

Dear Brothers,

I was privileged last April to be appointed to the WELS Commission on Special Ministries (CSM) as the chairman for Mission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (MDHH). Last September we had meetings in Milwaukee and members of the MDHH Board came from around the country for a face to face meeting. The main reason to get together was to be instructed by Greg Schmill and Don Patterson concerning Strength Finders 2.0. That was very enlightening. We are very excited that Bloomington Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Minnesota has daughtered a deaf congregation. The MDHH is hoping that we can partner with Grace Lutheran in Kenai to begin signed services after receiving word from the principal at Grace Lutheran School, Ryan Holper, that he and his wife have had 3 families express interest in joining Grace if they would have signed services. Just in talking to a WELS lady from Anchorage as we waited for our kids to come into the airport I found out that both of her parents were deaf. I think there may be many more people in our pews that could be a great asset to reaching out to more people in the deaf community. If you have any kind of construction for your church or schools please consider getting the loop system. If you have any questions about anything deaf and hard of hearing related please, please, please contact Ed Frey or myself.

In Christ, Robb Robbert, Wasilla, Alaska