Rev. John Reinke was born and raised on a farm near Gaylord, Minnesota. Rev. Dr. Reinke received most of his formal education in the Lutheran school system. He attended Kindergarten – 8th grade at Immanuel Lutheran School in Gaylord. Following his graduation from Gaylord High School he attended Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota and Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.

While attending Concordia University in St. Paul, Rev. Dr. Reinke met his wife, Dacia. They were married on May 29, 1983. God has blessed their marriage with sons: Joshua (wife Tristin) serving as Pastor in North Minnesota District and Joseph serving as mechanic and farmer in South Dakota.

While attending the seminary, Rev. Dr. Reinke became involved with deaf ministry at Holy Cross Lutheran Church of the Deaf in St. Louis. He did his vicarage at Alpha Lutheran Church of the Deaf in Rochester, New York.

Upon graduating from the seminary, Rev. Dr. Reinke accepted the call to become Missionary-at-Large to the deaf in the Nebraska District of The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod. While in Nebraska he worked with various ages of deaf and hearing impaired throughout the state of Nebraska, eastern Iowa and northern Kansas. Having a hearing loss himself, Rev. Dr. Reinke is aware of the needs of those struggling to live in a hearing world.

In November 1997, God sent Rev. Dr. Reinke and his family on an adventure. They were commissioned by the Nebraska District and the Board of Mission Services of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod as short-term missionaries to the deaf in Ghana, West Africa. While there Rev. Dr. Reinke worked with the deaf evangelists training them in the catechism, preaching, and developing education materials for training lay people.

In 2000 God called Rev. Dr. Reinke to become a Missionary-at-Large to the deaf of the South Wisconsin District. The ministry in South Wisconsin includes congregations of Our Savior, Holy Cross, and Emmanuel Lutheran, reaching out to the Deaf in Madison, Delavan, Milwaukee, Janesville, Lacrosse, and around the region.

While serving in Deaf Ministries in Nebraska and Wisconsin, Pastor Reinke partnered with many Deaf people and Pastors to assisted in developing a complete set of training materials called: A Bible Curriculum Deaf. This leads people into the Deaf Catechism, through basic Bible knowledge, and into advanced studies. The ABCD materials are written in a format for Deaf leaders.
to use in teaching training more Deaf people. The goal is to have Deaf leaders who continue training to become Deaf Deaconesses and Pastors.

Pastor Reinke also shares his materials with Deaf leaders and workers in many countries around the world. He has lead Deaf Mission Teams to Africa, India, and Canada. Presently working with partner churches in Africa, Latvia, Brazil, India, Australia, etc.... Immediate plans are for leading training in Liberia in October and Australia in Jan 2017. We continue developing plans for India and Latvia in 2017/18. This training involves sharing teaching resources, plus in country workshops on how to train Deaf leaders.

Rev. Dr. Reinke has also lead the establishing of Jesus Signs Workshops to train both hearing and Deaf leaders on multiple levels. These are Workshops begin as weekend and week-long immersion events and progress into ongoing training. The ultimate goal is to equip local congregations and members to reach the lost Deaf people in their area.

The need to great! In America we have over 1 million Deaf people, in India alone there are over 30 million Deaf people. Pastor Reinke continues the training of Deaf Leaders in Wisconsin, across the U.S., and around the world. One example is our four Deaf Deaconesses working with Deaf people around our area. He continues to develop training materials for Deaf people to become leaders and Pastors. This work is being published under the ABCD’s – A Bible Curriculum Deaf.

In May 2015 Pastor Reinke finished his Doctor of Ministry Degree. Why? We need more advanced materials to train Deaf leaders. Many contacts were made with mission groups and publishing companies to adapt and use their commentaries for Deaf leaders. One example is partnering with Northwestern Publishing House in adapting their People’s Bible Commentary in an English as second language format to make it accessible for our Deaf Leaders.

Technology has been a great boost to expand training with leaders from around the world. With regular video conferences we can continue bringing the local training to advanced level training. We are also able to offer live streamed Deaf Bible studies and Worship service for those who do not have access to Deaf service in their areas.

God continues to do exciting work through training leaders via the internet. We offer Worship and classes live at ustream.tv/channel/JesusDeaf. Plus our youtube channel at TEAtimeasl (TEA Time ASL) for Deaf people to read through the Bible in two years and to watch the signed videos. People from around the world are watching and learning God’s Love and Forgiveness!

As we continue in Deaf ministry we ask you to help us in reaching the 97% of Deaf and their families who do not yet believe in Jesus. If you know of deaf people in your area or would like to work with us. Please contact Rev. Dr. Reinke at RevReinke@gmail.com