



ILLUMINATIONS



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A Bible at His Side

For most Christians, owning a Bible is something they take for granted. For Steve, it was a gift he waited decades to receive.

Now 81 years old and blind since birth, Steve spent much of his life without access to a complete Bible. As a young man, he had portions of Scripture in Braille, primarily the New Testament in the King James and Revised Standard Versions, but a full Bible was beyond reach. "Until Lutheran Braille Workers came along," he wrote, "I only had access to the New Testament."

Steve grew up in California and attended the California School for the Blind in Berkeley. Like many blind students of his generation, he lived away from home for much of the year, separated from his parents and brother except during summers and holidays. After graduation of this program, he attended high school in Oakland while continuing to live in the school's dormitories, navigating the challenges of being one of the few blind students learning alongside sighted classmates. His determination carried him far. Steve earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Linfield College in Oregon and later completed graduate studies in counseling at the University of Oregon.

He became an accomplished long-distance runner, completing three marathons and participating in the famous 200-mile relay from Mount Hood to Seaside, Oregon. Running required trust. Guided by a sighted partner connected by a bungee cord, Steve learned to respond to subtle signals like a raised arm for an upcoming step, a movement of the cord to indicate single-file running. "It was great to be a participant with sighted runners," he recalled. That same spirit of determination marked his professional life. Steve

worked for the Oregon Commission for the Blind before launching his own consulting firm, where he became a nationally recognized speaker and trainer in leadership development, team building, diversity awareness, and organizational change. His work took him across the country and allowed him to build a successful 35-year career.

Yet through all those years of education, travel, and professional accomplishment, access to God's Word remained limited. Then, sometime in the late 1980s or early 1990s, Steve received a complete Braille Bible from Lutheran Braille Workers. The impact was profound.



Today, an entire bookshelf in his home is devoted to his Braille Bible. While he jokes that taking the whole set to church isn't exactly practical, one volume often accompanied him on business trips and consulting assignments. "My newfound Bible was always at my side," he wrote. "Or I should say one of the books of the Bible always traveled with me on my business assignments."

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Psalm 119:72

The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.

Our mission and vision statement are:

MISSION

Because God desires salvation for all... Lutheran Braille Workers **freely** shares the Gospel with people who are Blind or Visually Impaired.

VISION

All people in the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired have **free** access to the message of salvation through Jesus Christ.

A key word in both is free.

I recently met with a donor who asked, “Are you telling me that all your revenue comes from fundraising?” The simple answer is yes. From the very beginning, the founders of Lutheran Braille Workers—and the leaders who have followed—have remained committed to providing God’s Word and Christian resources to people who are blind or Visually Impaired at no cost. We do not sell these materials; we give them away.

There is a practical reason for this commitment. It has been estimated that only about 25% of the blind community has the financial means to afford items that can be costly, such as a Braille Bible or even a single Braille book. But there is also a deeper reason: God’s grace, forgiveness, and kindness are given freely, never earned and never bought. Through His life, death, and resurrection, Jesus secured salvation and a right relationship with God, and He gives that gift of grace freely through His Word. In the same spirit, we are committed to freely sharing God’s Word and Christian resources with all who need them.

The donor did not ask the next question directly, but it naturally follows: how do we inspire people to support this mission? How do we invite others to give to Lutheran Braille Workers so that we can continue placing God’s Word into the hands of those who are blind or Visually Impaired? Psalm 119 answers that beautifully. The psalmist says, “The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces.” For our donors, volunteers, and friends, the gift of God’s holy Word is worth far more than anything we could place beside it. That is why they joyfully give their time, talents, and treasure so others may receive this priceless gift.

Every volunteer hour, every dollar given, and every act of service helps place the precious Word of God into the hands of people who are blind or Visually Impaired. That is a joy and privilege that cannot be measured in financial terms alone.

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That is also why I do not mind the work of fundraising. Some leaders say they do not enjoy asking for money, but I do not think of it that way. Instead, I see it as inviting generous and caring people to use what is valuable in order to support something even more valuable: the gift of faith.

Earlier, I said that all of our revenue comes from fundraising. That is mostly true, but not entirely. LBW also has a growing endowment, and the interest from that endowment helps sustain this ministry. One of my personal goals is to see that endowment grow so that Lutheran Braille Workers can continue this work faithfully and confidently for as long as it is needed.

Research suggests that the number of people who are blind or Visually Impaired will double over the next 30 years. Our endowment currently stands at over \$600,000, but a strong long-term goal is to grow it to at least \$1 million. Those who include LBW in their estate plans or simply give a gift of \$20,000 or more to the endowment become members of the Light of Christ Legacy Society, which honors our founder, Helene Loewe Koehler.

If 20 individuals or families were to give \$20,000 or more by December 31, we could begin the new year with an endowment of more than \$1 million. That is certainly a significant gift. Yet even a gift of that size cannot compare to the beauty and worth of God's Word—the treasure that is freely shared with every person who requests it. Thank you for your faithful support of Lutheran Braille Workers and for sharing this work with a Hart for the Mission. I wish you a blessed and joyful summer.



