

**Zollie Smith**  
Executive Director  
U.S. Missions

**Malcolm Burleigh**  
Director  
Intercultural Ministries

**Paul Weingartner**  
Director  
Center for the Blind

January 2016

*The LORD shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. Psalms 121:8 [KJV]*

Happy New Year!

The New Year is a convenient time to set goals and make behavioral change decisions therefore Psalms is my scripture for 2016. However, with so many projects carrying over through the holidays and working with deadlines and appointments months and years ahead, “New Year” as a new beginning seems more like a delusion!

2016 opened with quarterlies and periodicals to be reformatted, transcribed, recorded, embossed, assembled, loaded on cartridges and shipped by mid-February. Computer issues challenging the IT department are complicating progress, but the work goes on. It has to if teachers are going to get their materials in time to prepare and Blind students receive their quarterlies so they will not be left out.

The Center for the Blind has been invited to promote the ministry to a number of new connections. The interest is encouraging!

Please pray for success in reaching more Blind and picking up financial support and volunteers; pray for the IT folks who keep the computer systems functioning properly; pray for progress in creating a replacement for the audio Book of Hope. And please pray for the Center for the Blind finances. Critical services are being cut. Even fundraising is being hampered.

Thank you for standing with the Center for the Blind and the people blessed by our efforts.

Paul and Caryl Weingartner



---

1445 N. Boonville Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65802

**Phone:**  
417.831.1964

**Fax:**  
417.863.7276

**Email:**  
blind@ag.org

## Unique Opportunity

The literacy rate among women in Sierra Leon is 20%. Most teaching and discipleship has to be done with pictures. The literacy among women who are Blind is much higher. We have been asked to provide Braille descriptions of the pictures and Braille numbers for each picture. This way the Blind will teach the sighted.

The Blind are leading the sighted! This is a major cultural shift from Biblical days!--“Can the blind lead the blind?” Luke 6:39

Picture: Auntie Hawa has been blind from a young age. She attended six years of school at the national school for the Blind in Freetown. She has had an extremely hard life of abuse, neglect and deprivation but she radiates the love and joy of her Savior. She served on Women of Hope’s Sierra Leone board for about four years before recently stepping down for personal reasons. Auntie Hawa is an example of the Blind ladies able to disciple other ladies using a picture book.



To make a donation, please click [here](#).