

Lutheran Braille Workers

*Helping People Touch the
Promises of Jesus*

Ministry Memo

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

MEMO #398

Apr-Jun 2013

Message From The President

Dear Ministry Partners,

Easter Blessings to each of you! May the joy of the resurrection of Jesus continue to grow within you.

On March 15th and 16th, the LBW Board of Directors met together in Orlando to discuss the mission and ministry of serving people with visual disability. We are very blessed to have a wonderful Board of Directors, all of whom have a heart to serve our Lord Jesus and people with vision impairment throughout the world.

I would like to share with you a few of the highlights of this meeting:

In addition to monitoring staff performance, establishing and modifying governance policies, and enjoying our fellowship in Christ, the Board also affirmed our "Core Values," the foundation upon which we develop our mission objectives and strategies. Those core values are:

- A. People who are visually impaired are among those Jesus came to save. (Matthew 28:18-20)
- B. The Word of God is fundamental to knowing Jesus as Savior. (John 17:17, 2 Timothy 2:1-2, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- C. We are compelled by Christ to serve. (2 Corinthians 5:14-19)
- D. LBW participates in God's continuing mission. (John 5:16-19)
- E. LBW is focused on people who are blind or visually impaired, seeking to fulfill their need for the Word of God in a language and in the technology that best promotes interaction with God and His Word.

In our next meeting, the Board will discuss modifying or adding to these core values so we can properly encompass the work done in the Outreach Centers and the Lutheran Library for the Blind. I thank God that our Board places Jesus and the Great Commission first in our thinking, planning and doing.

If you have questions about the ministry of Lutheran Braille Workers, please feel free to contact me by phone or by email. I would be happy to answer your questions and share with you our strategic objectives.

Included with this Ministry Memo is the Stewardship Report. The Stewardship Report contains all the gifts associated with your Work Center as well as the expenses. These Reports are often used for the following reasons:

(Continued on Page 6)

Donor Relations

Hello Work Center Leaders,

My name is Deanna Bowles and I am new to LBW. I will be replacing Kathy Buss as Donor Relations, while she will continue filling your purchase orders for you. I'd like to start out by thanking all of you for your time and donations. You play a very big part in helping us to reach those individuals who are blind or visually impaired and getting the message of salvation into their hands.

You can continue to help me as you mail in your donations, by remembering to continue to use the Dollar-A-Month Work Center Donation slip, which is the blue ½ sheet (please see picture sample). These should be used for Work Center donations only and not for personal gifts. If you are not using these, but would like to, please give me a call at 1-800-925-6092 and I will mail some to you. As your Work Center Donations come in, I will supply you with more of these along with your receipt. If you are mailing a check or cash, please let me know whether the donation is from the Work Center directly or a personal gift from you. Please also include your work center number. You can notate this on the memo line of the check or a separate note. Please know that whichever way you are giving the donation, your work center will get full credit. There may be times that I will have to call you for clarification on these gifts.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to speaking with you. Thank you!

Braille Department

Please check your work center for 1 ½ grade Braille plates. We no longer produce that grade, so if you do find grade 1 ½ plates please recycle them.

When sending books to the Home Office pack them in quantities of 5 and do not put them into plastic bags.

On all shipping of plates and materials please make sure that corners of the boxes are reinforced and items are well packed to avoid damage during shipping. All Braille shipments must have cardboard or corrugated board on top and bottom, including Braille shipments in envelopes.

If your work center is running behind in production, please contact Joanna so we can determine if you need to be placed on hold to catch up.

Please have someone in your Work Center review your books prior to shipping for obvious errors e.g. pages upside down, Braille dots running off page or no top or bottom margin, holes punched wrong and pages different heights or too many holes punched. Basically make sure your center would be proud of this volume no matter where it is sent.

