

March 2021—May 2021



# The Deaf Episcopalian

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# Announcements

## Deaf Zoom Worship every Sunday!

Join us as we worship together from East to West in a Zoom worship with various Deaf churches and ministries taking active roles.

The link is on the main page at [www.ecdeaf.org](http://www.ecdeaf.org)

## ELM—Easter Service

This year, the ELM (Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist Deaf ministries) will be hosting a joint Easter service.

Keep an eye out for more information about our Easter Sunday service on ECD Facebook and the ECD website [www.ecdeaf.org](http://www.ecdeaf.org)

## Membership Due

If you have not yet renewed your membership, it is not too late! Membership after February is now \$15 for the year.

Fill out the form on page 11, rip it out, and mail it in with your check. If you do not want to rip out the paper, you can go to the ECD website and print off a form there.

## ECD BOARD MEMBERS

THE ECD BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS ELECTED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF ECD CONVENTIONS.



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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



**Your donations help support the ECD in its mission to advocate and support deaf ministries around the country.**

# President's Letter

Dear Beloved ECD friends,

Happy New Year!

During Epiphany season, we celebrated the miracles and work of Jesus' life; now, in Lent, we focus on Jesus' journey to the cross. The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 17, and continues through Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. In this season, we remember especially the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness, confronting temptation as he prepared to start his ministry. There are forty days in Lent, and we use this time to repent and to prepare ourselves for Easter. Lent is a time to remind ourselves not to worry or be afraid about the uncertainty of the future. God has promised to be with us always.

This past year has been a difficult and sad year because the coronavirus pandemic really has turned our lives upside-down. Many of us might feel that the darkness has taken over our lives. But there is a bright side coming now with the vaccines, which can save many lives. This is a reason for HOPE! God promises us that He will always be with us during a crisis or in difficult times.

In the Gospel of John, the writer says, "The Word became a human being and lived here with us. We saw his true glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. From him all the kindness and all the truth of God have come down to us."

During the time that Jesus lived among us, he revealed to us the true nature of God. By the "signs" that he did and by the words that he spoke, he showed us who God is. "God is love", he taught us, and "God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die."

- We have seen him heal the sick and raise the dead.
- We have heard his promise to be with us always.
- We have seen all of these things – and we have believed. And this was God's hope, this was God's plan, all along.

"God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." This was God's hope. This was God's plan. To save the world by bringing us into a loving relationship with God.

We are beloved children of God. This is the truth that sets us free from pain or discomfort: God loves us, welcomes us, and delights in us. God offers us the gifts of forgiveness, healing, reconciliation and hope. We can trust in God and let go of our worries and anxieties. Also God wants us to be collaborators with each other and co-creators with God by loving and supporting each other and everyone who comes into our lives every day, especially during this time with Covid-19. We can remind ourselves that "nothing will separate us from the love of God through Jesus Christ." No matter how scary and upsetting the present feels, or how uncertain the future may seem, God is walking beside us every step of the way. We can go through life with a deep sense of confidence, because we know that we have HOPE and LOVE. God is with us always!

Wishing you peace and love!

In Christ,

The Rev. Dick Mahaffy



# The Season of LENT

*Submitted by: Rev. Suzanne Johnston*

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, LENT is the season of the church year which continues for 40 days (not counting Sundays!) before the great celebration of Easter. It is marked by Purple liturgical/church colors, and usually lack of decoration in church buildings. It represents the time of Christ's temptation in the Wilderness, where he fasted and prayed, and where Satan tempted him. During this time of the church/liturgical year, we consider all that Christ gave to us to save us from our sinfulness. We think about our own lives in this world, and how that does (or does not) honor Christ.

During LENT, Christians set aside special time every day (like Jesus did) to fast and pray. We repent our sins, and reflect on our lives and how it is in line (or not) with God's Will. To help stay focused on the meaning of the season, some folks may choose to fast from eating during certain times, or observe special eating rules (e.g. no meat and/or dairy). Others may give up something in their lives which is personally pleasurable (e.g. chocolate!) during this season. There are many opportunities to engage in special Church study and prayer groups during this season. Others may choose to especially engage in community efforts or charitable work during this time of year.

