



# EPHATHA LUTHERAN MISSION SOCIETY

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*Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society  
exists to bring the gifts of Christ to the Deaf community.*

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## Our Savior Lutheran Church Welcomes 5 New Deaf Members

Our Savior Lutheran Church in Hartland, Michigan has been serving Deaf people in their community for several

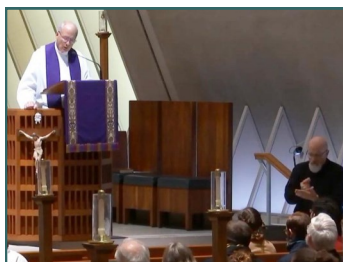


decades. This past Advent, 5 new members completed their study of Martin Luther's Small Catechism, were confirmed and joined the church. Pictured

are Pastor Christopher Thoma of Our Savior, 4 of the 5 new Deaf members and Pastor Thomas Dunseth. Dunseth serves as missionary to the Deaf community for the Michigan District LCMS, and also serves as Vice President of ELMS.

## CTSFW Interpreted Service

As part of ELMS's outreach Pastor's Brant A. Engel (President of ELMS) and Thomas W. Dunseth (Vice President of ELMS) take turns traveling monthly to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne Indiana. There they participate in daily chapel by interpreting the service. They also teach the deaf ministry class at the seminary.



## Family Night, Families Count!

Monthly St. Martin holds Family Night, Families count! Deaf and hard of hearing students along with their families come together for a time of fun and learning.

## Hartland Lake Service

This year throughout the summer on the second Sunday of the month (June—Aug), Our Savior and Christ



the King deaf members and visitors can meet at Salem Lutheran Church's Whalen lake Property in Hartland. Service is held at 12:30

followed by fellowship. All are welcome to come out and enjoy this beautiful property and chapel by the lake.

## Deaf Santa at St. Martin

Last December, St. Martin School for the Deaf and Emmanuel Lutheran School held their First Event. "Deaf Santa in Town". It was the spirit of Christmas that drew a couple dozen families with deaf children to Emmanuel Lutheran Church during a snowy Saturday in December.

The children shyly approached Santa to ask for trains, bikes and Barbies. Some sat next to him to be photographed. But unlike kids who can hear,



deaf children can't share their wish-lists if Santa can't sign back. St. Martin Lutheran School for the Deaf felt it was very important to have Deaf Santa at the church. The children also decorated cookies with sprinkles, made crafts and watched Christmas videos about Jesus, interpreted by visiting Pastor Tyler Walworth of Our Savior Lutheran Church for the Deaf in Birmingham, to remind them of the true meaning of this day.

*He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" Mark 7:34*

## Visit Us on the Web

[elms-deaf.org](http://elms-deaf.org)  
[smlid.org](http://smlid.org)

### Contact Us:

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## ELMS Welcomes Deaconess Kaitlin Jandereski

It is with great joy that we welcome Kaitlin Jandereski to Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society.

Kaitlin will be serving as a deaconess intern for us as she continues her journey toward a lifetime of caring for God's people with the love of Christ.

Kaitlin earned her bachelor's of science in journalism at Central Michigan University and continued her education as Master of Arts student in the deaconess program at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne Indiana.

Kaitlin will work closely with ELMS and continue to work with the deaf & hard of hearing in teaching, church interpreting and as a representative for the organization, and in other ways as needed.



*"And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me'" (Isaiah 6:8)*



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