If your center is using the cream colored Braille paper, please contact Joanna and let her know how much of that stock you have. - Joanna Ervin

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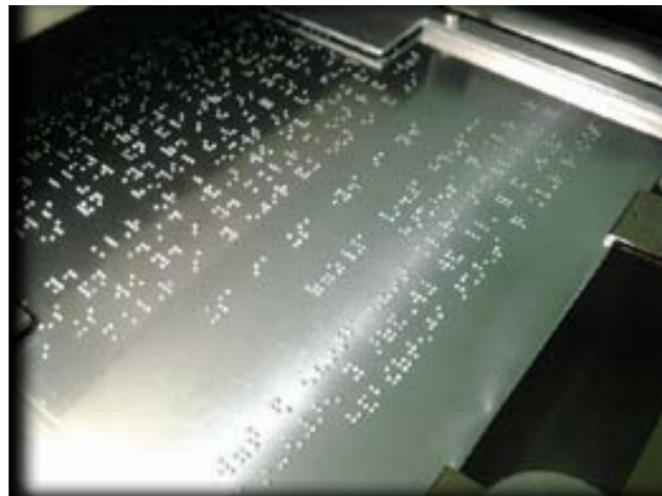
DOLLAR-A-MONTH WORK CENTER DONATION

Date _____ 20____ Name of Church _____
Amount of Gift _____ City _____ State _____

Jan. 1	April 1	July 1	Oct. 1
Feb. 1	May 1	Aug. 1	Nov. 1
March 1	June 1	Sept. 1	Dec. 1

Picture of the "Dollar-A-Month Work Center Donation" form

Please prayerfully consider Lutheran Braille Workers in your Estate Planning.



Braille Plate being embossed by the PED 30

Thrivent Choice ®

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will continue its Thrivent Choice Dollars in 2013. However, they will no longer have available the recurring direction. Instead you will need to call 800.847.4836 or if you have access to the internet go to www.thrivent.com to manually direct your gifts to LBW or an organization of your choice.

Thank you for donating your Choice Dollars to Lutheran Braille Workers.



New Outreach Center for the Blind

On March 16th, an Outreach Center opened at Zion Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio. The first gathering had 20 people who are blind and seven volunteers from the congregation. A wonderful start! We have been working with this congregation and community for almost a year. Thank God for their hard work and patience.

For an outreach center to start, it needs:

- 1 - A "mission minded" Pastor
- 2 - Volunteers who are willing to be trained for a hands-on service
- 3 - Connection into the blind community.

Pastor Dave Andrus will be traveling to the following places to visit Work Centers and Outreach Centers to thank, encourage, support and develop. If you are close to where Pastor Dave is going to be and are interested in attending to learn more about Outreach Centers or how to establish an Outreach Center, please contact the Home Office at 1-800-925-6092 to get more detailed information.

- April 7: Trinity Lutheran, Work Center #104, Paso Robles, CA
- April 13: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Outreach Center #655, Austin, TX
- April 14: Peace Lutheran Church, Work Center #70, Hewitt, TX
- April 20-21: St. John Lutheran Church, Work Center #165, Chester, IL
- May 5: Faith Lutheran Church, Work Center #33, Hesperia, CA
- May 7: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - To possibly establish an Outreach Center, Yucaipa, CA
- May 11: Concordia Lutheran Church, Outreach Center #634, Maplewood, MO
- May 17: Canoga Park Lutheran Church, Work Center #14 in Canoga Park, CA
- May 18: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Outreach Center #604, Santa Barbara, CA
- May 19: Peace Lutheran Church, Work Center #154 in Arroyo Grande, CA
- June 2: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Outreach Center #626, Lawrence, KS
- June 9: Brookfield Lutheran Church - To raise the mission, Brookfield, WI
- June 27-30 LWML Convention, Pittsburgh, PA

Lay A Rose



Vera Bell of WC #152 in Banning CA, began serving as Leader in 2004. Vera passed away in February 2013.

Elaine Daehnert of WC #100 in Sheboygan WI, passed away December 2012. Elaine had been Leader since 1976.

