



Lutheran Braille Workers

*Helping People Touch, and be Touched,
by the Promises of Jesus*

ILLUMINATIONS

Fall 2015

PO Box 5000 Yucaipa, CA 92399 • 800-925-6092 • www.LBWinc.org

The Times They Are A-changin’



Rev. Dennis Stueve
President, LBW

“The Times They Are A-changin’” is more the lyrics of a 1960’s Bob Dylan song, it’s also the truth in many areas of our personal life. It is also true here at Lutheran Braille Workers, and that is a good thing!

The wonderful way in which LBW reaches out with the Word of God in Braille and Specialized Large Print in 20 languages and in over 120 countries, is due to the

thousands of volunteers all across the United States who generously give of their time to produce the books and send them on their way. That’s some 100,000 volumes of the Bible, devotional materials, and Christian periodicals each year. Over the 72 year history of LBW that’s millions of volumes of materials that have lovingly been placed into the hands of people who are blind or visually impaired!

But that’s not all that is happening at LBW currently and into the future. Here are some of the exciting things that are being worked on:

• Work continues on placing the English Standard Version into both Braille and Specialized Large Print. Work is progressing with the Braille being prepared and proof read and the Specialized Large Print is being formatted in the 18 point font and a special edition in 14 point font. This is the first new English translation LBW will be placing into production in over 30 years!

- Large Print orders continue to be very strong! Progress is being made to make sure that readers are receiving their first order in a timely manner.
- Lutheran Library for the Blind is adding new titles and audio selections are put into a digital format.
- The Audio Bible Study moves toward production. This is the Bible study companion to a two year plan of reading through the Bible. That means there are over 600 individual audio tracks that have been recorded. This project was funded by grants from the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League.
- Outreach Centers will be a key part of the ministry of LBW. Although little has been done with our Outreach Centers over the past several years due to staffing changes and budget cuts, I am happy to tell you that is changing. A new plan is underway to implement a strategy for LBW to be a resource for current and future Outreach Centers. (*cont’d. on pg. 2*)

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The Times They Are A-Changin' (Cont'd. from pg. 1)

Now here's the challenge, how to fund these vital additions to the ministry of LBW? Without your help today many of the good things LBW does and is planning to do will be delayed and that would mean people who are visually disabled will be denied the material and services of LBW. After all, that's what LBW is all about, helping people touch, and be touched by the promises of Jesus. And that's where you come in. Through your ongoing prayers and generous financial gifts each of these projects can grow and thrive. First, would you put

LBW on your daily prayer calendar? Second, would you consider making a one time or an ongoing gift to this ministry that touches so many lives with the Gospel? Finally, would you also consider putting LBW in your will or trust? Thank you!

For more information about Lutheran Braille Workers and how you can become more involved with this mission, find us on the web: www.LBWinc.org or "like us" on Facebook. -- *Rev. Dennis Stueve*

United Nations Humanity Award

"Dear Friends at LBW,

We are happy to share this great news with you: The Bible Society in Costa Rica just received an award from the United Nations, for their powerful and empowering program that they have been running for the blind community in the country. This would all not have happened without your contribution, helping to make the Spanish Gospels and the Old Testament stories available in Braille, in the modern language translation!

This is a great motivation for us to continue the project

and make even more biblical books available in the coming months. I trust that all of us who have partnered in this project -- the BS in Costa Rica, LBW, Compass Braille and the whole UBS -- share the same gratitude and praise God for what has been achieved.

*Ingrid Felber-Bischof
Global Ministry Exchange
and Resources Facilitator
United Bible Societies"*

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To Bless and Be Blessed

Pam, a recipient of books from The Lutheran Library for the Blind, related to me that she does not like to attend church because as a blind person she is made to feel unwelcome. I shared with her that she is not alone. Sighted people, such as myself, are also made to feel unwelcome.

People, by nature, are delighted when they see their close friends and eagerly take up conversation with them, mindlessly ignoring the newcomer and thus, making them feel awkward and unwelcome. Growing up many people are taught "Don't talk to strangers!" Thus, they are uncomfortable taking up conversation with ANYONE they don't know.

I shared a personal experience my family endured when we moved to Jacksonville, FL. One Sunday, we visited a church and were totally ignored. The following Sunday we dared to give them a second chance and after being

ignored again we didn't go back, that is, for several years.

Seven years later, I went back to that church while recruiting volunteers from our circuit to help at the newly established LBW Work Center located at my church. Interestingly, several members from that church volunteered to help and now 15 years after my initial visit we have numerous friends at that church that are active volunteers at the Work Center.

Also, numerous others from that church have attended, financially supported, and are participating musicians for fundraising concerts for the Work Center as well as The Lutheran Library for the Blind.

