

Zollie Smith
Executive Director
U.S. Missions

Malcolm Burleigh
Director
Intercultural Ministries

Paul Weingartner
Director
Center for the Blind

January 2017

Question: *How many people, who attend Assemblies of God churches in the United States, cannot read standard print because of a vision impairment?*

The year 2017! One year closer to the second coming of our Savior, our Messiah, our deliverer!

In Exodus 12, the Lord instructed the Israelites to begin each year with the Passover. The holiday was to serve as a reminder that the Lord brought them out of the harsh bondage of slavery, established his treasured possession as a nation and set them on a path to a land full of hope and promise.

It seems fitting for Christians to begin the new year looking back on the past year, to recall the “works of the Lord.”

Below is a brief list of some of the 2016 highlights for Center for the Blind:

- More volunteers, including some from AGUSM MAPS. And some of the new volunteers are learning to use specialized audio processing software!
- Community connections with the city of Republic’s *Retired Teachers Association*, the *National Federation of the Blind of Missouri*, the *Springfield City Transit* and the *Autism Blast* at the *Battlefield Mall*.
- A new *WordPlay*, Braille activity book was added to the collection.
- A new Braille alphabet card which is great for promoting the Center for the Blind and the needs of the Blind, especially with children. It is free upon request.



1445 N. Boonville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802

Phone:
417.831.1964

Fax:
417.863.7276

Email:
blind@ag.org

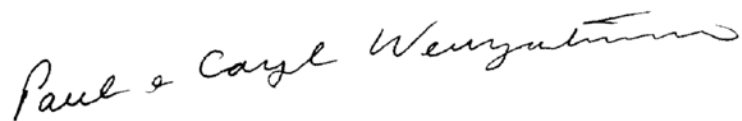
- Visits from the family of Sister Mildred Whitney who founded of the Center for the Blind in the early 1950s.
- A follow up visit with our friend and sister in ministry, Georgian Ugah, from Nigeria.
- Sarah married Joe Weingartner, son of Paul and Caryl. She also received an award for her 10th anniversary of employment with the Center for the Blind.
- Sharron Stevens celebrated her 80th birthday and her 14th year as a Center for the Blind volunteer.
- *Evangel University* students chose the Center for the Blind for their "Make A Difference Day" project.
- The Center for the Blind now has a promotional [video](#). It is less than 3 minutes long and perfect for sharing with friends and churches. <http://blind.ag.org/Video/video_cftb.cfm>

Dear friends and coworkers:

Thank you for your concern for the Blind and the staff of the Center for the Blind. Your love, support, volunteer service and encouragement are making an eternal difference.

The answer to the question above is 68,000! We are hardly scratching the surface...

Please continue to fight the good fight with us.



Paul, Caryl and the Center for the Blind staff

Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.

[1 Timothy 6:12] [NAS]

New in 2017

The Center for the Blind now has a [YouTube](#) channel with training and informational videos. Please check it out. While you are there, take a moment to subscribe. The Center for the Blind will receive a simpler address when it has 100 subscribers. <<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCStNlgMUhQcooChMVIK9yWw>>

Please Pray!

The Center for the Blind is in desperate need of increased financial support. A number of popular services have already been cut but the need continues to grow. Also, desperately needed are more volunteer readers and people to learn digital audio formatting.

Center for the Blind Friend Rep, Hugh Duncan and his wife Joyce ,opened their home for the annual staff Christmas Party. These parties are a great time to leave the work behind and enjoy a time of fellowship celebrating the incarnation of The Savior.





Center for the Blind Chaplain Dale Bean's devotional brought a fresh look at the familiar Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke.



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