Cover Story Continued

Steve is married, has three grown sons, and enjoys time with his grandchildren. Recently, he has begun facing a new challenge: dementia. With characteristic honesty and humor, he writes, "Long-term memory is excellent, but short-term memory well, it sucks." Then he adds, "(smile)." As he reflected on his life, Steve felt compelled to write and express his gratitude. "It occurred to me that I should write you all to give thanks," he said.

His letter reminds us why this ministry matters. For more than 80 years, Lutheran Braille Workers has provided free Braille and Large Print Christian materials so that people who are blind or Visually Impaired can read God's Word for themselves. For Steve, that gift arrived after decades of waiting. Today, the Bible that once seemed out of reach sits on a bookshelf in his home, a tangible reminder that God's Word is for everyone.

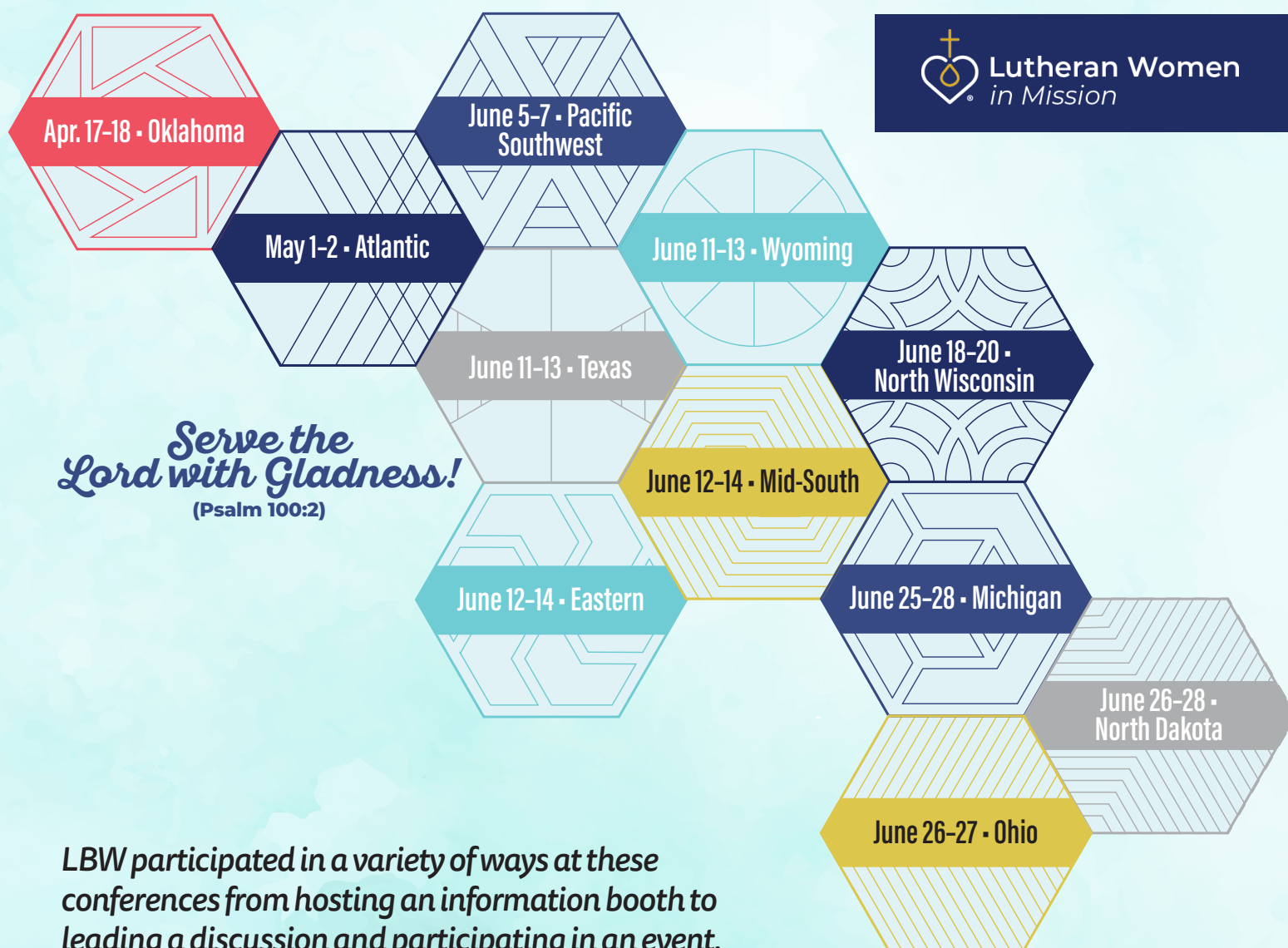
"Again, thank you," Steve wrote. "And the others for your contributions to blind readers."

