or thought much about, as he is usually eager to swim with friends during the recreation period at camp. However, this year, he decided to kayak. This may not seem like a big deal initially. However, for a one-handed person to paddle and maneuver the kayak is quite challenging. Again, Nate tackled it like a champion.

He conquered these new activities (and many others!) at **Deaf & Family & Friends Camp**. Nate was able to feel comfortable, with his Deaf friends and mentors cheering him on. They accepted and encouraged him in his own language. It was at Deaf Camp he forged friendships and gained Deaf Role models. These role models are crucial for deaf kids. They can teach things, we Hearing parents cannot. He has a special comradery with these Deaf Mentors and friends.

For me, **Deaf Streetlight** has ministered to our family in far greater ways than we can put into



words. This is a place our hearing cousins, aunts and uncles can come to gain **ASL** skills. This is a place our extended family can be immersed in the Deaf Community. This is a place where we all are connected and experience life together. Deaf Streetlight's Family and Friends Camp has played a vital role for our family, bringing both Deaf and Hearing alike, together to have fun, learn, grow, and accept new challenges head on. I am thankful and indebted to Deaf & Family & Friends Camp and Deaf Streetlight for making this possible for our family. We have received grace upon grace.

Peace and Joy,
Pam



NCCD 2022 AT ANCHOR CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Matthew Poe preaches at NCCD 2022

In Memoriam:

In Memory of John Lawrence DiGennaro

Bryan and Pam Eubanks

In Memory of Vera Mushrush

Bryan and Pam Eubanks

In Memory of Nancy Kelsey

Cathy & Johnny Miller

In Memory of Nancy Kelsey

Arthur Myers Davis

In Memory of Elijah Eichhorn

Bryan and Pam Eubanks

In Memory of Ralph & Marion Massman

Bryan and Pam Eubanks

In Memory of Nancy Kelsey

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

Special Prayer Request: We humbly ask for your prayers as we carefully consider our current building situation for the Deaf Institute/Deaf Streetlight. Increased safety concerns and potential expensive repairs have prompted exploration of a new location. If you know of any small building or house in Hamilton County, Ohio that might meet our needs, please contact us.

Pray for wisdom for **Will Dickmann**, his family and our **Board** as we continue transitions and for mission needs.

Pray for the family of **Duane King**, Founder of **Deaf Missions** and for **Deaf Missions** as they mourn his loss.

Praise for successful **Families First Events** and **Summer Reading Programming** for 2022 and **Pam Blair's** transition as **Family Ministries Representative**.

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

Praise for a successful **Deaf Day** at the **Waynesville Fall Fest** in Waynesville, Ohio.

Praise for a successful **Deaf and Family and Friends Camp** on July 14-17, 2022, at Lake James Christian Assembly and for **Deaf and Family and Friends Camp 2023** at Camp Allendale in Trafalgar, Indiana on July 27-30, 2023.

Praise for a successful **NCCD October 7-10, 2022, in Rochester, N.Y.**

Praise for the completion of the translation of the **ASL Bible**. Go to www.deafmissions.com for more information.

Pray for **ICOM 2022** in **Columbus, Ohio** on **November 3-6, 2022**. We are in **Booth #735**. Come visit us!

Pray for God to provide someone to fill the **Teen Director** position to allow the mission to continue moving forward in an efficient manner.

Praise for the support from **you** and organizations like **GE, GE CSF & GCF** who partner with us to help families with deafness through our **Gifts of Hope, Shared Reading Program** and **Summer-Time Kids Families First Activities** and other activities.

Pray for our next **Deaf Institute Board Meeting** on **October 22, 2022**.



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