

# Lutheran Braille Workers

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

## ILLUMINATIONS

Summer 2015

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

### Touching Lives...



Rev. Dennis Stueve  
President, LBW

Throughout this Newsletter you will read about some very special people. Some are still with us, others have gone to heaven and their spirit continues to inspire us today. These are the past and present volunteers of Lutheran Braille Workers. Dedication, diligence and passion for the Lord and this ministry are what makes them special. They have

committed their hearts, hands and finances to help others, who are blind or visually impaired, realize what they already know: That Jesus loves them!

Each year, Lutheran Braille Workers produces over 100,000 volumes of Braille and Specialized Large Print Bibles, devotional-resource materials and periodicals, along with audio resources. LBW is also touching lives through our Outreach Centers and the Lutheran Library for the Blind. Whew! That is a LOT of work! All done with great joy!

Why would some 3,500 people choose to volunteer at Lutheran Braille Workers? Because God loves them, because God loves you, because God loves people who are blind and visually impaired. This love from God makes all the difference!

Remember the series on ABC called Extreme Make Over: Home Edition. Lots of remodeling. In one episode they

went to a family and were going to remodel their home and found that there was nothing to salvage, not even the foundation. It was a complete tear down.

That's what God does for us. He doesn't clean us up or renovate us. We were dead in our trespasses and sin. We need a Savior! And God provides!

That message of life, hope, and eternity with God cannot be contained. It flows through our volunteers into the lives of those who are blind or visually impaired. Lutheran Braille Workers is making a difference in these lives, not just by providing needed resources, but more importantly, by pointing them to Jesus as their Savior!

People who are blind or visually impaired are some of the most marginalized people in society. Many have the mistaken notion that their disability is their own fault or even worse, God's judgement upon them. Through your generous support these same people may now feel the love and compassion of Jesus in their lives. In HIS awesome service, -- Rev. Dennis Stueve

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# 50 Years of Sharing the Good News with Braille



Front Row: from left, Rev. David Graef, Anita Graef,  
Behind: Dedicated Volunteers of Braille Center 129

Anita Graef has been a faithful servant of God's Word throughout her life. Graduating from Valparaiso University and marrying Dave Graef, God sent them to Florida to serve the Lord. The next "calling" took them

to California. Like LBW Founder, Helene Koehler, Anita was encouraged to become a transcriber so she too could provide the Word of God for blind people. The ladies of her church saved their S & H Green Stamps so Anita could purchase a Perkins Brailler. Anita did not disappoint them; as she got involved with Lutheran Braille Workers and became a Transcriber in January of 1965 and continues to the present!

Having moved several times, Anita now lives back in Valparaiso, Indiana, still transcribing and a BIG part of Work Center #129.

To honor Anita's fifty years of service with LBW the volunteers of her Braille Center along with her husband and daughter, hosted a surprise luncheon. We've been blessed to have Anita in our lives and know she has "touched" so many in the USA and throughout the world with her dedication to blind people, spreading the good news of Jesus as our Saviour! -- *Linda Kavalunas*

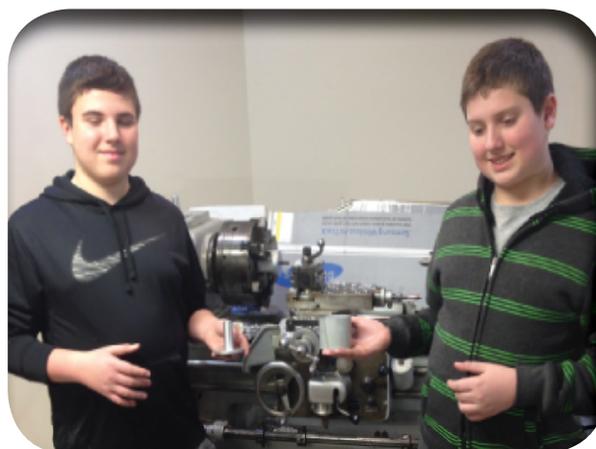
## New and Re-new



The photo shows the first pages being produced in the Braille room at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.

