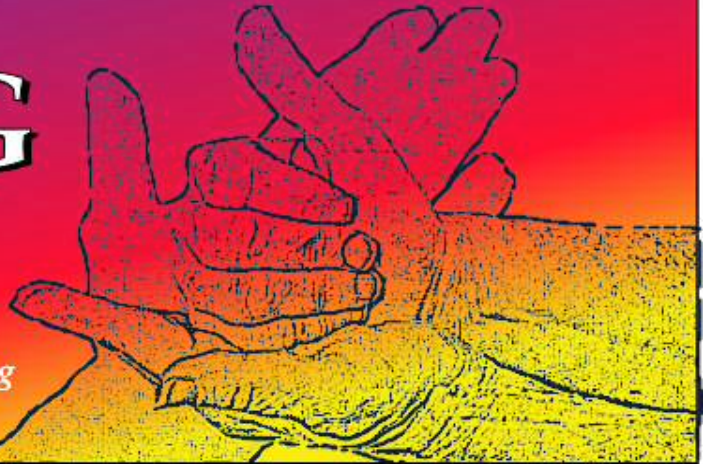


HELPING HANDS

Published by the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Institute of Christian Education



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

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God's Love ... Our Hands ... Touching Hearts

"We pray that the Lord will make your love grow. We pray that He will give you more and more love for each other and for all people. We

pray that you will love all people like we love you."

1 Thessalonians 3:12 English Version for the Deaf

We do a lot of praying. We also do a lot of loving. Personally, I think the two go hand in hand. If you love someone, you want God's best for them. So you pray, or at least I do. In my office and at my home I have lots of prayer reminders. I have pictures of family, friends, missionaries, preachers, and even people that I don't know well or especially like. But hey, we all need Jesus and if a person is living a dark life they are in desperate need of Jesus. So each morning when I get up I read a couple of chapters from the Bible. Then I start praying for people who know Jesus and for people who need to know Him. Since you are reading this, then you fit into one of those two groups and there is a good chance I am praying for you.



happening. I know it is God who is really in control, so I know where my priorities need to be. *I need to*

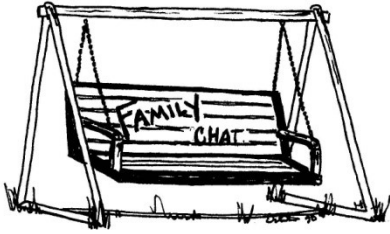
You may be thinking, *maybe Bryan needs to spend less time praying and more time doing.* Both are

be seeking His wisdom and His direction in order to do His will through my life in reaching out to people who need Him. I'm not smart enough or skilled enough to do it by myself. But as Jesus said in Matthew 19:26, *"with God all things are possible."*

So step one, **read God's word** to get to know Him better. Step two, **pray**



to seek what He wants next for me, and for the mission. Step three, **go and do it.** With His help, we have been able to reach out through special programs like **All About Deaf Kids Fair, Summertime Kids, Deaf & Family & Friends Camp** and **Gifts of Hope.** With His help, we have been able to reach deaf and hearing people with the good news of Jesus. With His help, we have been able to open doors of communication between deaf and hearing by **teaching sign language.** With His help, we have been able to **train deaf and hearing leaders** to advance His kingdom. With His help, we have been able to work with churches in **developing deaf ministries and deaf churches.** *He brings people into our lives* who need Jesus or who want to help us make a difference. We could not do it alone. God and His people have helped us to change hearts and lives. *Thank you for being a part of His work in changing lives.*



The Power of Friendship by Kami Kirkland

Have you ever had someone you just vibe with? You know, the kind of friend who just about finishes your sentence without you even telling them your first thought? Or what about the friend you haven't seen in months, and you are just able to pick right up, right where you left off? Well, this Christmas I received an early Christmas gift from my daughter, Raquel, when I learned she had found that kind of friendship in Beni.

All those years back, in preschool Bible School class, is when she first met Beni. It was around the same time that doctors told me she would never talk and never understand language. She would never know how to play or interact with toys or people. She screamed at everything and kids would often shy away. But not Beni. Beni didn't leave her side.



Beni didn't talk verbally either. The fact that he didn't talk, that was his strength for her. He was able to show her, to teach her, and to embrace her frustration with kindness. He showed her how to play, and that his crayon was for him and her crayon was for her and that's how it was, is, and should be, happily! Stability. Words confused her, his hands talking did not.

Since then, she wants to go to Vacation Bible School every summer to find Beni, because she knows how to play now, and they always do.

It was a great surprise this Christmas when Raquel and Beni discovered that they were both attending the Charlie Brown Christmas skit. Beni said "come on, come on." Raquel looked at me with questioning eyes, and I nodded my head

with a smile. That was the first time in her life that she asked to sit with a friend instead of being uncomfortable and glued to me. I knew she was with her super hero friend Beni and she'd be just fine! They had a blast that evening and so did I.

Friendship is a powerful thing. It beautifully demolishes barriers and builds bridges. Thank you, Beni!

(A note from Pam: What a thrill for me, as Family Ministries Representative, to see "family ministry" happening without me being personally involved! I am thrilled Beni Blaj (Deaf) is making a difference in his friend Raquel's life.

