The Circle of Love Ministry to the Blind John Wesley Smith/12200 N. Route B / Hallsville, MO 65255/(573) 696-3246 https://circleofloveministry.com

Host Church: Northwood Baptist Church, P. O. Box 8096, Columbia, MO 65205. George Jainchill, Pastor, (573) 239-7466.

September-October 2024

Greetings in the name of our wonderful Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

After Hurricane Helene ravaged the South in late September, I was concerned about Rita T., a reader in western North Carolina. When I spoke with her several days later, she informed me she was OK. However, her household lost electricity and phone service for a week. I was glad to know the October magazine reached her. When she received it, she listened to it all at one time and sent it back right away.

Barbara H. from my home state of Missouri has called a couple of times to get clarification on articles in the magazine. I was happy to answer her questions. She told me she sets other reading aside when the Circle of Love arrives so she can listen to it. That's quite a compliment.

We've added a new reader from Illinois who heard about the magazine from an announcement I submitted a few months ago to another magazine for the blind.

Bill J. from New Jersey graduated to Glory August 15th. **Pray** for his widow Nancy who is also one of our blind readers.

We're still losing some of the address cards when readers return their cartridges. **Please pray** for a solution to this so we don't have to keep making new cards.

I've been experimenting with text to speech voices created with artificial intelligence. This has been a labor saver for reading longer articles. The additional voices give our readers some variety, but my experiments have been met with mixed reviews. **Please pray** I'll know when to best use these extra voices.

In my previous report I mentioned having a laser procedure performed on my right eye on July 30th to reduce glaucoma pressure. The pressure has come down, but I'm still seeing floaters. This baffles my glaucoma specialist who made a slight change to my eye drops. It will be January before having another checkup.

In Christ's service,

John Wesley Smith

"And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them." - Isaiah 42:16

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR August-September 2024

Note: All figures represent two months of income and expenses and are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Income:

\$100.00 support from Northwood Baptist Church, Columbia, MO (2 X \$50)

\$200.00 support from Aultman Baptist Church, Aultman, PA (2 X \$100)

\$128.00 support from Bible Baptist Church, Indiana PA

\$60.00 Contributions from individual readers (3 X \$20)

\$29.00 Return of funds withheld by Square when account was deactivated in January

\$2,731.00 Brought forward from checking in July

\$3,248.00 total income

Expenses:

\$300.00 Ministry support for John Smith (2 X \$150) \$1.00 Charge for toll free phone number \$60.00 Annual Website hosting charge

\$361.00 total expenses

Funds on hand: \$2,739.00 (in checking at the end of September)