Don Oberdieck of WC #206 in Sun City West AZ, passed away December 2012. Don had been Leader since 2007.

Orville Kniep of Monrovia CA, former Board Member serving from 1999 – 2004 passed away November 2012.

Marilyn Perkins of Work Center #74 in Santa Barbara CA, passed away February 2013. Marilyn had been Leader since 1992.

All have gone to be with our Lord and will be greatly missed.

Safety To Think About

What to do with your expired prescriptions or over-the-counter drugs? Flush them? Throw them in the trash? Leave them in the cabinet? The FDA recommends the following if no take-back programs are available in your area:

1. Gather expired drugs, kitty litter or coffee grounds, and a sealable baggie.
2. Place solid drugs (pills) in the baggie, seal, and crush.
3. Add liquid drugs (if any).
4. Add coffee grounds or kitty litter.
5. Seal the baggie and toss in the trash.
6. Remove the prescription label or scratch out information to protect your identity. Recycle the containers if permitted in your area (you may check online at www.disposemy meds.org). - March issue of *TS Safety Around the Clock*

Spring Cleaning for the Braille Dept

Welcome Spring! Beautiful flowers, warm days, and cool nights; for those of us not buried in snow. During Spring many like to do “spring cleaning,” this must mean it is time to clean our Braille Presses. If this is your first time, please refer to the Braille Work Center Manual, page 16 for instructions. If you don’t have a manual or LOR 326 roller cleaner please contact the Home Office at 800-925-6092. If your jackets need to be recovered, do not use tape to cover them, use either Martha Stewart or Rubbermaid heavy duty contact paper.

A clean press helps make good Braille, happy cleaning!

Message From the President *(Continued from page 1)*

- Many Work Centers depend on this report as it is used to request funds from the congregation, granting organizations such as Thrivent, LWML, or the Lions Club, and it supplies information some use in their congregation’s Annual Report.
- This report is also a way for the Home Office to be accountable to you. Please review the gifts associated with your Work Center. If you find any discrepancies between your records and ours, please contact the Home Office at your earliest convenience. Although unlikely, it is possible that we mis-assigned a gift.
- And, as LBW has in the past, we encourage Work Center support. It is hoped that individual Work Centers will be able to financially support the costs of supplies used by the Work Center. Knowing that volunteers work very hard to manufacture the books, we encourage the idea that others in the congregation or community be offered the opportunity to serve the spiritual needs of people with visual impairment through their prayers and financial gifts.

As a “faith-based” ministry, the work of Lutheran Braille Workers is completely dependent on donations. The Home Office would like to thank you for your prayers, hard work and willingness to raise mission dollars. Most of the Work Centers are now able to cover their costs. Thank you!!! Because of you, many thousands of people now “see” Jesus! May God continue to bless you and this wonderful ministry. You all remain in my prayers.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Phillip M. Pledger

Large Print Department

Two “New Model” Large Print Centers Expected Soon

LBW is currently working with two churches on plans to open up two “New Model” Large Print Work Centers very soon. Besides the normal assembly duties, these new centers will do their own printing and mailing of books to readers, churches and other organizations. One of these two Host Churches was formerly a Braille Center and the other will be brand new to LBW.

The addition of these two centers will not only increase our Large Print production capabilities, but will also help to alleviate some of the tremendous workload on our overtaxed Print Shop and Shipping Departments. We are optimistic that the addition and success of these two new centers will lead to many others of this kind in the future. Creating new opportunities for our volunteers and for others hoping to become first time volunteers is exciting for our ministry. This, in turn, means that many more people suffering from vision impairment will receive God’s Word in our specialized Large Print. The Lord’s blessings to you all! – Roy Fisher

Recognizing You, Our Dedicated Volunteers

In recognition of National Volunteer Week (April 21-28), we would like to Thank You, our volunteers, for your dedication and support. May the Lord bestow his blessings upon you.