But the time of LENT should not be about sadness, regret and despair – it gives us an opportunity to anticipate the day of Jesus' Resurrection and the new hope that brings. It allows us time to 'clean' our 'spiritual house' and get ready for a joyful celebration of rebirth at the celebration of the Easter season to come. How will YOU choose to honor LENT this season??

## HOLY WEEK

*Submitted by: Elizabeth Holland*

Holy week is the last week of Lent. We start out with Palm Sunday, symbolizing Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the crowds of people who laid palm leaves down as he entered the city to honor him. The next few days are a mix of emotions as Jesus continues his teachings and encounters growing dissent among the chief priests, elders, and scribes.



The Triduum is the last three days of lent: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. Maundy Thursday is where Christ washes the feet of his disciples and then shares the Last Supper with his friends. He then goes to the Garden at Gethsemane to pray. Very early the next morning, on Good Friday, Jesus was arrested, charged, and crucified. After he died, his body was wrapped in linen and laid gently in a tomb. Holy Saturday his mortal body was at rest while his soul battled and defeated temptation. During this time his followers mourned his death.

The early morning of Easter Sunday, before there was even light in the sky, the rock was pulled away from the tomb and Jesus' body was gone! He had risen from the dead and won everlasting life for everyone. It is a joyous time, full of hope, love, and celebration!

# Stations of the Cross

submitted by: Elizabeth Holland

Centuries ago, Christian Pilgrims traveled to the Holy Land, walking the route from Pontius Pilate’s house to Calvary and the tomb where Jesus was buried. Along the way, these pilgrims would stop for devotionals to commemorate the different events that took place along the way.

During the 16th century, Stations of the Cross, also known as the Way of the Cross, were made for churches and people who were unable to travel to the Holy Land. Now, most churches have the Stations of the Cross around the Sanctuary, or somewhere within their church.



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This year, walk with Jesus through each of the Stations of the Cross: the 14 moments from Jesus’ suffering and death, that go through the events of the Passion and death of Jesus Christ. This journey starts with Pontius Pilate condemning Jesus to crucifixion and ends with Jesus in the tomb.

As we walk in prayer, mediating on the Passion during Lent, we are encouraged to share our own pain, suffering, anxiety, grief, and loss, with a loving and compassionate god; the same God who suffered for us and with us on the Cross.

## WORDS OF A CHURCH MOUSE



Hello again! It is I, the friendly church mouse, here to give you a greeting. It’s almost Easter! My fellow Mouscopalian friends and I love Easter, it’s our favorite time of year. Not only is there a HUGE party the night before Easter, Easter Vigil, but there are events during the day as well! Lots of food to satisfy our little hearts. My other favorite part of Easter is that Jesus is risen! Let us celebrate the good news!

Sometimes I just want to skip straight to Easter and celebrate the festivities, but we church mice do understand the powerful journey through Lent. It can be hard to take a deeper look at ourselves, but opening yourself up to the pain and grief, means that the happiness of the resurrection is even more powerful than before! I rarely finish lent without being changed myself.

It’s hard to imagine that Easter will be virtual again this year for many people and church mice. I know it has not been easy this past year. We were asked to walk on a journey that many of us have never been faced with before, but we were also invited to a deeper journey with Jesus. It’s ok if it is hard, you are never alone. And remember, when things got hard for Jesus, he turned to scripture and God throughout his journey. Keep those bibles at the ready. Be present in your houses. Pray a little more. Look inside to what makes you uncomfortable and talk with God about it.

Always remember that though you might not see us, we are here, praying for you. Waiting for the most wonderful mystery of the Church year to happen!

