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ICBM Newsletter

Thank You, Bill and Alice Bartley

I met Bill Bartley when I worked at Howells Mill Christian Assembly the summer between my junior and senior years at Kentucky Christian College. Bill invited me to walk from the camp to St. Albans, West Virginia to fulfill a promise during vacation bible school at the Church in Culloden, West Virginia. The students raised the money and sent Bill walking. Well, I went with him. Down through the years Bill and Alice supported the mission and we kept in touch from time to time. Earlier this year, Alice went to be with our Lord. Bill promptly gave the mission a large gift in the memory of his wife, Alice, to be used to upgrade equipment. Thank you, Alice and Bill.

Electronic Audio/ Electronic Braille

We've been planning and talking for some time about getting a software platform from which patrons can download our materials. We have contracted with Christian Internet Services of West Virginia and as of October 26th, we are happy to announce this platform is live. We are starting this week



putting our material on the website so it can be downloaded. This will allow blind people to download from our library, audio magazines for their talking book players, and electronic braille for their refreshable

braille devices. This is the future of braille. There will always be some hard copy braille, but it is convenient when you can store an entire bible on a SD card and take it with you to read on your refreshable braille machine that you can hold on your lap. Other organizations are already doing this. This is made possible by Bill's gift in memory of Alice.

The Lord Blesses! Braille Embossers Everywhere!

With the gift to upgrade equipment, we began by purchasing a new braille embosser. It is a highspeed machine that will do 300 characters per second. We already have 2 work-

ing embossers, one which is 21 years old, and a small desktop embosser that we purchased second hand in good condition. We found another second hand highspeed embosser for

sale on the internet. We are currently working to get this embosser set up. It came with test papers to show that it is in working condition. Finally, another couple donated an older desktop embosser. This embosser will be used as a small office printer would be used when very short braille items are needed. We have been praying for a new embosser for a while, and praise the Lord, He supplies abundantly.



STAY IN TOUCH

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New Board Members and Transcriber

We have three new board members. Paul Ronk and Elizabeth Widmayer stepped off the board for health reasons. In their place we added three board members, Kent Widmayer, Jacqui Allcorn, and Devin Otte.

Kent Widmayer has for years helped us with our computers while his wife Elizabeth was on the board. He still helps us with our computers, but now he is on the board. We appreciate his expertise and thank his wife Elizabeth for her years of service. Thank you, Kent, for coming on our board.

Jacqui Allcorn is the wife of Terry Allcorn the President of Kentucky Christian University. This couple served in the Caribbean (Puerto Rico) as missionaries and in the leadership of local churches. We hope that with her help, we will be able to better reach students on KCU campus with our ministry and encourage some to go as missionaries throughout the world. We appreciate her input and expertise. Thank you, Jacqui, for coming on the board.

Devin Otte recently moved to Grayson, Kentucky from California to be near family. He is a professional transcriber of the braille math code, "Nemeth code." He contracts with schools and colleges throughout the country to transcribe their math and science books. He has agreed to be on our board.

In addition, He will help us with the transcription of braille books. Of course, we do not have math books, but he is willing to help us with our braille literature. He is currently working on Professor Don Nash's book, "Practical New Testament Word Studies." Thank you, Devin, for coming on the board.

Our returning board members are: Mike Smith (President), Marcus Soulsby (Vice President), Tom Burbrink (Treasurer), Terry Golightly (Secretary), and Gina Carr.

Yep, the blessings keep coming. We are grateful and excited for our new board members. Thank you, Lord.

Those Whom We Serve

In August, Thomas and Mike went to the National Church Conference of the Blind which met in Dallas, Texas. We had an exhibit by which we were able to tell people about our ministry and take request for publications. Of course, we also interacted with everybody at the convention, talked to many blind people, and enjoyed the week in fellowship. Who says you can't work and enjoy it?

We had an unusual request for literature while we were in Dallas. The President of the Texas Church Conference of the Blind asked for literature to give out as door prizes at their meeting. We sent the Literature, of course, but I have to admit, as far as I know, this is the only time our literature has been distributed as a door prize. You never know what opportunities God will place before you.

Update of our Publications

Now that we have the High-speed embossers, we are bringing the embossing of all of our braille literature in house in place of sub-contracting it. We have already embossed and mailed out our 4-month daily devotional, "Everyday in God's Word." We mailed out just over 80 copies with each copy having 85 front and back pages(interpoint). We plan to do the same with our magazine, "We Would See Jesus" when we resume publication of this magazine. Usually, it will go to over 800 patrons around the world, but this may vary depending on how many foreign post offices are closed because of covid. Of course, if countries post office reopens, we will resume sending the magazines to our patrons in the country. Normal this publication goes to people in over 30 countries worldwide.

Newsletter by Email

If you would rather receive this Newsletter by email, we can do that. However, we will need your email address. If we can get as many people as possible to receive the newsletter by email, it will save the mission money which we will use for our service projects. If you want to start receiving ICBM's newsletter by email, please email secretary@icbminc.org to let us know.



Audio Ministry

Wes Golightly is a retired professor of music from Kentucky Christian University. He now lives in Richmond, Ky. However, being away from Grayson does not hinder him from recruiting narrators, organizing who is reading what article, and putting articles of a magazine which had been read by different people in the same order that they are in the magazine. Right now, we are sending "Standard Adult Sunday School" lessons, "Standard Devotions", The Restoration Herald magazine, and the Christian Standard magazine on cartridges that will play in the machines that the Library of Congress distributes to blind people. Thank you to Wes and all of our Narrators. If you would be interested in Narrating, please call or email us and leave a detailed message.

Gifts

Gifts may be sent by mail to our address below or by using the donate button on our website. Thank you. In Christ, Mike Smith and Thomas Bleemel.