

2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 4

## FORTIFYING FAITH IN THOSE WITH VISION IMPAIRMENT LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORKERS | \$100,000



### *The Light of Christ for the Blind and Visually Impaired*

There are millions of people throughout the world who are blind or visually impaired and are seeking to strengthen their faith as they cope with isolation and deal with physical, mental, and spiritual struggles. They desire to be able to read the words of the Lord themselves, so that they can feel and learn about the love of God and the salvation of Jesus. Even with advancements in technology, they still have difficulties accessing scriptural and theologically-related reading materials.

It is estimated that approximately 95% of the 253 million people around the world with moderate to severe vision impairment are unchurched, yet when it comes to ministering to this community, there are fewer than a handful of Christian organizations reaching out to provide help. Lutheran Braille Workers (LBW) continues to provide Bibles and other Christian materials in braille or specialized large print to help this under reached population feel connected to the family of Christ and grow in their faith. Those who have received and benefited from LBW materials have shared that without these volumes, they might never have learned to read and obtain basic life skills needed to survive in the world today.

Lutheran Braille Workers has been freely supplying materials in large print and braille to people who are visually impaired for over eighty years. This grant will help with the formatting, producing, and distributing of fifty to one hundred new Scripture-based materials and add to the LBW collection of resources to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of recipients with vision impairments around the world. Some of the materials include Lutheran Hour Ministries Connect Booklets and American missionary books from Mission Nation Publishing. There is also cooperation with other LCMS partners, such as Concordia Publishing House and the LCMS Synodical Headquarters to gain access to more titles as needed. This grant will develop and provide materials beyond the Bible that will help Christians develop and strengthen their faith.

*Let him who walks  
in darkness and has  
no light trust in the  
name of the Lord  
and rely on his God  
(Isaiah 50: 10b).*

*Again Jesus spoke  
to them, saying, "I  
am the light of the  
world. Whoever  
follows me will not  
walk in darkness,  
but will have the  
light of life"  
(John 8: 12).*