— The Church Mouse

**Across:** 2. Palm, 7. Lent, 8. Fasting, 11. Mary, 12. Easter, 13. Repent, 16. Disciples, 19. Ash, 20. Tomb, 21. Crucifixion, 22. Resurrection, 24. Pray, 25. Simon, 27. Maundy.  
**Down:** 1. Eucharist, 3. Alleluia, 4. Desert, 5. Dust, 6. Three, 9. Good Friday, 10. Forty, 12. Episcopal, 14. Easter Bunny, 15. Stations, 17. Purple, 18. Shrove, 23. Triduum, 26. Mini

## 75<sup>th</sup> ECD Convention News

Federal Way, WA

August 10-14, 2021

The 75<sup>th</sup> ECD Convention is still planning for August 10-14, 2021 (Aug 8 if you plan to sign up for pre-convention event). The pandemic is lingering longer than expected and there's a chance that it could be postponed/canceled again this year. The ECD board will make a formal announcement in early May, and for that reason, we are delaying the registration until May.

**Please do not finalize any traveling plan until the convention is confirmed.**

The Convention will include governance meetings, election of Board Members, workshops to enrich your knowledge within the Church and the community, daily worship, group tour, award banquet with entertainment, see old friends and new friends you have met through Zoom during the pandemic, and much more.

**Watch for updates in Facebook and ECDeaf.org**

*The ECD does not want anyone turn away because of inability to afford to attend. Please look for special individual grant at ECDeaf.org, fill the short one-page application and email it to [grant@ecdeaf.org](mailto:grant@ecdeaf.org) by April 15<sup>th</sup>. **Deadline for this special grant will be strictly enforced.***

## Easter Appeal 2021

The ECD Board is excited to share this with you and hopes that you would join us as we support the Easter Appeal 2021 through American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ) during the upcoming Easter Season. Please read the letter on page 7 from The Rt. Gregory Rickel, AFEDJ Chair.

We hope you would consider donating to Holy Land Institute for the Deaf – HLID. Please check for weekly update/video and donation instruction through ECD Facebook at [www.facebook.com/groups/EpiscopalConferenceDeaf](http://www.facebook.com/groups/EpiscopalConferenceDeaf). You can also contact Lee Holland at [vice-president@ecdeaf.org](mailto:vice-president@ecdeaf.org).

### HOLY LAND INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

Salt, Jordan



*"If HLID were not here deaf students would not be able to achieve anything. We'd go back to what we had before - being in the streets and not knowing anything, being illiterate. I might have been illiterate if HLID had not been here for me."*

**HLID Assistant Principal Fadileh Al Hiary**  
HLID alumna and the second deaf person to obtain a university degree in Jordan



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**Epiphany 2020**

**Dear Friend in Christ,**

As we approach the one-year mark when almost everything familiar in our daily lives radically changed, I think it's vital to remember that in many parts of the world the changes brought about by the pandemic are much direr than what we've experienced.

As the chair of the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and a pilgrim to the Holy Land many times, I know first-hand that the humanitarian ministries of the Diocese have been severely impacted by the economic downturn brought on by the pandemic.

This Easter season I invite you and your congregation to engage with the ministry of the Living Stones of Christ's church - the indigenous Christians of the Middle East. These faithful followers of Christ have continued to serve their vulnerable neighbors throughout this incredibly challenging time.

The 2021 Easter Appeal focuses on the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf (HLID) in the ancient city of Salt, Jordan. Just before the lockdown in the spring of 2020, I visited this remarkable boarding school for the first time and was deeply moved by the safe haven and family environment offered to more than 100 deaf and deaf-blind, mostly impoverished, young people ages four to 25. The Christian leaders and highly-trained staff at HLID offer students a rigorous education, vocational training, and therapeutic services regardless of religion, nationality, or ability to pay.

I invite you to join me and many others across the Episcopal Church in making our support known to our brother and sister Christians in the Holy Land. Please take a look at the enclosed brochure to learn how AFEDJ can support your efforts to share this 2021 Easter Appeal with members of your congregation.

Thanks for considering this invitation.

