

Reaching out to the deaf in Ghana

“Living Word for the Deaf”, formerly “Silent Word” is well known in the Northern Illinois District for helping to break the silence of those who could not hear the message of Christ, but many who live in “silence” live outside the Northern Illinois District. Many who live in Ghana, West Africa, live in silence. They cannot hear.

Lutheran Church Charities, which now continues the “Living Word for the Deaf” effort in Northern Illinois, is committed to reaching beyond our nation's borders to meet the needs of those who live in silence. LCC is seeking your help to make it possible for our fellow Lutherans to bring the Gospel and Christian love to Ghana.

Rev. Paul Fynn, President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana, has requested that teams continue to come to Ghana four times a year to do two week extensive training sessions. In January this effort will be strengthened and enlarged. Five of our fellow Lutherans will join Rev. John Reinke, director of Concordia Seminary’s Deaf Institute and missionary at-large to the deaf in the Southern Wisconsin district, who has been going to Ghana for 8 years. They are; Linda Zoiss - a recent interpreter graduate; involved with the Southern Wisconsin Deaf District (her 2nd trip) Betty Jo Lucero from Immanuel, Palatine and Sandy Pittaro (both of whom are Deaf and will be going for the first time) and Karen Hale from Holy Cross, Cary (2nd trip to Ghana) who is heavily involved with religious interpreting, training, and mentoring.

Rev. Reinke commented “We go to Ghana to “Reach the Deaf” and to teach God's word to the Deaf. They are “hungry” to know about God. We teach them so they, in turn, can be well-versed to go and teach the Gospel to other deaf Ghanaians.”

The team will be leaving for Ghana on January 9th and returning January 31st.

The goal is for each team member to raise at least \$5000 for air fare, shots, visas, passports, and for Christian resource materials to leave with the Deaf Ghanaians.

Their first request is for prayer to continue to make these mission trips. Please pray for God to strengthen the Deaf leaders and give them his wisdom. Pray for the deaf in Ghana.

If you are able to help financially you can donate to the Ghana Deaf Leader Training fund on the LCC website www.LutheranChurchCharities.org or call LCC at 866-455-6466