

## **Biographies**

**Title of presentation:** French wine tasting lecture and discussion

**Presenter:** Mike Golightly

**Biography:** Mike is an avid wine collector...he enjoys tasting different kinds of good wine from Italy, France, Argentine, Australia, South Africa, and California...he has traveled and met several well known sommeliers in Tuscany and Chianti Italy, France, Napa Valley and Sonoma, Calif. He has given a presentation on Italian wine at Howard County Association of the Deaf (HCAD).

**Title of Presentation:** Winter Holidays and Holy Days: Appreciating the Multicultural Diversity of Celebrations

**Presenter:** Kirk VanGilder

**Biography:** Kirk VanGilder, M.Div, Th.D Cand., was born hard-of-hearing before losing more hearing in late adolescence and transitioning into the Deaf world. He is an ordained United Methodist clergyperson and has served as a minister in Deaf churches in Baltimore and Pasadena, MD as well as campus minister to Gallaudet University from 1997-2002. Kirk has also traveled to Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Turkey to work with Deaf community development and support. He is currently working on his Th.D dissertation titled, Traversing Boundaries: A Hermeneutical Reorientation of Practical Theological Method Toward Developing Self-Theologizing Agency with Reference to Deaf Zimbabwean Women. Kirk hopes to continue his travels and research in other countries as well as present his findings and experiences to a wide variety of scholarly and non-scholarly audiences.

Source:

[http://phirel.gallaudet.edu/Faculty-Staff/Philosophy\\_and\\_Religion/VanGilder\\_Kirk.html](http://phirel.gallaudet.edu/Faculty-Staff/Philosophy_and_Religion/VanGilder_Kirk.html)