Faithfully,

+Greg

**The Rt. Rev. Gregory Rickel, AFEDJ Chair  
Bishop of Olympia**

# Celebrations of Life



## **The Rev. William Frank Mosier**

January 16, 1946 – November 25, 2020

The Rev. Deacon William Frank Mosier died peacefully at home in Newark, California on Nov. 25, 2020. Son of Ernest and Virginia (Moore) Mosier, Bill, his twin brother, the Rev. James David Mosier, and their older sister, the Rev. Deacon Linda Hale grew up on a cherry farm in The Dalles, Oregon, where they attended St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

During Bill's freshman year at the University of Portland, he became profoundly deaf after a serious illness, which changed the course of his life. He transferred to Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., where he began learning sign language, which led to his life's work with Deaf people. Due to following illnesses, Bill eventually finished college 15 years later at Western Oregon University with a BA in Art Education and an MA in Deaf Education. He also became an ordained Episcopal deacon.

Bill's career included several jobs in which he worked closely with Deaf adults and children throughout Oregon. While serving as a deacon at St. Hilda's Episcopal Church, in Monmouth, OR, Bill and his first wife, the Rev. Noel Knelange (who passed away in 2006), developed an extensive ministry for Deaf adults. Rev. Bill was actively involved nationally in the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf for many years, as well, including a term as president of ECD (2005-2006).

In 2011, Bill retired, married again, and moved to California with his second wife, Beverly Cannon Mosier. Bill became a deacon at St. James Episcopal Church in Fremont, CA for one year. Eventually, he and Bev grew another Deaf ministry at St. James.

Bill is survived by his wife, Bev and daughter, Jackie as well as his siblings, Linda and Jim. memorial service will be after a COVID-19 vaccine has made it safe to gather. Donations "in memory of Bill Mosier" are welcomed by Friends of Oregon School for the Deaf. FOSD was important to Bill as a former board member, and its mission remained in his heart until the end. Donations can be made either online at [friendsofOSD.org](http://friendsofOSD.org) or by mail: Friends of OSD PO Box 15053 Salem OR 97309

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## **Mazie "Helen" Hellen (Smith) Crews**

JUNE 9, 1928 – DECEMBER 23, 2020

*Submitted by: The Rev. Dr. Emily Hillquist Davis*

Helen was an active member of Grace Memorial Episcopal Church for over 50 years where she was a Lay Reader & Deaf Choir Leader, coordinated monthly Deaf socials & dinners, and taught sign language. She was a member of the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf (ECD) and represented her church and the Southwestern Virginia Diocese as a Lay Delegate to ECD for many years. Helen received an Award of Recognition for Dedicated Services in 1983 and the Thomas Gallaudet Award in 1998 from ECD.



# Passing of a friend of the ECD

*Submitted by: Rev. Suzanne Johnston*

Hello Friends,

I write with sadness and news of the passing of the Rev. Marilyle Sweet Page on Feb. 9, 2021, after a long struggle with her health after a fall this past Summer.

‘Marilyle’, as she preferred to be known, was a vocal advocate for deaf persons in the Diocese of Rochester. She was instrumental in reviving the involvement of the ECD in the important work associated with the many deaf folks in this area, as well as renewing the successful work of the people of Ephphatha Mission of the Deaf in the Diocese. She was a key player in establishing and reconnecting the work of Ephphatha to RIT and the National Institute of the Deaf, as well as developing a mutual deaf ministry with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, which continues today.

Marilyle was also the priest who ‘raised me up’ as a deacon for deaf ministry in the Episcopal Church, and remained supportive and connected despite her retirement a number of years ago. Even in retirement, she remained actively involved in various church committees and ministries.

Marilyle was a smart, strong and dedicated priest who did not have patience for injustice and oppression, and those who knew her understood that. She will be missed as a child of God who worked as a soldier for human rights and dignity for all.

A memorial service will occur later in the year. The committal will be held at the Church of the Incarnation in Penfield, NY.



