

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

## CBS at a Glance

### Where we have been

- 1840 - Founded in Chicago.
- 1871 - Provided Bibles to the city after the Great Fire.
- 1876 - Started Chicago Bible Work with Dwight Moody
- 1892 - Chicago Bible House founded by Emma Dryer
- 1952 - Gutenberg Award established

### What we are doing

- 2,023 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study
- 235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible in the first year
- 39 churches & ministries in partnerships to reach their community with the Bible
- 4,229 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year

### Board of Directors

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### Chicago Bible Society

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[www.ChicagoBibleSociety.org](http://www.ChicagoBibleSociety.org)

## 2020 - The Year of the Chaplain

During the Pandemic of 2020 Chicago Bible Society honored the chaplains.

For the past 66 years, the Gutenberg Award has honored individuals who exemplify the Bible cause in ministry, academia or the marketplace. This year was different: we honored a group of individuals who were worthy of special honor. For 2020, the winners of the Gutenberg Award were the chaplains who have served during the Pandemic of 2020.

The Pandemic has put first responders and front line workers in the spot light. One group of front line workers who have not received as much notice by the press are the chaplains. Working in our hospitals, jails, and other institutions, they represent the Bible cause in so many different situations. Whether the sick in



The Year of the Chaplain

the hospitals, seniors at high risk of infections in retirement facilities or inmates in our local jails – all of these in need of spiritual counsel are ministered to by the chaplains. They are the unsung heroes of this Year of Covid-19.

In the video presentation of the 2020 Gutenberg Awards, Deacon Pablo Perez of Kolbe House shared how he has had

to deliver death notices to inmates at the prison while also conducting funerals for dozens of families that lost loved ones.

As Chaplain Shea said, “almost every inmate asks for a Bible: it is one of the few things that they can keep and take with them. Without the ministry of Chicago Bible Society, we would not have a Bible to give to them.”

## PROJECT PHILIP GROWS DURING PANDEMIC



Jesus Nuñez with Project Philip

God has worked a miracle at Project Philip in the Cook County Jail. Last year, in order to reach more inmates with this life-changing study of God’s Word, we trained inmates within the facility to be group leaders. In this way, groups could continue to function even if the chaplain/leader was not present. In April, the jail was completely locked down for the summer. However, Chaplain Nuñez was able to keep in touch with the group leaders and supply them with study books and Bibles. As a result, the Project Philip groups not only survived, but thrived.

Attendance at Project Philip is up by 70% and the graduation rate has increased by 100% over 2019. This year, the year of the pandemic, we have graduated more people through the Project Philip program than any time over the past decade. Statistics are on page 2.

# THE BIBLE PROVIDES COMFORT DURING PANDEMIC



**Bible shipment arrives for Cook County Jail**

During this time of pandemic, we become not only aware of our own suffering but also the suffering of so many who have lost loved ones to this disease. Giving food to the hungry, reaching out to the victims and providing comfort and support . . . These are all ways that we reach out with compassion toward those suffering.

Giving Bibles? That is not always the first thought that comes to us. However, with physical distress comes spiritual distress. People ask the hard questions that are often so easy to avoid when times are good. At this time, having access to the Bible is as important – if not more so – than access to food and clothing.

This summer, we were honored to partner with Lawndale Christian Health Center through our board member Pastor James Brooks. Lawndale was responsible for providing health services to the homeless while they were housed on an emergency basis in one of the downtown hotels. Every morning, the staff started with a time of gathering and Bible study lead by Pastor Brooks. Chicago Bible Society provided study Bibles for the staff and for the residents.

The need for Bibles at the county jails has also increased as inmates have become even more isolated due to the lock-down. Visitors to the jail were banned from April through September and again in November until the present day. This year, we have provided 3,229 Bibles to the county jail systems as well as nearly 1,000 Scripture resources to churches and other ministries in the Chicago Region.

### Watch Gutenberg Video Online

The virtual 2020 Gutenberg Awards can be viewed online at:

[ChicagoBibleSociety.org/  
Gutenberg](http://ChicagoBibleSociety.org/Gutenberg)

## PROJECT PHILIP

	English	Spanish	Women	totals	percent
<b>current year</b>					
total enrolled	60	123	62	245	100%
faith commitment	44	114	51	209	
mid-point	58	117	58	233	95%
graduates	56	109	51	216	88%
<b>Cumulative (since 2008)</b>					
total enrolled	1,173	719	131	2,023	100%
faith commitment				1,273	
graduates				1,649	82%

### Project Philip by the Numbers

The chart on the left shows the progress of Project Philip at Cook County Jail. The current year had 245 enrolled and 216 graduating after 12-weeks. The cumulative total covers the entire program since 2008.

The category “English” is English speaking men, “Spanish” is Spanish speaking men. The women’s group is all English speaking. Faith commitment means the inmate made a significant decision regarding their faith during the twelve weeks. 2017 was the first year for the women’s program. The cumulative total under English includes the former boot camp program, which was discontinued in 2014.

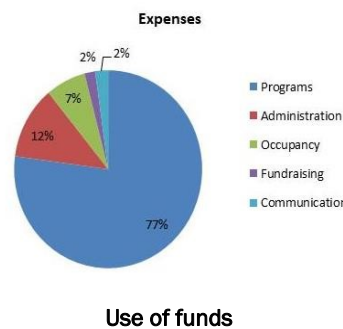
## 2020 FINANCIAL YEAR IN REVIEW

Chicago Bible Society finished the year in good financial health, overcoming the challenges of the pandemic in the first half of the year.

Donations from individuals continue to be an important part of our support. In addition we received grants and restricted gifts totaling \$103,600. Finally, we were able to raise a record of

\$50,100 at the “virtual” Gutenberg Awards. This amount is included in the Other category.

We kept expenses under control and were able to reduce Administrative cost to 12% of expenses. The fundraising cost were primarily the cost of the online Gutenberg Award celebration.



Use of funds

12 Months Ending	Dec. 31, 2020
<b>Revenue &amp; Support</b>	
Donations	\$ 38,582
Grants	103,600
Other	86,039
	<b>\$ 228,221</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Programs	\$ 140,319
Administration	21,787
Occupancy	12,501
Fundraising	3,350
Communication	4,025
	<b>\$ 181,982</b>