

LWML MISSION GRANT

VOICE OF CARE MINISTRY TO THE DEVELOPMENTALLY CHALLENGED

The Voice of Care Ministry to the Developmentally Challenged has undergone reorganization. Lack of sufficient funds left the ministry without a full-time paid staff. Deaconess Kris Blackwell, having full faith in this ministry, volunteered from October 2013-January 2014. The Voice of Care Board made the decision to continue with the ministry and utilize volunteers until reserves are replenished. They refocused efforts to be closer aligned with their mission statement, to equip the Church to nurture people with disabilities and their caregivers in their walk with Christ.

Since then, they have ten facilities which have devotions provided by volunteers. Also there are at least seven churches who have been reaching out for over ten years to people with disabilities. They are in the process of

starting two new ministry sites. One of these, Mt. Greenwood Lutheran Church in Chicago, Illinois, had a partnership many years ago with a training facility for people with developmental disabilities called Blue Cap. At first, Mr. Greenwood just gave them Christmas presents. With Voice of Care's consultation and training, they are launching a twice-a-month Bible study program. Blue Cap transports the residents to the church where they have Bible stories, singing, crafts, and prayer.

With a new computer, projector, and screen provided by this grant, Deaconess Kris Blackwell is able to do presentations anywhere. She looks forward to sharing more with LWML at the Convention in Des Moines, Iowa, in June of 2015.

MISSION PHOTOS



Retired Voice of Care Executive Director Rev. Don Kretzschmar and new Voice of Care Chaplain Rev. Paul Klopke, minister through music at a facility for persons with disabilities.



Rev. Paul Klopke, Voice of Care Chaplain, leads worship at one of 20 facilities served by the ministry to people with disabilities. Voice of Care has been sharing Christ's love with disabled adults and children and their caregivers for over a decade.