We thank God for Steve's faith, his perseverance, and the opportunity to place His Word into the hands of readers around the world. In Christ, Steve's story continues to remind us that when God's Word is made accessible, lives are changed.

You Know It's Summer When the LWML Conventions Begin!

Every other summer, LWML district conventions take place across the country. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) exists to equip women for spiritual growth, Christian fellowship, and support of mission work both near and far. For those of us at Lutheran Braille Workers, the arrival of convention season is one of the highlights of the year. You know it's summer when the LWML conventions are in full swing!

This year, we have been blessed to attend conventions for the Oklahoma, Atlantic, Eastern, Wyoming, Pacific Southwest, Mid South, North Wisconsin, Ohio, Texas, Michigan, and North Dakota Districts. At each event, we've had the opportunity to share the ministry of LBW, connect with faithful supporters, and thank the women of LWML for their incredible partnership over the years. Through their mites, prayers, volunteer service, and encouragement, they have helped place God's Word into the hands of people who are blind or Visually Impaired around the world.





While we are grateful for the financial support LWML has provided throughout the years, some of the greatest blessings come from the conversations that happen at our exhibit table.

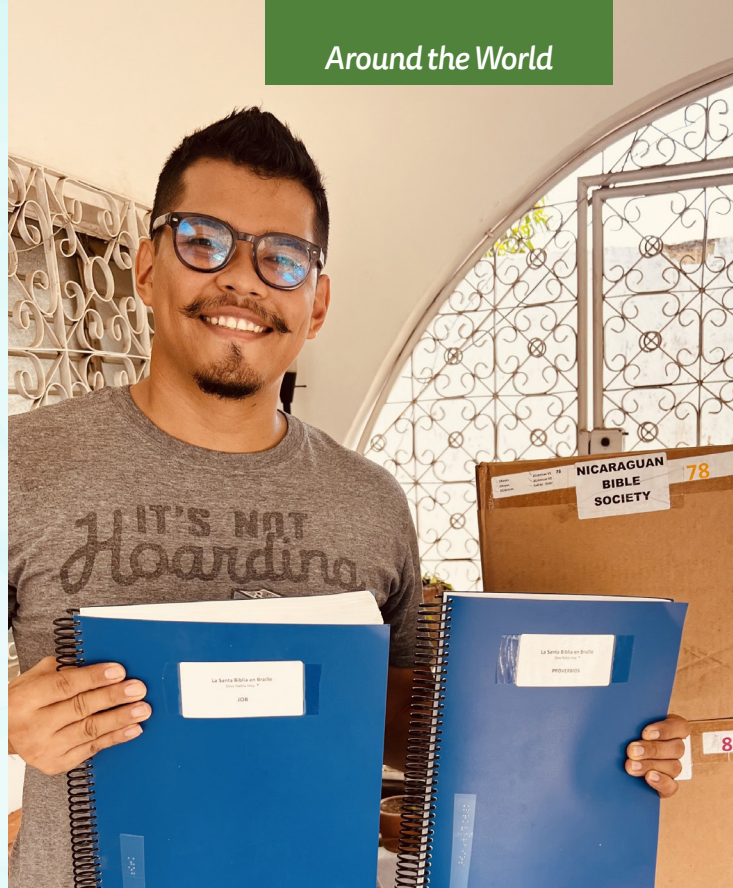
At one convention, a woman stopped by and shared about her sister, who is serving a life sentence in prison. She explained that while she may never be reunited with her sister in this life, she desperately wants to know that she will see her again in heaven. Her sister also has a visual impairment, making it difficult to access Christian materials.

When she learned that LBW provides Specialized Large Print Christian resources to people in prison, she began to cry. We stepped away from the table and took a quiet moment to pray together. We were able to give her a copy of The Journey Home devotional to send to her sister. She held the book and told us how much it meant to know there was a way to share the hope of Jesus with someone she loves so deeply.

At another convention, a woman shared that she has retinitis pigmentosa. She was diagnosed at age 35 when she went to renew her driver's license. Since then, she has lost much of her vision and now has only about five percent remaining. She told us that activities she once loved, such as needlework and knitting, have become increasingly difficult.

As we talked, she noticed the Specialized Large Print Book of Psalms displayed on our table. Looking at the pages, she smiled and said, "I can see this!" She then asked if we had any devotional books that were uplifting and "not so heavy." We were delighted to share one of Donna Snow's devotionals with her in Large Print. What seemed like a simple book became a source of encouragement and hope.

These encounters remind us that every Bible, devotional, and Christian resource we produce is ultimately about people. Behind every order is a story, a struggle, a question, or a desire to grow closer to Jesus. Thank you for making those connections possible. Through your support, prayers, and partnership, lives are being touched by God's Word every day. We look forward to meeting many more LWML women throughout the summer and fall and giving thanks for the ministry we share together.