I encouraged Pam not to give up on locating the church that God has intended for her where she can be an active family member and apply her God-given talents to bless them, and in turn, be blessed by them. – Julia Neimes

(Pam's response on pg.4)

English Standard Version (ESV) Bible — Large Print Project

Recently, a formatting sample was submitted to Crossway Bibles and Lutheran Braille Workers was quickly granted permission to proceed with the 18-Pt. font, Specialized Large Print, “English LBW Version” ESV Bible. This will be the first version change in Large Print, replacing our NIV Bible (1984). Word has already spread and inquiries have been coming in. These are both challenging and exciting times!

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ten it is!"*

While this project is progressing, a second format sampling, this one incorporating a smaller 14 Pt. font, is also being prepared for submission. This will be the first time LBW has ever offered an alternative to the 37 volume 18 Pt. set. This latter version, while keeping many of the attributes of the original, will serve a particular niche; readers not requiring the larger font and readers with limited space, including those who may be incarcerated. An alternative binding method to the plastic spiral combs commonly used, will be used on this version in order to comply with correctional facility

requirements. LBW is branching out in order to touch more lives with the Gospel of Jesus!

Meanwhile, our existing Large Print Bible orders remain strong and we would certainly welcome the addition of some new Large Print Work Centers to help fill these orders. Perhaps you or your church is looking for an opportunity such as this? Our volunteers love what they do and many feel that their Work Center time is the highlight of their week. Or, you might consider partnering as a donor to support a local Center or the general ministry of LBW? And please keep LBW in your prayers!

For details about starting up a Large Print Work Center at your church or to find out how you can support an existing Center close to you, please call or email Roy Fisher, Large Print Administrator, at 1.800.925.6092 or Roy@LBWinc.org I would love to talk to you!

The Lord's Blessing to you all!-- Roy Fisher

Trinity-Klein's Large Print Center Delivers

On June 19 several volunteers from Trinity's Large Print Work Center #93 were privileged to deliver a Large Print New Testament to Susie Davis who lives in the Spring, TX, area. We were greeted warmly by Susie at her home along with her pastor, Bishop Willie A. Jenkins, his wife, and several of her friends. Susie was thrilled to receive her New Testament and had already received several volumes of the Large Print Old Testament from other work centers. Pastor Jenkins prayed with the group and Susie's friends served refreshments.

This opportunity to deliver a New Testament to a “real person” rather than just printing, binding, boxing and putting it in the mail helped us realize that our work has a huge impact on those receiving it. As one of the mission programs at Trinity we are bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to many around the world. Even more exciting we were able to deliver it to someone very close to home who otherwise would not be able to read a Bible!

-- Jean Webber



Left to Right: Rosemary Williams, Jean Webber, Susie Davis, Hilda Doerre, and James Wunderlich



THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

Lutheran Braille Workers would like to thank Thrivent Financial for the Thrivent Choice® program, which we receive grant funds through monthly. In 2014 we received \$46,363.00 from this program which will help us to continue producing Bibles in Large Print & Braille, to be given free of charge to anyone who is in need.

If you have directed your Choice Dollars® to LBW and would like to recommend that funds go to a particular Work Center, please call or email Deanna Bowles at (800) 925-6092 or deanna@LBWinc.org

Promise Makers

Mary Helen Kelly	Roberta Werth
Marjorie Delafosse	Melvin Stueve
Milton & Peggy Turnipseed	Ida Mall
Richard & Nancy Challis	Ane Ertzner
Norman Loeber	

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Pam's Response

"Thanks for telling me about your not being welcomed at a church since blindness isn't always the cause of your not being welcomed in a church but if you're blind often it is! Anyway it helped me to realize that sighted people sometimes are rejected for other reasons too even though they can see! Take care!"

It's been rainy lately so praise the Lord I have a lot of wonderful material in various accessible media to read! I love reading when it's rainy and nasty outside! Ah well rain happens, chuckles. In God we trust! He is my Resurrection forever!-- Pam

The Gift of Giving

Do you ever wonder what to do or what to give a family when a Loved One of theirs has passed away?

Consider giving a gift in memory of that person. Enclosed is a Memorial Packet to help you with the "Gift of Giving." A card and envelope are included for you to mail to the bereaved.

Please prayerfully consider Lutheran Braille Workers in your Estate Planning.

LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS

ELECTRONIC GIVING AUTHORIZATION FORM

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Name _____ Address _____		Date of first contribution: _____/_____/_____	Frequency of contribution (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> One Time	Amount per donation: \$ _____ Work Center Number (optional)
CHECKING / SAVINGS Complete only if using checking or savings account.		CREDIT / DEBIT CARD Complete only if using your credit or debit card.		
Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach voided check) <input type="checkbox"/> Savings account		Please charge my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover <input type="checkbox"/> American Express		
Routing #: _____ Account #: _____		Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____		
I authorize Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc. and Vanco Services, LLC to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.		Name on Card: _____		
Signature on bank account: _____ Date: _____		Billing Address: _____		
		I authorize Lutheran Braille Workers, Inc. and Vanco Services, LLC to charge my card for the above dollar amount. Signature (as seen on the card): _____ Date: _____		