

# The Dundons

Missionaries to the Deaf in Philadelphia

**WORLD WIDE**  
NEW TESTAMENT BAPTIST MISSIONS



**Matt, Colleen & Aiden**

**Current support level:**

100%

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**Sending Church:**

Hampshire View Baptist Deaf

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## Grand Opening!

The last two months has been very busy for us as we were preparing to open our new deaf church. We only had new two meetings that we already booked some time ago and they still wanted us to come despite being at full support. Before the church started, we gave in person reports to many of our supporting churches, they're just as excited as we were to see this



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new church come to fruition! We visited churches in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Delaware, and Connecticut. Of Course, the devil is never thrilled whenever a church gets started...

*Car replacement*

Before March began, we were in a minor car accident five minutes away from our home. No one was hurt but it was enough to make the airbag pop out and damage the car around the right front tire and passenger door. It turned out that our insurance deemed it totaled so we had to look for a new car. It took us about a month to find a replacement and we settled with a 2017 Subaru outback with low miles, of which we're very happy with.

*Stolen Checks*

Apparently there is a growing trend in Philly, stealing checks from mailboxes. I had about one or two months worth of checks from meetings and I put them into a single envelope to my mission agency as I have done for years and put it into a mailbox at my local post office. Several weeks later a few of those churches contacted saying that my checks were stolen, washed, and rewritten with a new name and an higher amount. I looked up the news and found out that people were robbing mailmen at gunpoint in Philly, asking them for their mailbox key so they can open them up themselves and collect any checks they could find. Fortunately, the churches who gave me the checks did not lose any money or at least had it recovered. We were able to get most of the checks replaced.

*Back pain*

Over the course of several days, I began to develop back pain like I never experienced before. It came to the point where I was paralyzed by pain for days, unable to move. I had some minor sciatica pain for several years but it was never like this. I visited a new chiropractor near Philly and he immediately fixed me. Apparently, my hip was way out of place and he snapped it back in. Over a few more appointments, it went away completely. I became so thankful that I don't have to feel it anymore.

*Family Fellowship Week*

We took one trip to North Carolina to be with our missions board family for about a week. It was a great encouragement from all of the preaching and fellowship before the church started.

*An unusual multilingual church service*

During this time, I preached at one church where the pastor has to preach in two languages for every service, going back and forth between English and Spanish with two Bibles at the pulpit. Since I was preaching in sign language, my wife translated it into English and the pastor translated it a second time into Spanish. Obviously, I had to shorten my sermon and do a lot of pausing as the translators spoke. I'm quite curious to how it looks if I could get it to be translated back into ASL again!



### *Farewell Service*

A week before our new deaf church started, we visited our sending church and I got the opportunity to preach there for the final time. I entered there back in 2008 fresh out of high school into their Bible college, then became an associate pastor in 2012. I'm very grateful to have been there during my formative years which prepared me for this new ministry in Philadelphia. I preached on John 12:26, about following Jesus wherever He leads us. I pray that I'll continue to do so.

### *Grand Opening!*

The day is finally here! After three and a half years of deputation, we conducted our grand opening of Philadelphia Baptist Deaf Church on April 30th-May 1st. We had no idea how many people to expect so we ordered a bunch of food, some delicious pizza and real Philly hoagies. A few weeks beforehand, we posted a flyer on social media about the grand opening and it spread like wildfire. In total, about an hundred and ten people came on the 30th! Many of them came from other deaf churches/ministries from out of state, our supporting churches, and some local deaf Philadelphians. Of course, we had preaching with two services on the 30th by three preachers: Terry Buchholz, my sending church's pastor, Chris Harris, from Solid Rock Baptist Church in Berlin, NJ, and myself. We all focused on presenting the

Gospel, since that is the foundation of every church. It was great listening to everyone presenting the same Gospel in a different way. No salvation decision was made but we pray that seeds were planted. It's really amazing and encouraging to see everyone who came. It was also a big inspiration to those deaf Philadelphians to see all of the support. We're truly grateful to those who came.

