

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 #399

Jul-Sept 2013

Message From The President

Since 1943, Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) has provided more opportunity than any other ministry to share the Good News of Jesus to people who are blind and visually impaired throughout the world by producing and distributing free Braille and Large Print Bibles and other Christian books as well as many titles in Audio or electronic formats. With more than 6,500 volunteers who serve in 200 Work Centers throughout 38 US States (and 3 Canadian Provinces), Lutheran Braille Workers is the 3rd largest volunteer organization of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Lutheran Braille Workers is a unique ministry that serves a population often neglected and ignored by the majority populations throughout the world. If our entire mission field lived in one nation, that nation would be the 4th largest in the world by population; more than 258 million people (according to the World Health Organization). LBW is the largest ministry in the world that provides the Word of God to people who are blind and visually impaired (without cost). In addition to the manufacture and distribution of the Bible and other Christian books, LBW also serves more than 1,500 people through 65 Outreach Centers throughout the United States. Outreach Centers offer a safe place for people with visual impairment to gather for fellowship, learning, and Christian devotion.

Quick Facts about Lutheran Braille Workers:

More than 6,500 Volunteers located in 38 US States and 3 Canadian Provinces.

200 Work Centers and 65 Outreach Centers.

More than 1,500 people with visual impairment attend Outreach Centers.

Thousands of Christian books and periodicals manufactured each year.

Home of the largest Christian Library for the Blind in the US (Jacksonville, FL).

Materials offered in Braille, Large Print, and Audio formats.

Christian materials offered in 30 languages and sent to more than 135 countries.

Your prayers, labor and generosity make it possible for thousands of people to “see” Jesus!

If you would like additional information about Lutheran Braille Workers or how you can become involved with this ministry, please check us out: www.LBWinc.org, or telephone us: 800-925-6092. Please prayerfully consider becoming a partner in helping people touch the promises of Jesus! -- Rev. Dr. Phil Pledger

FYI By Roy

For Your Information - A new Large Print Work Center is set to open soon. The former LBW Braille Center #175, is about to re-open as a Large Print Work Center. The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills in Birmingham Alabama, continues to be the host church. The Center will mirror Braille Centers in that it will produce and distribute publications directly to the reader. The Lutheran Service Book, in six volumes, will be their responsibility. Mrs. Miriam Hartley will continue as leader of the center.

LBW is excited to open this “New Model” center which helps to de-centralize Large Print production, thus easing the burden on both the Print Shop and the Shipping Department, here at the home office. It also re-directs our dedicated volunteers and their host church to where they can best benefit the ministry. As with all things we do, we pray for the Lord’s blessings for our new “Large Print LSB” Work Center. -- *Roy Fisher*



Joanna’s Production Corner

As many of you know we have experienced several different issues with the post office over the past few months. Rev. Dr. Phil has worked with our local Congress staff and most of those issues have been resolved. If you are having issues please do not hesitate to let me know and we will try to get them resolved also. Different areas of the country also handle International shipments differently and are requiring you to either register online or have more labels for additional forms or fewer labels for shorter forms. I can assist you with questions regarding those issues also.

Please let me know if your work center is more than a month behind in production and I will hold labels until you catch up. If you are not able to handle the production that you have been given please let me know so we can work with you to reach a number that is manageable for you. If you plan on closing your center for the summer, please notify me so I can place a hold on your labels.

Don’t forget to have a quality control check of your volumes prior to shipping, as we want to provide our readers the best Braille possible. Make sure they have nice margins and that holes are punched only on the correct side and only with the number of holes that fit the spiral.

Thanks for the awesome job that each of you do as you provide Bibles and Christian material to persons who are blind and visually impaired. -- *Joanna Ervin*



Rose’s Braille Notes

Many years ago the decision was made to remove “Why Do I need Salvation” from the front of all books except for the books of Matthew and Genesis Volume 1. Recently the home office received books that included those two pages. Please look at each set of your plates and if you have an A & B plate, call me, they may be “Why Do I Need Salvation” and need to be removed from your set. -- *Rose Jaimes*

Thank you for all you do for the ministry of Lutheran Braille Workers. Have a blessed summer!

Deanna's Donor Relations

By now, some of you should have received your corrected Volunteer Rosters, as well as your Volunteer Pins for 2013. These are being mailed to the Work Center Leaders, to distribute to their volunteers. If you have not received them yet, please be patient, I am working on them as fast as I can. Once you receive them, please contact me if I have missed anyone or made any errors on your Rosters or Pins.

I have not received Rosters back from several of the Work Centers. If I don't receive these back, I will not have accurate records to mail out your pins. It really helps if we can keep these Rosters up to date. Please feel free to call, write or email me your changes throughout the year. If you are removing someone from your Roster, it would really help if you could tell me if the volunteer is retired, moved or deceased. Also the Column for "Child?" is there for volunteers 16 years of age or older. We will add them to your Roster, but will not put them on our Newsletter list. Please do not include children younger than 16 on your Rosters. My email is: Deanna@lbwinc.org

Thank you again for your hard work and dedication to Lutheran Braille Workers. -- Deanna Bowles

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Braille Sunday...

AT FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, HESPERIA, CA

"Work Center 33 was so pleased Pastor Dave Andrus could participate in our Braille Sunday, May 5. He preached at both services, including a children's talk. During the Sunday School hour he shared with the adults his life and work with LBW. It was a real 'eye-opener' for us. The day was a real blessing to our congregation. People commented on how well Pastor Dave moved about the chancel area while preaching and assisting with communion. Little did they know that the previous evening he was inside the church becoming familiar with the layout of the interior knowing where the steps were and feeling the communion rail, etc. We were greatly blessed by his message and presence. Thank you so much, Pastor Dave!" -- Grace F.



Pastor Dave Andrus sharing the Children's Message