

Silent Word Ministries



"But we will give ourselves... to the ministry of the Word" – to Deaf people worldwide – Acts 6:4

Into The Silent World - With The Silent Word

Since 1966

July 2017

Dear Friends,

This month of **July** we celebrate the day our forefathers declared **independence** from England! We sometimes have taken our freedom for granted here in America. We have enjoyed the opportunity to serve God as He has touched our hearts to do, without restriction. We are thankful to have the freedom to be a part of a ministry that is trying to reach the Deaf here in America and around the world. I believe that we have an obligation now more than ever before in the history of our great nation, to stand for our God and the Bible He has given us. Our ministry is still committed to maintaining Biblical truthfulness today as we have been since our beginning.

William Bradford was one of the passengers on the Mayflower voyage from England to Plymouth, Massachusetts. He served as the Governor of Plymouth for about thirty years. I read a statement that he made that I think sums up, not only the joy of the independence we enjoy as a nation, but also the huge responsibility we shoulder as believers in this nation. He wrote, "*Thus out of small beginnings greater things have been produced by His hand that made all things of nothing and gives being to all things that are; and as one small candle may light a thousand, so the light here kindled hath shone unto many, yea in some sort to our whole nation; let the glorious name of Jehovah have all praise.*" SWM is just one candle in the world of the Deaf, but we are one candle. William Bradford believed that the small gathering in Plymouth was a small, but significant group. We know that God blessed that small group who had left England in pursuit of religious freedom, and we are enjoying the blessings of our independence ever since. We ask you to pray that we will use the time wisely that God has entrusted to us as a ministry to proclaim the Gospel message to as many Deaf (and Hearing) as is possible with the time we have been given. We want to make sure that our ministry is carried out in a fashion that will allow "*the glorious name of Jehovah have all praise.*"

While thinking about this topic of independence, I was quickly brought to the thought of our complete dependence on God for help. God has led this ministry from the beginning. Our goal is to remain "**stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord**" (1 Cor. 15:58). We know that for that to happen, we must follow the example of Abraham as he offered Isaac as a sacrifice to God. He completely depended upon God to raise his son after he was sacrificed (Heb. 11:19). Just as Abraham completely relied upon God for the life of his son, we at SWM are completely reliant upon God to provide for the needs of our ministry. We have seen incredible doors of opportunity opened, and they are still opening for us in our ministry into the world of the Deaf. We are dependent upon God for the resources needed for these opportunities. As we pursue the will of God for our ministry, we see God touching hearts of folks just like you to give toward this unique ministry. We are humbled and thrilled every time the **ministry and our missionary families'** needs are met through the prayer or financial support of brothers and sisters in Christ like you. You receive this letter because you have invested in this ministry and our missionary families. We want you to know that we are all dependent upon God for the resources needed to carry this work forward.

Since 1966, SWM has remained debt free! The reason for this is that God is interested in the candle being lifted for the Deaf world to see the Gospel. He has moved our hearts to serve and your hearts to give. We don't take that lightly, nor do we assume that God owes us anything. The opposite is true ... we owe God everything. We realize that we are totally dependent upon Him for everything we have in the ministry. The message and ministry is His. Those who support us and stand with us are His. We are indebted to Him and to each of you who give so faithfully. We thank God for you, and we are praying that God will bless you as you have invested in our ministry and our missionary families. We also pray that God will continue to bless America, SWM, our missionaries, staff, volunteers, your church, and you and your family. Thank you!

Yours for Jesus' Sake,

II Corinthians 4:5
Director of SWM Outreach Ministries

Prayer: Please pray for board member **Janie Joiner** in the recent loss of her husband, **Luther**. He will be missed.

Praise: We have had 199 reported salvations through our various ministries this year. Also review the prayer and praise report of our mission board families on the back page.

Happy 241st Birthday America!

Silent Word Mission Board July Reports

SWM Missionaries - Ministry of Helps

"Helping Churches Fulfill The Great Commission To The Deaf World"

Praise Reports

Jon and Diane Barr presented the mission field of the Deaf to both the adults and the children during a church mission conference in Saginaw, Michigan. Then they spent some time with Diane's family, helping as her dad had pneumonia with several complications. Thankfully, he seems to be well on his way to recovery.

Nicole Condra reports that God has given her good meetings in Tennessee and Georgia. Her support is now at 60% of the needed level. At the recent SWMI Appointee Seminar, she and the other SWMI missionaries learned more in areas of leadership and ministry development.

Reed and Donna Condra praise the Lord for all the details coming together for a new Deaf Sunday School class for couples. They are enjoying this opportunity of helping Deaf couples establish their homes and families on Biblical principles. The couples seem enthusiastic about each class session. Donna also continues teaching the ladies monthly at the Chattanooga Rescue Mission.

Jay and Cathy Savelle give praise that their classes in Florida were very well received. People were excited to be part of the program! Also, Cathy is doing a follow up class with ladies from her home church. They are learning and reviewing verses used in soul winning.

Allen Snare is thankful for the opportunity to preach at the Deaf Christian Senior Fellowship in Kentucky. Along with others from the group, he toured and was amazed by The Ark Encounter. He also spoke for a Christian school in Georgia, a Deaf ministry in Virginia, and for the Fantastic Saturday in East Northport, New York.

Paul and Rachel Strosnider report that 3 people in their church made decisions to get involved in discipleship. Also, Paul has been working with Dave, an unsaved homeless Deaf man since January. He was recently able to help him find an apartment.

Bruce and Amanda Stuart presented their ministry in churches in Connecticut, New York, and Rhode Island. They give praise for these good meetings and the good contacts made while there.

Prayer Requests

Jon and Diane Barr would appreciate your prayers for the Georgia and Pennsylvania ASL Institutes in July and August. This is always a great opportunity to influence several Deaf ministry workers. Please pray also for the Barrs as they teach at the third annual Florida Deaf Spiritual Leadership Camp, a camp for Deaf children, teens, and adults.

Nicole Condra spoke about missions at a training camp for children's ministry in eastern Pennsylvania. She requests prayer for that group as they share with many children about mission work to the Deaf. Pray that God will raise up more laborers for reaching the Deaf world for Christ. Please also pray that she would get meetings scheduled to raise the remaining needed 40% support by this time next year.

Reed and Donna Condra ask prayer for Deaf couples in their new Sunday School class to be settled and grounded in the Word of God. Please pray also for Donna as she is in Michigan helping with the care of her sister, Deb, whose health is declining.

Jay and Cathy Savelle ask prayer for more doors of opportunity to present their ministry and classes. Pray for hearts to be open to receive God's Word at some upcoming witnessing events. Pray also for more laborers.

Paul and Rachel Strosnider request prayer for safety as they travel to Georgia and Tennessee in July. Please also pray for the salvation of a Deaf man named Dave.

Bruce and Amanda Stuart ask prayer as they attend several pastors conferences. They desire to make good contacts for future meetings. Please pray for health, strength, and safety as they travel. And pray for God to give them fruit in their soul-winning efforts.

SWM encourages you to pray for more laborers, both Deaf and hearing. SWM needs more missionaries, especially Deaf, regional directors, and someone to help in technical areas.

For IRS and Tax-deductible Purposes

All support or gifts should be made to **Silent Word Ministries** or **SWM**. Then designate "For....."