

# *The Open Door*

Newsletter for Illinois Deaf Lutherans from Central Illinois Deaf Ministry (LC-MS)  
104 Finley Pastor Tom Phillips (217) 245-0180 (VP/V/TTY)  
Jacksonville, Illinois 62650 ..... www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.com ..... CID\_Deaf@hotmail.com  
Volume 8 January-February, 2008 Issue 1

## **Happy New Year!**

Did you make a new-year promise? Lose weight, stop bad habits, stop bad language, exercise regularly, read the Bible daily, other promises? Are your promises true? Still keeping your promises? If you are like me, some of your new-year promises, you failed sometimes.

God's promises are the same since long ago. His promises are old, BUT His promises are new everyday. This means He still keeps His promises. He still has plans for you. He still plans to give you heaven through Jesus Christ.

The Lord makes this promise, "I know My plans for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11.

*Pastor Tom Phillips*

## **Leap Year!**

How many days in a calendar year? Answer: 365 days.

How many days in a common year (How long does it actually take the earth to travel around the Sun)? Answer: About 365.24 days. Every four years, we add one day. We call that "leap year." Still our calendar changes a little every year.

## **January-February Quiz**

What church holiday do we celebrate on January 6? For a hint, read Matthew 2:1-12.

What church holiday do we celebrate on February 3? Check out Matthew 17:1-9

What season starts on February 6? Hint: some people give up meat or other things during this time. Many restaurants offer "fish dinners."

Bonus Question: What colors do we see on the altar at church on each of those dates?

## **Deaf Ministry T-Shirts Available: Price Reduced!**

Have you seen the “ILY Sign from God” t-shirts? Each year we order them and give them to the students of ISD (when they attend our services in Jacksonville). These shirts are orange and black cotton (already washed). On the back we printed

***Church For-For? Come see!***

***Christ Lutheran Church of the Deaf***

If you want to order a shirt for your self or as a gift, contact us. Cost is \$10 each + shipping (free shipping on 3 or more shirts).

## **Good Morning!**

Albert Moore in Jacksonville sent in this email.

When I say, “Good morning!” I mean:

G-od	M-ake us
O-ffers	O-bedient and
O-utstanding	R-eady for a
D-evotion to	N-ew day with Him
	I-nspire others, and, please,
	N-ever forget
	G-od loves you!

## **Changes and Cancellations**

January 27 – No Bible study in Decatur.

February 17 – No Bible study or worship in Peoria. Also, the Bloomington/Normal area Bible study is cancelled. Pastor Phillips will attend the Deaf Teen Ministry Conference in Louisville, KY.

If you plan to attend any Bible studies or worship, send an email a day ahead... make sure we will still have class or worship. Send to [ChristDeafLC@verizon.net](mailto:ChristDeafLC@verizon.net).

## **We Need Your Articles and Artwork!**

Do you have family news or photos to share with others? We would like to make a birthday-anniversary list also. Who will draw a picture for the cover of this newsletter? Maybe a picture of Jesus knocking on the door, or Jesus welcoming people into His arms.

Write your articles and draw your pictures, then send them to Pastor Phillips in Jacksonville. Maybe your artwork will be on the cover of our next newsletter! Also, send your photos of Deaf Lutheran events. Write a short story about the event.

## **2008 CR-ILDA Convention**

“Jesus, Pah! With God All Things Are Possible!” May 15-18, 2008, come to Jacksonville for the Central Region - International Lutheran Deaf Association convention. Learn about Deaf mission all across the world. Learn about basic Christian teachings and other important topics for today. You can also take a tour of the ISD museum and help with a service project. Our banquet will be at Hamilton’s (good food!). Enjoy the skit and choir competitions (with prizes!). Story-telling and fellowship. Do you have a story to tell?

We emailed registration materials in early December. If you have not received the information, please contact us or go to [www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.com](http://www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.com) for more information.

## **I Love to Tell the Story!**

Please join us for our Spring Retreat at Camp CILCA on March 28-30. The theme is like that favorite song, “I Love To Tell the Story”. You will enjoy a relaxing time with Deaf Christians from Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri and Illinois. If you attended one of our 2007 retreats, bring a new friend and you will qualify for a “Come-again-Bring-a-Friend” discount. You can find more information at [www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.com](http://www.IllinoisDeafLutherans.com), or send us a note and we will mail registration information to you.

***“You share the promise in Jesus Christ  
through the Gospel.”***

Ephesians 3:6