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## The Rev. Diane Corlett

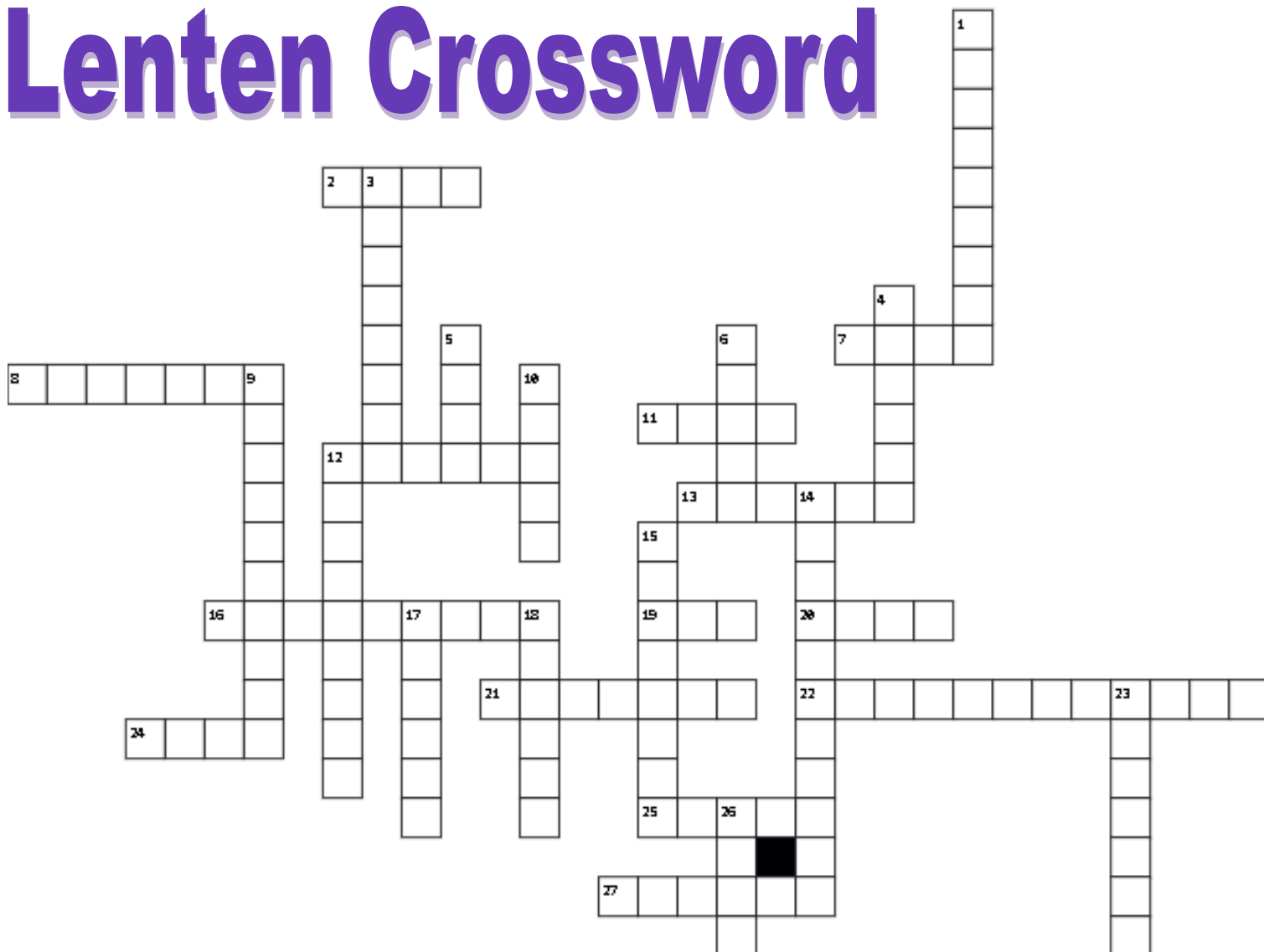
The Rev. Diane Corlett passed away on Sunday, January 10, 2021, just four days before her husband, Fred, after having contracted the Corona virus.

