

## 2023 Annual Report of the NLS Distribution Center Coordinator

### Looking Back on 2022-2023

After the disruptions from the pandemic, things are slowly picking up. Here are some figures that illustrate COVID's impact on the movement of our printed materials. This isn't a precise, month-to-exact same-month comparison.

**Sept 1, 2018** (when I took over the DC) to Aug. 31, 2019 (a full-year representative snapshot before COVID)

Number of invoices = 46  
Dollar value = \$3,915

**Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021** (a full year during the most significant shut downs)

Number of invoices = 7  
Dollar value = \$344

**June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023** (I chose these months because we don't know what June to Sept will look like this year)

Number of invoices = 16  
Dollar value = \$1,521

Clearly, things are on the up and up, but they are nowhere near what they were pre-COVID.

I've also allowed the overall inventory to be significantly depleted because . . .

### Looking Forward

- 1) . . . I find it necessary to pass on the position of Distribution Center Coordinator. That most likely necessitates the need to ship the current inventory to the next person. Currently, almost all the physical inventory consists of Pilgrim Guides. In 2016, John Bradford, the previous DC Coordinator, found a great price from a local printer. He had 15,000 (approximately 45 cases) units printed at \$0.30 each. We sell them for \$1.00. That \$0.70 profit has been very beneficial, both for the DC and the National Lutheran Secretariat. Currently, I have 16 cases or 5,440 Pilgrim Guides remaining. It is those 16+ cases of inventory and materials that will affect the cost of the transfer. Hopefully, the transfer can take place before the increased sales begin for the fall weekends.
- 2) Transfer the usernames and passwords for the online invoicing/accounting systems to the next person as well as to the NLS.
- 3) Transfer all DC funds (\$3,874.16 as of June 7, 2023) to the next Coordinator.
- 4) Organize the digital files (NLS manuals and PDF files for our printed materials) so that they are easy to follow and find.

It has been a privilege and a very real blessing to have served in this position. Interacting with fellow Christians from across the United States has been a joy.

Tom Krause  
NLS Distribution Center Coordinator