Work Center 129 in Valparaiso just re-opened Braille operations at their new fellowship hall which was recently constructed. During construction the work center's operations were kindly hosted at nearby Heritage Lutheran Church LCMS for nearly two years. Tuesday's Braille session was a re-learning process as the new production layout was created and proven.

Wheels needed to be added under the tables in the fellowship halls, as it would make life a little easier for the volunteers. A couple of boys in the church were eager to learn some things about machine shops, so why not put two and two together? So wheel adapters for the tables were made at WC 88 (also in Valparaiso) with the help of new volunteers, Jake (left) and Ethan (right) Schube. They learned how to serve the Lord by running the metal lathe!-- *Bob Steingass*



## Traveling Servants

During the year of 1975 many Braille Centers opened trying to keep up with the increasing demand for the Word of God in Braille. One of the centers that opened was #91, under the leadership of Pete and Jean Peterson, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Inglewood, CA. Pete and Jean were enthusiastic and deeply devoted volunteers.

They not only ran a Braille Center but in 1983 they became Traveling Servants; they packed up their motorhome and drove 15,000 miles visiting 32 centers. By 1986 they had made five of these trips across the US and Canada meeting fellow workers; Pete working on their Braille presses and Jean sharing ideas on how to make their centers more efficient.

Both were faithful servants of the Lord, they raised their two boys to also serve. As of 2010 Jean regretfully decided she had to close her work center after the death of her beloved husband. She remained a faithful servant of LBW until this past March when she joined our Lord and her husband Pete in heaven.



Jean and Pete Peterson proudly holding up their Braille Center Number

I enjoyed and will miss hearing of the stories about how she and Pete loved being volunteers of LBW and were able to provide the Word of God to those who were Blind. At Jean's funeral her grandchild spoke of when they would visit their grandparents and before they could do anything, they first had to go to the Braille room and make Braille books. Jean, Pete, thank you for your years of faithful service. – *Rose Jaimes*

## “I Am Blessed”

Rev. Lenard Galster of Roseburg, OR, was taken to heaven on February 6, 2015. He was the founder and leader of Braille Work Center #19 and Large Print Work Center #123 at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Much of the production was of the book that he, himself, wrote and created, “The Good News about Jesus” in both English and Spanish. Rev. Galster would call me from time to time and I enjoyed our little talks. Each time, I would pick up the phone and ask “How are you doing, Len?” and he would always reply, “Roy, I Am Blessed.”

Len was passionate that the “Good News about Jesus” reach as many people as possible. When it was suggested last year, that becoming a “New Model” center could help in this regard, he immediately said that he would make it happen. Fortunately, both Len's passion and enthusiasm were contagious as new Leader Barbara Campbell and the other volunteers have embraced this mission in honor of Rev. Galster. This month (April), WC #123 was sent their first labels as a “New Model” Large Print Center. Be blessed in the Lord!- *Roy Fisher*

## Volunteer Needed to Repair Perkins Brailers

A Perkins Brailier is a typewriter for people who are blind. LBW receives request for these Brailers on a regular basis; they are needed by individuals here in the US and Blind schools in 3rd world countries, such as Ethiopia and Sierra Leone. We have dozens of them in stock that need repairing or maintenance.

If you would like to volunteer to work on these brailers, tools and an instruction video are available for your use. Please contact Rose Jaimes at [rose@LBWinc.org](mailto:rose@LBWinc.org) or call 1.800.925.6092





# 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 & Sally Loeber	

### Board of Directors

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Mrs. Julia Neimes - Secretary	Mrs. Patti Ross
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Tax ID: 95-6048152

## God Bless LBW and You!!!!

*"How are you this is Sai emailing from India. Thanks for your immediate response.*

*I felt Very happy after touching Precious treasure (Word of God) In your first pack I got Mark, Luke and John from the New testament. The printing style and introductory Stuff was really tremendous. So as my hope reaches high I am ready to wait and see remaining precious volumes from your side.*

*Please Pray for my Studies and my Family members. Thank you, God Bless!!!!--Sai"*

***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 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> One Time	Amount per donation: \$ _____ Work Center Number (optional) _____
<b>CHECKING / SAVINGS</b> Complete only if using checking or savings account.		<b>CREDIT / DEBIT CARD</b> 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: _____		