Diane met Fred at Broughton High School in the 1960’s and were married in 1971. She earned a doctorate of ministry from Columbia University.

Rev. Diane was one of the first women to be ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. The Rev. Diane was the former (and first) rector of the Church of the Nativity. She was a leader in the Diocese of North Carolina’s Deaf ministry, a passionate activist against the death penalty in NC, and an active supporter of the music and arts community in Raleigh. She touched the lives of many in our wider community, being priest, mentor, and counselor to many.

The Rev. Diane Corlett’s funeral was on February 13th, at the Church of the Nativity. David, Diane and Fred’s son, has stated that his parents will be cremated and their ashes placed together at the Church of the Nativity in Raleigh.

# Lenten Crossword



## Across

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday is when we celebrate Jesus entering Jerusalem
7. The season of repentance and spiritual discipline before Easter is called \_\_\_\_\_
8. When you go without food
11. Jesus' mother
12. We shout "He is Risen" on this day.
13. Sorry for sins
16. Jesus' crew (followers)
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday
20. Jesus was buried in a \_\_\_\_\_
21. Nailed to the cross
22. Easter morning, we celebrate the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus
24. During Lent, we should spend more time doing this
25. \_\_\_\_\_ of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross
27. The Last Supper was on \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday

## Down

1. Another name for Holy Communion or the Last Supper
3. This word is not sung or said during Lent
4. Jesus prayed and was tempted here for 40 days
5. "Remember you are but \_\_\_\_\_"
6. Number of times Peter denied knowing Jesus
9. The day Jesus died (two words)
10. The number of days in Lent
12. The denomination of the ECD
14. An animal that brings children Easter baskets (two words)
15. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Cross. The fourteen stages of Christ's Passion, also called the Way of the Cross
17. The Liturgical color of Lent
18. We eat pancakes before Lent starts, on \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday
23. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday. Easter Vigil
26. During Lent, Sunday's are not counted, because every Sunday is a \_\_\_\_\_ Easter



# EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE OF THE DEAF

A National Organization Serving Deaf Ministries

## 2021 ECD Membership

Membership is open to any person interested in supporting the Episcopal Church's ministry with Deaf people. Membership includes a subscription to our printed publication *The Deaf Episcopalian*.

Membership in the Episcopal Conference of the Deaf is \$10.00 per calendar year.  
If membership fee is mailed after February 28, 2021, please add \$5 late fee.

New Member       Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact information:

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number:  Voice/VP \_\_\_\_\_  Text \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Your role in the church? (member, lay reader, rector, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

### I would like my information added to the new membership directory:

(mailing address will not be added)

Email? Yes       Phone/VP? Yes       Text? Yes

Please send your check payable to the **Episcopal Conference of the Deaf** to:

Episcopal Conference of the Deaf  
St. Thomas Deaf Church c/o Grace Episcopal  
514 E. Argonne Drive  
St. Louis, MO 63122

Please contact ECD Membership Secretary at [membership@ecdeaf.org](mailto:membership@ecdeaf.org) if you have any questions.



### Thank you for your contribution

Your donations help support the ECD in its mission to support deaf ministries around the country.

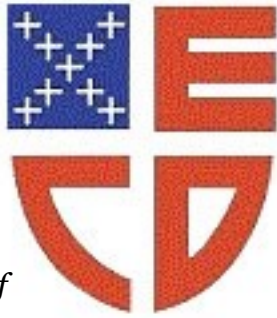
Yes, I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Mission Statement

**Empower Deaf people with the Good News of Jesus Christ,  
encourage full participation in Church Life, and advocate for Deaf Ministries.**

**Mission:**

*Empower Deaf people with the Good News of Jesus Christ, encourage full participation in Church Life, and advocate for Deaf Ministries.*



**Vision:**

*Full inclusion in Church life.*

# The Deaf Episcopalian



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