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February, Valentine's Day, red roses, chocolate covered strawberries, romance and true love!

Romance is one of those treasured blessings of excitement and emotion that the Lord has given to humanity. True love is different. It holds people together even when times are tough and relationships are challenging. It motivates people to sacrifice for others, even for people they do not know.

Paul wrote to the Church in Colossae, "Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity." [Colossians 3:14] [NAS] I believe it is this love that keeps you motivated to support Center for the Blind with your prayers, volunteer service and financial support.

Digital book technology continues to explode with possibilities. As paper books disappear, digital options continue to evolve. This evolution has increased the challenges for any ministry serving those who are reading impaired because of vision. Not all books are available in every reading system. Many people who desire to become volunteer readers for the Center for the Blind do not have access to these devices. Volunteer reading now requires access to a computer and the ability to learn Audacity. Digital reading has increased the audio quality significantly, but it also requires more hours of our staff time to format recordings into DAISY for use with digital players.

It is natural to assume that because so many of the digital book systems support audio books that more audio books are available to the Blind. Unfortunately, that is not true! Most devices have navigational features that are not accessible to people who are blind. A good example is the CD. Try closing your eyes and operating a CD player.



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The staff of the Center for the Blind strongly encourage people to contact the National Library Service for the Blind to obtain a digital talking book machine. We will send an easy to navigate NLT Bible on a compatible cartridge, free upon request! These machines open the doors to many books and materials such as the AG periodicals and quarterlies.

Another great feature of these players is that so much material can be loaded on to one cartridge. What used to take 40-50 fragile cassettes is mailed on one very sturdy cartridge. This process is saving hundreds of dollars annually to replace damaged cassettes.

Please help spread the word in your church and social circles. The Center for the Blind has a desperate need for more volunteer readers. A person has to have a computer and a basic understanding of how to use it. The software is a free download. Sarah is posting training videos on the our YouTube channel.

Please share this letter with your friends as you keep us in your prayers.

Please pray for the financial support of the ministry and for ability to connect with people who need its services.

Paul and Caryl Weingartner and the Staff of the Center for the Blind

Paul & Caryl Weingartner

Sarah has been adding training and informational videos to the Center for the Blind [YouTube](#) channel. When you visit the [link](#), subscribe to the channel.

You will stay informed of new videos and help the ministry earn a simpler link (only 100 subscribers!)



Above her regular work as the Center for the Blind librarian, Missionary Associate Sharron Stevens, reads a number of the quarterlies because the ministry does not have enough volunteer readers. We desperately need more volunteer readers!



Will Goble is officially an AGUSM Missionary Associate with the Center for the Blind of the Assemblies of God. His duties include processing audio, assembling Braille, helping Sharron with the library and about anything there is no one else to do!



Roger is Blind and is a credentialed minister. He is active in the jail and radio ministry. We know this because Roger is a member of the Center for the Blind and uses our services. One of the reasons Chaplain Dale calls our members, is to help the staff know more about the people we serve.



Paul had the opportunity to speak at an “Enabled” meeting. “Enabled” is local ministry for people with a disability connection. He shared role models from the Bible of people like Daniel and his friend who worship God in adversity not knowing the outcome.

To make a donation to Center for the Blind, please click [here](#).