Bible Society of Nicaragua The Bible in Braille

Israel, thirty-nine years old, is a university professor and a member of the Church of God. He used to organize tutoring sessions at his home to help students and share God's Word. One of his students was blind, who would come accompanied by a family member. After the tutoring sessions, they would study the Bible together.

So, he became interested in blind people, learned Braille, and acquired a Braille printer to print Bible pamphlets to share with them. He also organized a library so that people could come and enrich themselves culturally.

Today, 15 blind people come to his library to learn; however, he didn't have the Bible in Braille. Now it's a reality in his library because he has the best book to illuminate people's lives. **Thank you so much for helping me fulfill the Great Commission.**

Songs of Faith, Stories of Light: The Stories Are Coming to Life

Over the past year, Lutheran Braille Workers has been engaged in an exciting journey of listening, learning, and creating through our Lilly Endowment-funded initiative, Songs of Faith, Stories of Light. What began as a vision to share the faith stories of people who are blind or Visually Impaired is now becoming a reality, and we are excited to share several important milestones with you.

The vision behind Songs of Faith, Stories of Light is simple but powerful: to share the faith journeys of individuals who are blind or Visually Impaired through original music, storytelling, podcasts, videos, and accessible resources. Too often, these stories go unheard. Through this project, we hope to amplify these voices and share how God has worked through both challenges and triumphs to strengthen faith and inspire others.

One of the most exciting developments is that podcast recording has officially begun. Over the coming months, listeners will have the opportunity to hear directly from storytellers, songwriters, ministry leaders, and others involved in the project. These conversations will explore not only the stories themselves, but also the creative process of turning life experiences into music and ministry resources.

We are also nearing completion of the first video story in the series. Final edits are currently underway on a powerful feature that highlights storyteller **Sharron Luka** and songwriter **Blake Flattley**. Sharron is an extraordinary woman whose life has been marked by faith, courage, and adventure. Blind since birth, she has never allowed her visual impairment to define her limitations. Among her many accomplishments, Sharron has swum around the Florida Keys and in the waters off the coast of Greece. These experiences helped inspire Blake's original song, *The Water*.

The song captures not only Sharron's remarkable adventures but also her deep trust in God throughout her life. Those who have heard early

versions of the song have been moved by both the story and the message behind it. We look forward to sharing the completed video and song in the coming months.

Blake is also putting the finishing touches on two additional songs inspired by other remarkable storytellers whose faith journeys will soon be shared through upcoming podcasts and project resources. Each song is uniquely shaped by the storyteller's experiences and testimony, creating a collection of music that is both deeply personal and universally encouraging.

As these stories take shape, we continue to be amazed by the individuals God has brought into this project. Again and again, we hear stories of perseverance, service, faithfulness, and hope. These storytellers are not simply sharing experiences of blindness or visual impairment; they are sharing stories of God's presence in every season of life.

In the months ahead, Lutheran Braille Workers will also host a special community event in Yucaipa, California, welcoming residents from Yucaipa, Calimesa, and the surrounding area. The event will introduce attendees to the ministry of LBW while providing an opportunity to hear some of the stories and music being developed through Songs of Faith, Stories of Light. We hope it will be a meaningful evening of fellowship, inspiration, and community engagement as we celebrate the lives and testimonies of these remarkable individuals.

As the project continues to grow, we remain grateful for the many people who have said "yes" to participating, from storytellers who have opened their hearts, to songwriters who have brought stories to life through music, to partners who have shared their expertise, and supporters who continue to pray for the work. We are still looking for stories!

Read more about this on the next page.



We ask for your continued prayers as recording, editing, songwriting, and production continue. Pray for the storytellers who are sharing deeply personal experiences, for the creative teams who are bringing those stories to life, and for the many people who will one day hear these songs and testimonies. Our prayer is that through every story told and every song sung, people will see the faithfulness of God and the hope that is found in Jesus Christ.

The stories are being recorded. The songs are being written. The videos are taking shape. And we cannot wait to share them with you.



Help Us Find the Stories



As part of Lutheran Braille Workers' ***Songs of Faith, Stories of Light initiative***, we are continuing to gather stories and testimonies of faith from individuals who are blind or Visually Impaired. These stories help us better understand and share the impact of God's Word and the ministry of LBW.

We know that many of the most meaningful stories are already connected to this ministry. As you think about the people you have met through LBW, consider:



Have you received a memorable letter, email, or phone call?



Has someone shared a story that touched your heart?



Have you met someone at an event whose faith or life journey stayed with you?



Is there a family member, volunteer, donor, or ministry partner whose story others would benefit from hearing?

If someone comes to mind, we would love to learn more. At this stage, we are simply gathering names and exploring potential stories. Don't worry about whether a story is "good enough" or whether it will ultimately be featured in the project.

Every story matters, and many of the most powerful testimonies come from ordinary people faithfully living out their faith. Thank you for helping us uncover these stories and for partnering with us as we share the hope of Christ through ***Songs of Faith, Stories of Light***.