It is wonderful to watch children prompted by the Lord to see the needs of others – and choose to help! What a blessing to see the fruit of ongoing interactions within the church's activities, like Sunday morning Bible classes, children's worship, Vacation Bible School, Deaf and Family and Friends Camp and National Christian Convention of the Deaf.

All of these organized events require extra planning and support systems, like interpreting (both sign and voice – so both deaf and hearing can understand each other), lesson adjustments, lighting, transportation...and encouragement! Whatever investments are made, including time and money, are worth it! The benefits are out of this world!)

All About Deaf Kids Fair 2019

Communicating Love

Love is: Patient Kind Rejoices in the truth	Love always: Pretends Trusts Hopes Perseveres	Love is not: Proud Rude Self-seeking Easily angered	Love does not: Envy Boast Keep a record of wrongs Blatney in
------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

Love Never Fails

Where? Cincinnati Christian University

Chapel Building 2700 Glenway Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45204

When? March 2 10am until 3pm (Saturday)

What? Free Fun Family Event

Games, crafts, story telling, community information. With sign and voice so families can enjoy everything together.



For more information:
staff@deafinstitute.org

Sponsored by: Deaf Institute and Community Partners

Deaf & Family & Friends Camp

"Here I am"



June 20-23, 2019

- Lots of crafts to do
- Team building, youth and teens
- Games for everyone
- Great food
- Swimming
- Campfire

The snow and ice in Cincinnati have almost all melted. Now it's time to make plans to enjoy the Spring and Summer. As usual we have lots planned, starting with our **All About Deaf Kids Fair** at **Cincinnati Christian University** on **March 2**. This is one of our many *free* events. Occasionally we have to charge for things like camp, but all that money goes directly to the camp. As a matter of fact, we actually charge less than the actual costs per person and no one is turned away for financial reasons. **Lake James Christian Assembly** gives us special rate of \$125 per person. We only ask that people pay **\$99 per person** with a maximum charge of \$396 per family. We encourage families to come together and *interpreters are provided for the signing-impaired*. This way, no one gets left out of the fun. We trust that God will provide the additional funds. He always does, one way or another. Children under 10 and individuals with special needs must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

This year's Deans are **Thomas Wink** of Rochester, NY and **Corey Stapp** from Indianapolis,



IN (pictured here). They and their all volunteer staff have been making great plans for a fun and growing experience on June 20-23. We hope to see you there. *Please check our website or email or call us for more information.*

Need a VBS or Camp Mission?

Now would be a good time to check with us about using the **Deaf Institute** as your VBS or Camp Mission Project. *The Deaf are a vast unreached people group.* Less than 10% of deaf people in the USA worship God in any way.

You don't have to cross an ocean or a border to experience a different language and culture group. *Imagine being able to share God's love in a way you never have before.* We would love to come and teach some sign language and share our mission goals with your VBS or Camp.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of *Katie Byrnes*

John & Jayne Byrnes
Judith Sobota

In Memory of *Becky Campbell*

Fairis Campbell

In Memory of *Delores Campbell*

Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of *Carol Jackson*

Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of *Jason Scholl*

Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of *Mary Smith*

Bryan & Pam Eubanks

In Memory of *Evelyn Stoffregen*

Judith Sobota

In Memory of *Richard Walkden*

Bernice Walkden

In Memory of *Irma Wells*

Bryan & Pam Eubanks

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In Honor of *Rick Long*

Jim & Gloria Arnold

## Prayer Requests and Praises

*"We know that in everything God works for the good of those people who love Him...."*

**Romans 8:28, English Version for the Deaf**



**Pray** for wisdom for our Board as we search for an Assistant Director & Family Ministries Rep.

**Pray** for more Deaf Leaders, youth workers and Christian Interpreters to reach deaf kids, teens and adults with good news and for Cincinnati Deaf Teen Activities.

**Pray** for VBS & Camp Opportunities.

**Pray** for our All About Deaf Kids Fair, March 2.

**Pray** Western Hills Church of Christ Deaf and Hearing VBS, June 10-14.

**Pray** for Deaf and Family and Friends Camp, at Lake James in Angola, IN, June 20-23.

**Pray** for the National Christian Convention of the Deaf, Billings, Montana, July 18-21.

**Pray** for Lake James School of Missions, Angola, IN, July 21-27.

**Pray** for Deaf Days at the Ark Encounter and the Creation Museum, Oct. 12-13.

**Pray** for International Conference on Missions, Nov. 14-17, Kansas City, MO.

**Praise** for the GE Holiday Hope Campaign that helps our Gifts of Hope and Shared Reading Programs.

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## Ministry Opportunities

*Applications for the position of Assistant Director are still being accepted.* We would like to find the right man to train with Bryan for this position, which includes *preaching, teaching, counseling and administration* of the mission of



the Deaf Institute. We would also like someone to train with Pam Eubanks for the position of Family Ministries Representative.

Calumet Area Deaf Mission is still seeking a *part-time Deaf Minister*. We have also recently learned of the need for a **Missionary Pastor** for a Deaf Church in Jamaica. Please contact us for more information.

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## Thanks!

*You* who are praying for us, volunteering your talents, and supporting the mission financially have helped us to change lives for 50 years.

*God bless you for your sacrifices to help us make a difference in the lives of deaf people.*



"Touching Hearts"

Our Hands...

"His Love..."

"Return Service Requested"

of Christian Education  
3515 Warsaw Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45205

**INSTITUTE**  
DEAF and Hard of Hearing

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