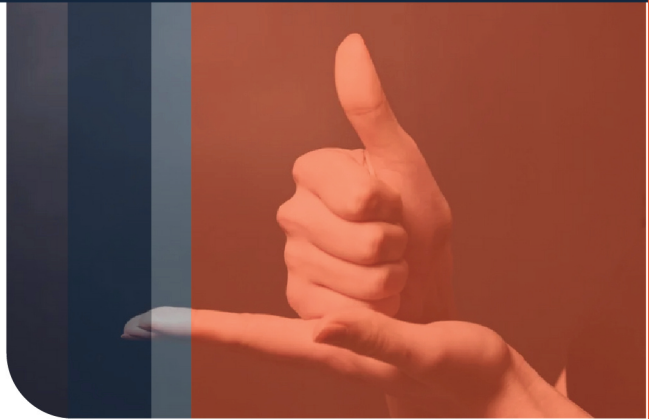


# HELPING HANDS

formerly called:  **DEAF INSTITUTE**  
TOUCHING HEARTS WITH GOOD NEWS  
since 1968



## Happy Easter—He Has Risen!

We pray everyone had a blessed Easter! Easter is a reminder of the living hope that light overcomes darkness and death never has the final word.



At Deaf Streetlight, we celebrate the risen Christ who brings access, belonging, and new life to all, reminding us that God's love speaks clearly to every heart bringing restoration and hope.

## Deaf | Family | Connect

On Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> the 2026 Deaf | Family | Connect Fair was an incredible day filled with energy, connection, and community! Centered around the theme, Together/Belong, we saw Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and hearing individuals of all ages come together to learn, laugh, and build meaningful relationships. From engaging booths and family activities to the powerful conversations happening in the brand-new FAQ Zone, the day was packed with opportunities to grow in understanding and inclusion. It was especially inspiring to see Deaf leaders, families, students, and community partners connecting authentically. The joy in the kids' activities and the beautiful ASL storytelling in the reading corner made the event even more special. We are so grateful for everyone who showed up. You truly made this an amazing event!





## Meet The New Board/Trustee Members

### Matthew Belwood



Matthew Belwood is the proud husband of Paige and father to Matthew Jr. and Michael. A graduate of Kentucky Christian College, Matthew began his ministry journey at Deaf Institute (now Deaf Streetlight). From that foundation, he has spent more than 25 years serving in Deaf youth ministry, Deaf ministry, and the nonprofit world. He currently serves as the Executive Director of HopeSIGNS. Matthew deeply values the history and mission of Deaf Streetlight and is excited to support this vital ministry as it moves forward. He firmly believes the best is yet to come.

### Gail Maue



Gail Maue is honored to serve as a Trustee for Deaf Streetlight. Her connection to Deaf ministry began in high school while working with the Deaf Institute at summer camps, which continues to shape her personal and professional life.

A graduate of Cincinnati Bible College (CCU) and the University of Cincinnati, Gail has dedicated her career to serving the Deaf community as an interpreter in theatre, legal, medical and religious settings as well as an educator for interpreters and ASL users. She deeply values the heart of Deaf Streetlight's mission and is committed to supporting its continued growth and success.

Raised in Holmes County, Ohio, where her parents still reside, Gail enjoys frequent visits to the family farm. She also prioritizes traveling with her husband and their three adult sons, along with a daughter-in-law and new grandson. When time allows, she enjoys tackling a good DIY project at home.





### Newsletter Collaboration

by Lisa Wink

Hi everyone!

I'm excited to be collaborating with the Deaf Streetlight Team to help create content for their newsletter. I bring over twenty years of experience in education and literacy, along with the past ten years of various work in freelance writing, digital marketing, and Deaf ministry.

I've also been blessed with the opportunity to attend both Deaf Streetlight and NCCD and see firsthand the amazing impact these groups have on the Deaf community and their families. I'm passionate about communication that builds connection and strengthens community.

I'm married to Tom Wink, and I have one son, Adam, who is currently attending college for Creative Writing and Communication.

In this newsletter edition, we have the **Question Corner**, where I posed the following to Director, Will Dickmann:

**What challenges are Deaf individuals still facing in our community today?**



### Question Corner

with Will Dickmann

This reflects my personal perspective and does not represent all Deaf individuals. In my humble opinion, access to communication has improved over the years, but we are still far from being equally understood. One of the greatest needs is offering more American Sign Language (ASL) classes, starting as early as elementary school.

I once heard a story from my mom about one of her former elementary school students. Many years later, that student still remembered much of the sign language she had learned. While on an airplane, she noticed a Deaf passenger sitting next to her who looked very concerned. Because she knew ASL, she was able to communicate and reassure the Deaf person. That moment showed how powerful and practical ASL can be. Knowing ASL helps break down communication barriers in many areas of life—employment, airports, doctor's offices, hospitals, restaurants, public events, and more. It can make a meaningful difference in the daily experiences of Deaf individuals.

While we may not always receive the same level of respect as others, having open-minded people who are willing to serve and communicate with us to the best of their abilities goes a long way. Even small efforts can create a lasting impact for the Deaf community.

### Deaf Streetlight Camp:

Camp Allendale, Indiana - July 30-August 2, 2006

### National Christian Conference of the Deaf:

Northern Kentucky - October 1-4, 2006





## JOIN US IN PRAYER

### SUMMER CAMP

Almighty God, we lift up Deaf Streetlight Camp to You, asking for Your guidance and provision as every detail is prepared and every heart is readied in the days leading up to it. May this camp be filled with joy, belonging, growth, and powerful moments where Your love is clearly seen and deeply felt by every camper, family, and leader. . . .

### FAITHFULNESS

Lord, we ask You to faithfully provide the financial support and dedicated volunteers needed to sustain and grow Deaf Streetlight's ministry. Lead us with wisdom as we serve the Deaf community and share the Gospel with love and clarity. Stir hearts to give generously, serve joyfully, and join us in this meaningful mission. . . .

### MINISTRY

Father, let this ministry be a place where access, belonging, and the Gospel shine clearly. Guide each step forward, open doors of opportunity, and use Deaf Streetlight to build bridges of understanding, encouragement, and hope.

In Jesus's name we pray,



[www.deafstreetlight.com](http://www.deafstreetlight.com)

Register for events,  
stay updated on events,  
or contact us;  
visit our website  
or Facebook page.



Facebook