To share the name of someone whose story you think others may be blessed by, please contact the office at 909-795-8977 or email Rachel Potts at rachel@lbwloveworks.org.

A New Ministry Begins in Livonia

On March 18, Lutheran Braille Workers celebrated the opening of **Ministry Production Center #335** at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Livonia, Michigan. The new center marks another exciting step in LBW's mission to provide free Christian materials in accessible formats to people who are blind or Visually Impaired.

More than 26 volunteers gathered throughout the weekend to learn the production process and begin creating Specialized Large Print Bibles. Their enthusiasm and willingness to serve were evident as they received training and took part in the hands-on work of preparing materials that will be distributed free of charge to readers around the world.

The opening of the center was made possible through the efforts of LBW Board Member Pam Bishop, a member of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, who played a key role in organizing and launching the new ministry. Joining the celebration were LBW President Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell, Director of Ministry Production Cynthia Keh, and Director of Ministry Relations and Strategic Partnerships Rachel Potts. Together they participated in the training sessions and attended the dedication service on Sunday.

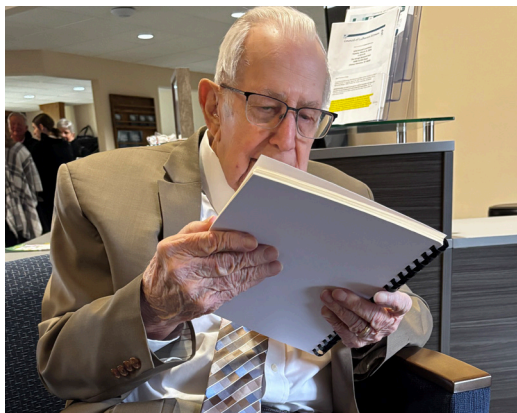
Throughout the weekend, volunteers shared their excitement about becoming part of a ministry that directly serves people with visual impairments. For many, the opportunity to help place God's Word into the hands of readers who might otherwise have limited access to Christian materials was both meaningful and inspiring.

One of the most memorable moments of the weekend came following the dedication service. As LBW staff visited with members of the congregation, Mr. Moldenhauer shared that his Bible study group was currently reading through the letters of Paul. "That Large Print sure would be nice to have," he said. "Most days, I can't read the words. I just listen."

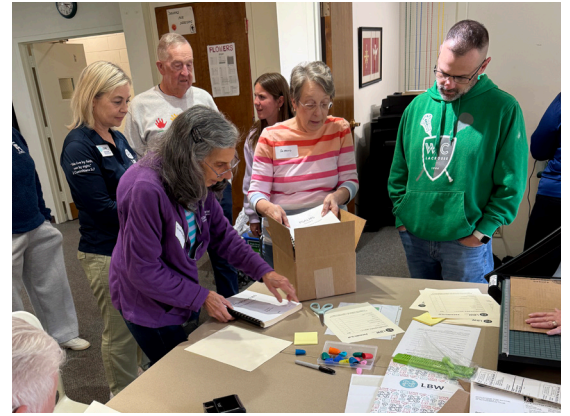
Fortunately, we had a Specialized Large Print volume containing Romans through Corinthians with us. When we placed it in his hands, a smile lit up his face. "Now I can read along with everyone!" he said.

In that moment, the purpose of every Ministry Production Center became clear. While volunteers had spent the weekend learning production processes and assembling materials, the ultimate goal was represented in one simple interaction: helping someone engage with God's Word. Mr. Moldenhauer's joy was a reminder that accessible Christian materials are not simply books. They are tools that connect people to Scripture, strengthen faith, and allow believers to participate more fully in the life of their congregation.

We give thanks to God for the faithful volunteers of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church and for their commitment to this ministry. We look forward to seeing how He will use Ministry Production Center #335 to share His love and His Word with readers for years to come. As Mr. Moldenhauer's smile reminded us, this is why we do what we do.



The Light Continues to Spread in Pennsylvania



On April 28, Lutheran Braille Workers celebrated the opening of **Ministry Production Center #336** at Christ Memorial Church in Malvern, Pennsylvania. This new center joins a growing network of congregations across the country that are helping share God's Word with people who are blind or Visually Impaired through free Large Print and Braille materials.

The opening of the new center was supported in part through a grant from the LCMS Eastern District, which has become a strong partner in expanding accessible Christian resources throughout the region. Christ Memorial is the second Ministry Production Center to receive support through the district, following the opening of a center at St. Mark Lutheran Church in North Tonawanda, New York, near Buffalo. Together with the Braille Ministry Production Center at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and another center currently being developed, the Eastern District plans to have a total of four LBW Ministry Production Centers serving communities across the district.

