

Lutheran Braille Workers

*Helping People Celebrate the
Promises of Jesus*

Work Center Memo

MEMO #390 PO Box 5000 Yucaipa, CA 92399 • 800-925-6092 • www.LBWinc.org Jan-Feb 2012

The President's Desk:

Few have found reason to celebrate recently. The economy has been extremely difficult, unemployment is at its highest point for decades, and many people have lost their homes due to foreclosure. With the downturn in the economy and the corresponding reduction in tax revenue, many state and local programs that help people who are disadvantaged have been significantly reduced or have been stopped altogether. When times are tough for the majority, people who are disabled or are economically disadvantaged suffer the most.

It is during such times God's grace abounds. When the going gets tough, God's Spirit moves us to re-evaluate and re-prioritize. Our fears and concerns are overcome by faith and hope. God's primary tools to address our fears and concerns are His Promises found in the Bible.

Thank you all for your partnership with this ministry to people who are visually disabled. Your work delivers the Light of the Gospel of Jesus to many thousands of people each year. Most of our Readers would NOT have God's Word in Braille or Large Print if it were not for your prayers, hard work, and generous financial support. You provide people who are visually disabled a reason to celebrate because you deliver hope.

This Work Center Memo is sent to update you on important Work Center procedures, news, prayer concerns, and praise reports. We have decided to begin sending this Memo monthly because Lutheran Braille Workers is an important ministry in a changing world. Your prayers, insight, and ideas are welcome, and we ask that everyone in the Work Center have the chance to read this Memo each month. Feedback is also encouraged and we promise to read and prayerfully consider each idea or concern brought to our attention.

Lutheran Braille Workers has many reasons to celebrate! Since the turn of the economy in 2008, LBW has re-evaluated and re-prioritized the ministry entrusted to us. Even during these tough times, people throughout the world received the Word of God, people's lives were changed by the Light of the Gospel, and God has blessed volunteers and staff abundantly. Your work changes lives; may God continue to bless each of you, fill you with His Spirit, and constantly remind you of your hope in His Son, Jesus.

~ In Christ, Dr. Phil Pledger

From The Braille Department

Happy and blessed New Years to all! In the past six months the post office has made many policy changes nationally and locally. One of the local changes some post offices have implemented is to charge fees for returned boxes. If your post office tries to charge your center for returned books, DO NOT PAY these fees, let them keep the boxes. The National Federation of the Blind is working with us to help resolve this matter.

Rose Jaimes - *Braille Administrator*

From The Large Print Department

Work Center Celebration Weekly Lutheran Hour Sermons Center

On Sunday, January 29th, Work Center #197 located at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Moreno Valley, CA celebrated its 10 year anniversary. The church itself celebrated their 31st anniversary. After recognition during the worship services, a soup and sandwich luncheon was planned.

Anne Neudecker, “got the ball rolling” 10 years ago and remains as leader today. The twenty or so volunteers have collated, stapled and mailed somewhere between 1600 and 2700 Sermons every single week during that time. If you or someone you know would like to receive these inspirational Sermons, please let us know. A Sermon in Braille is also available, monthly, thanks to Work Center #37 in Costa Mesa, CA.

Congratulations to Work Center #197 for their 10 years of faithful service to our Lord. If your own Work Center is planning a special ceremony that you would like to share, please let us know.

Roy Fisher - *Large Print Administrator*

From The Purchasing/Donor Relations Department

Thank you, Work Center volunteers, for not only your hours of labor, but for your prayers and gifts. Through your generosity Lutheran Braille Workers can continue to provide Bibles free of charge to anyone who asks. We may never know their names; however those whom you have helped carry thanks in their hearts for your kindness.

If we were to combine the production of all the Work Centers, we can only imagine how many lives have been blessed by your hard work and dedication. We just can't thank you enough for giving of your time and labor to assemble the books and send them on their way. You are truly missionaries serving in your own “Home Town”!

Kathy Buss - *Donor Relations*



Tin Can Project

Lutheran Braille Workers is excited about its upcoming plans for the Tin Can Project. It's coming soon.... Lets' get involved and make 2012 another blessed year.

***Please prayerfully consider Lutheran Braille Workers
in your Estate Planning.***

Dining In The Dark

Have you experienced “Dining in the Dark?” If not, and you are in or going to be in the Houston, TX area, here is your chance! Our next Dining in the Dark event is happening:

When: March 17th, 2012
Time: 5:30pm
Where: Sheraton Houston
Houston, TX

If you would like to attend, please contact Jan at 1.800.925.6092



Work Center Leaders - We encourage you to read the Work Center Manual. Be familiar with maintenance procedures for your equipment.

A BRIEF BROADCAST

ATTENTION all Work Center Leaders and Assistant Leaders.....We are in need of pictures from your Work Center. We are planning to use them in future Newsletters, Memos, and possibly other publications to spread the word of LBW’s ministry. Please take lots of pictures of your hardworking volunteers and email them to david@LBWinc.org. David will respond to your email with a huge “Thank You” when received.

Thanks for all your help!

FUND-RAISING IDEAS



Work Center #59 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Jacksonville, FL recently held a Braille Educational Event at one of their neighboring Lutheran Schools where approximately 220 students attended. Various activities were planned which included “embossing” the Lord’s Prayer on the braille press. They were taught how

the Braille alphabet was invented by a young boy, very much their own age.

A clever idea was created by Julia Neimes, the Work Center Leader and LBW Board Member, by using several egg cartons, each the ½ dozen-size. The children made Braille letters in each carton by using golf balls in the openings. Depending on where the golf balls were placed in the cartons, reflected which letter it was (hence the six braille cells!).

The highlight of the event, though, was inviting two seeing-eye dog trainers with their dogs. The closing event was an interactive Bible Study on the story of Jesus healing the blind man. Prayerfully, many lasting memories were made that day.



“LAY A ROSE”



Irma Wells, who passed away in December of 2011, was a Work Center Leader (#90) in Lansing, IL from 1989 till 2006. She will be truly missed.

We will miss Bob Heimple of Kincardine, Ontario Canada who also passed away in December 2011. He was the Leader of Work Center #16 for 12 years. May God keep them both in His glory!

Lutheran Braille Workers Welcome New Staff Member

I am happy to join the Christian team at Lutheran Braille Workers. I have seen the ministry here grow from a very small organization to what it is today. I have been in the community and a part of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church here in Yucaipa for 32 years. Our church members through the years have volunteered lots of hours working at this office and I have thought what a blessing to have this in our community. I have worked in the banking industry for 32 years and bring experience and knowledge that with God's help will allow me to use my talents to further the efforts of this ministry. I love working with people and I look forward to getting to know each of you.



Joanna Ervin - *Production Coordinator*



Work Center #195, Yucaipa, CA



Work Center #2 Hopkins, MN



Work Center #199 La Puente, CA