

The Circle of Love Ministry to the Blind
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<https://circleofloveministry.com>
Host Church: Northwood Baptist Church, P. O. Box 8096, Columbia, MO 65205.

September-October2026

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

Production of the Circle of Love continues on schedule. However, it appears the postal service is giving us trouble again. Cartridges are moving more slowly to and from the addresses of our readers. We're also starting to lose cartridges and their mailers. This will only get worse as the holidays approach. Each cartridge and mailer costs about \$14 to replace. **Please pray** for improved postal service for the benefit of our readers this fall and winter.

Praise the Lord for new readers coming on board. One is from Georgia, one from California, and one couple from Ohio. All came by word of mouth from other readers.

Praise the Lord, feedback from readers continues to be positive. One reader said the following in an e-mail. "Thank you for your ministry in providing us news, food for thought, and encouragement." Another reader said: "Many thanks for all the work you put into this magazine. I'm really enjoying it and being blessed by it."

You'll recall Brother George Gray is my predecessor in this ministry. It's with sadness I report his dear wife Bette was promoted to glory on August 24th. **Please keep him in your prayers during this difficult time.** The Circle of Love gave a memorial gift in Bette's memory to Samaritan's Purse.

To add another personal note, my sponsoring church, Northwood Baptist Church, Columbia, MO, called Brother Forrest LaRue as our pastor on September 13. This is a blessing to our church and a relief to me, since I had become more involved in our pastor search committee than anticipated. God is good!

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 2026

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 \$50.00)
\$200.00 support from Aultman Baptist Church, Aultman, PA (2 X \$100.00)
\$431.00 VBS Offering from Bible Baptist Church, Indiana, PA
\$45.00 Additional support gift from Bible Baptist Church, Indiana, PA
\$2,950.00 Brought forward from July

\$3,726.00 total income

Expenses:

\$400.00 Ministry support for John Smith (2 X \$200)
\$2.00 Charge for toll free phone number
\$20.00 Annual website domain renewal fee
\$60.00 Annual web hosting fee
\$100.00 Gift to Samaritan's Purse in memory of Bette Gray

\$582.00 total expenses

Funds in reserve: \$3,144.00