The new center at Christ Memorial also grew out of relationships and outreach efforts that began several years earlier. In 2024, the team at Ministry Production Center #192 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Scranton hosted a "Big Braille Bonanza" servant event, introducing participants to Braille and the ministry of Lutheran Braille Workers. Pastor Carl Emberger and several youth from Christ Memorial traveled to Scranton to take part in the event. The connection continued to grow as youth from Christ Memorial also participated in the Lutheran Braille Workers servant event at the LCMS Youth Gathering last summer, helping produce Braille and Large Print materials alongside thousands of other young people from across the Synod.

The opening of a new Ministry Production Center represents more than the launch of a volunteer program. It is the beginning of new opportunities for individuals with visual impairments to receive Christian resources that help them grow in faith and stay connected to God's Word. Through the faithful efforts of volunteers at Christ Memorial, Large Print materials will be produced and distributed at no cost to recipients, ensuring that more people can read and engage with Scripture and other Christian resources.

A special thank you goes to Pastor Fred Hoover, Pastor Carl Emberger, and Dave Sonnenberg for their leadership, vision, and dedication in bringing this ministry to Christ Memorial. Their willingness to say "yes" to this opportunity will have an impact far beyond their congregation and community.

Every new Ministry Production Center expands the reach of the Gospel and helps ensure that people with visual impairments have access to the life-changing message of Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for the faithful volunteers at Christ Memorial Church and look forward to seeing how He will use this ministry in the years ahead.

This is how the Light spreads.

Little Hands, Big Impact



What a joyful day at Lutheran Braille Workers Headquarters!

We were blessed to welcome volunteers from **Ministry Production Center #152** in Banning, who brought several homeschool groups and friends from neighboring churches to headquarters in Yucaipa for a special servant event. It was a delight to watch the children eagerly jump into the work.

They came with wonderful questions, eager hearts, and incredible focus. Even our youngest volunteers were organized, enthusiastic, and excited to help share God's Word with people who are blind or Visually Impaired.

Thank you to MPC #152 for your continued partnership and for raising up the next generation of servants. What a blessing to serve alongside you!



Ministry Production Center #164

St. John's Large Print Center hosted Trinity Lutheran School on March 3 on a tour of our work space! Each student was able to assemble a My Devotions booklet to take home. We were happy to help them observe Lutheran Schools Week!



Fold Homeschool Fellowship Group

Today we were blessed to welcome the Fold Homeschool Fellowship Group from Yucaipa and Beaumont to the LBW headquarters! More than 15 students and adults toured our facility, learned about Braille and Specialized Large Print ministry, explored the production process, and even helped assemble books that will be sent free of charge to people with visual impairments around the world.

Thank you for your curiosity, servant hearts, and enthusiasm for sharing the light of God's Word with others.

Braille Transcribers

LBW President Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell recently had the opportunity to meet with several dedicated Braille transcribers from Spencerport Lions Braille Service. During the visit, he expressed his sincere appreciation for their faithful work and longstanding commitment to serving individuals who are blind or Visually Impaired.



Braille transcribers play a vital role in making information accessible, transforming printed materials into a format that can be read independently by those who rely on Braille. Their work requires patience, skill, and careful attention to detail, yet much of it happens behind the scenes. Dr. Hartwell thanked the volunteers for the countless hours they have devoted to ensuring that blind and sight-impaired individuals have access to the resources they need for education, personal growth, and daily living.

The visit also provided an opportunity to share stories, discuss the ongoing need for accessible materials, and celebrate the impact that Braille continues to have in the lives of readers. Lutheran Braille Workers is grateful for organizations like Spencerport Lions Braille Service and for the many volunteers whose dedication helps make the world more accessible for people with visual impairments.

Together, through partnerships and a shared spirit of service, these efforts continue to open doors, foster independence, and enrich lives. **If you hold a Braille transcription certification and would like to volunteer at LBW, please email us at LBW@LBWLoveWorks.org.**

Partnering to Share Stories of Faith

Lutheran Braille Workers was pleased to welcome Allen and Matt from MegaVoice to our headquarters recently for a tour of our Braille production area and discussions about the future of the **Songs of Faith, Stories of Light** project.



Funded through the Lilly Endowment, **Songs of Faith, Stories of Light** is a five-year initiative that will share the faith journeys of people who are blind or Visually Impaired through original music, storytelling, podcasts, and other creative resources. As part of the project, MegaVoice is developing a portable audio player that will allow listeners to easily access and enjoy the music created through the initiative.

During their visit, Allen and Matt had the opportunity to see firsthand how Braille and Large Print materials are produced and distributed to readers around the world. The conversations also focused on how audio technology can help make these new faith stories accessible to even more people.

Partnerships like this are an important part of expanding the reach of the Gospel. We are grateful for MegaVoice's expertise and shared commitment to ensuring that people who are blind or Visually Impaired have access to Christian resources in formats that meet their needs.



As **Songs of Faith, Stories of Light** continues to develop, we look forward to working alongside dedicated partners who are helping bring these stories and the hope of Christ to audiences around the world.

Students Bring Scripture to the World

What started as a Minimester service project became an opportunity to help share God's Word around the world.

During their Local Missions orientation, students from Southwest Christian School in Fort Worth were given a list of nonprofit organizations to serve. For Everett Heinrich and his group, the choice was easy. "St. Paul Braille was one of the options, and we had two alumni of St. Paul Lutheran School in our group," Everett said. "We knew how much fun it was to work there, so we signed up."



At Ministry Production Center #47 ("Braille Center") on St. Paul Lutheran Church's Downtown campus, the group helped produce Scripture materials that will be distributed globally. "Our group helped with making Psalms and Deuteronomy books, packing them into boxes, and labeling them," he said. "We ended up completing 18 Deuteronomy, 7 Psalms, and packaging 104 Braille Bibles—contributing to the center's monthly goals."

For more than 45 years, St. Paul has partnered with Lutheran Braille Workers to provide Scripture free of charge in Braille, Large Print, and audio formats. That mission stood out to Everett. "There is absolutely no charge to ship Braille to another country and give it to those who need it," he said. "They emphasize that everyone deserves a chance to learn about Christ, and I found that very touching."

After serving, the group presented their project to a panel of judges, highlighting the ministry's history, global reach, and future impact. "Honestly, it was pretty stressful," Everett said. "But when we learned we got second place out of 12 teams, we were ecstatic. All our hard work had paid off." The group earned a \$1,000 grant for the project.

Through their work, these students helped make God's Word accessible to people they may never meet. To anyone considering following in their footsteps, Everett offers simple advice: "Bring some friends," he said. "Be ready to multitask, and most importantly, be ready to have fun."

Join the Mission

You can experience that same sense of purpose by serving at LBW Ministry Production Center #47, also known as the "St. Paul's Braille Center". Volunteers typically work in teams of five to seven during two-hour shifts from 9:30–11:30 a.m. or 12:30–2:30 p.m. Because of the hands-on, team-based process, small groups are encouraged.

Ready to serve? Email info@sharingnewlife.com to get started.

Remember Jesus

Written by Sharron Luka

In May, LBW and StoryFind visited the first storyteller for the **Songs of Faith, Stories of Light** project, Sharron Luka. Sharron was interviewed at her home in Salina, Kansas. Sharron has been blind since birth, and she shared stories of faith, perseverance, and God's faithfulness throughout her life. During her StoryFind interview, she was asked a simple but profound question: **"How would you like to be remembered?"**

Sharron paused. The question deserved more thought than she could give in that moment. The next day, she returned with her answer.

"I spent a long time thinking about that question," she said. "I think I know what I wish I had said. I want to be remembered as someone who told others about Jesus. And told them to remember Jesus."

The poem that follows is Sharron's heartfelt response. It's a reflection not on her own accomplishments, but on the One she hopes others will remember above all else.

How will you be remembered?

A friend did ask;

To remember the Lord is the true task.

Remember the Lord Jesus as you wake today;

Love Him with heart, soul and strength

From His Word do not stray.

Remember Jesus as you rise from sleep;

His commands and laws strive to keep.

Remember Jesus with His strong mighty arm;

He plunders the proud of hopeless vain charm.

Remember Jesus, who gives good things;

He is the Well from which eternal life springs.

Remember Jesus to magnify God;

For your sake He suffered the Cross and the Rod.

Remember Jesus through the bread and the cup

Until He returns, hold fast, and with Him sup.

How will you be remembered?

The Good News convey

That Jesus is the life, truth and the Way.

Poem is Based on:

- Deut. 6:6-9
- Luke 1:46-55
- Luke 22:14-20
- John 14:6:
- 1 Cor. 11:23-26



**" I want to be remembered
as someone who told
others about Jesus. "**



Guided by His Word

Written by Rachel Potts, Director of Ministry Relations and Strategic Partnerships

Psalm 119:105

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

Have you ever tried walking through a dark room without turning on a light? Even in familiar surroundings, it's easy to stumble when you cannot see what lies ahead. A light doesn't always reveal the entire journey, but it gives us enough to take the next step safely.

The psalmist reminds us that God's Word is that light. In a world filled with uncertainty, confusion, and distractions, Scripture illuminates our path and points us toward Christ. It provides comfort in difficult times, wisdom for daily decisions, and the assurance that God is walking with us every step of the way.

One of the beautiful truths of the Gospel is that God's Word is meant for everyone. No matter our age, abilities, circumstances, or where we live, the Lord desires that all people know His promises and the hope found in Jesus. Through Scripture, He continues to speak words of forgiveness, comfort, and eternal life.

As members of the Lutheran Braille Workers family, we have the privilege of helping ensure that more people can receive that light. Whether through volunteering, praying, giving, or sharing the ministry with others, we join in the simple but profound work of placing God's Word into the hands of those who seek it.

As you reflect on this verse, remember that the same Word that guides others also guides you. Whatever path lies before you today, God's promises remain unchanged. His Word is still a lamp to your feet, a light to your path, and a constant reminder of His faithful love.

Angie Haupenthal, church secretary at Grace Lutheran Church in Racine, WI, shared just how much their congregation truly appreciates the work of LBW. Angie teared up in sharing the story of Bill Galis, Vietnam veteran and former Elder at their church, who has been losing his sight for years through macular degeneration. It has progressively gotten worse, and he has been frustrated with himself from knocking things over to spilling his cup.

Bill stepped down being an Elder at the church recently, because in his mind and heart he just feels so unequipped. His family and church have been working together in support of him. It has been an emotional transition for everyone in his community as they hear of what Bill has been facing. They encountered Braille Legos, and this was so refreshing for Bill as he has been having difficulty learning Braille via computer.

Recently, Bill was in tears when remembering the different hymns they used to sing in church. Angie did some searching and found out that we offer the Lutheran Service Book in Braille. She expressed gratitude that he could have access to something that will bring peace and familiarity to him. They hope that he can learn more Braille by the time he receives a Bible and Lutheran Service Book from us. The Elders want to send in a donation, and they all thank LBW in being a support for Bill as he navigates through this difficult time in his life.

Thank You



Join LBW at the LCMS National Convention

Lutheran Braille Workers is excited to participate in the **LCMS National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, July 18–23, 2026**. Throughout the week, pastors, church workers, congregational leaders, and members from across the Synod will gather for worship, fellowship, learning, and convention business.



CHRIST
IS RISEN

1 corinthians 15

..... I N D E E D

Visitors to the LBW exhibit booth will have the opportunity to learn more about the ministry, explore Braille and Specialized Large Print materials, and discover how God's Word is being shared with people who are blind or Visually Impaired around the world.

In addition to the exhibit booth, LBW will offer a hands-on **servant opportunity** where convention attendees can help produce materials that will be distributed to readers with visual impairments. Participants will have the chance to take part in the ministry firsthand and help share God's Word with people they may never meet this side of heaven.

LBW will also host a special **Dining in the Dark** experience, where attendees can enjoy a meal without sight and gain a glimpse into some of the daily realities faced by individuals who are blind. Participants will also learn about LBW's Songs of Faith, Stories of Light initiative, a five-year storytelling project that shares the faith journeys of people who are blind or Visually Impaired through original music and storytelling.

We look forward to connecting with convention attendees from across the country as we share the mission of bringing the Light of Christ to people with visual impairments.



Faith Should Always be Accessible

Now Available

Lutheran Braille Workers is pleased to announce that our free 2027 calendars are now available for order. This year's theme, "Animals of the Bible," highlights many of the creatures found throughout Scripture while providing a practical resource that can be used every day.

The calendars are available in both Large Print and Braille and are offered completely free of charge through the generosity of LBW supporters. They make wonderful gifts for family members, friends, church members, neighbors, or anyone who is blind, Visually Impaired, or benefits from larger print materials.

If you or someone you know would like to receive a free 2027 calendar (Large Print or Braille), we encourage you to place your order soon. Calendars ordered now will arrive well before the start of the new year.

Order your free calendar today: <https://form.jotform.com/260616041866053>

Among LBW's most faithful correspondents is Dennis from Sierra Madre, California.

Dear LBW,

Good morning and how are you doing as I am doing just wonderful. Thank you for mailing me Jeremiah. I do sincerely appreciate that. I've selected three jokes for you.

Sincerely Yours, Dennis

p.s. I hope you had a Happy Fourth of July!

Notes & Jokes

from Dennis...

“ Why don't you want to fight with a snail? It might try to slug you.

“ Where do sharks go on Saturday night? To the dive-in movies.

“ Why did the boat go shopping? It was looking for a sail.

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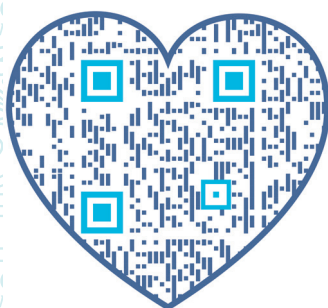
Thrivent Members: Your Choice Dollars Can Make an Even Bigger Impact!

Great news! Thrivent has expanded its Thrivent Choice® program, making more members eligible to receive Choice Dollars. If you weren't eligible in the past, you may now have Choice Dollars available to direct to Lutheran Braille Workers.

Directing your Choice Dollars is quick, easy, and costs you nothing. Simply log in to your Thrivent account, search for Lutheran Braille Workers, and direct your available Choice Dollars to help provide Braille and Large Print Christian materials to people who are blind or Visually Impaired. You can also make a personal gift through Thrivent's giving platform, where 100% of your donation goes to the ministry because Thrivent covers all processing fees.

For questions, please call or email Deanna Cobb at (909) 795-8977 or deanna@lbwloveworks.org.

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