



Bible Society News

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Since 1840

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Gutenberg Award Winners Announced

Award dinner on October 7



Maryse Gregoire (left) and Michael Renetzky are the 2015 awardees

On October 7, the Chicago Bible Society will be honoring two unique individuals with the 61st Gutenberg awards.

Maryse Gregoire is being honored for her leadership in the Catholic renewal movement and for her promotion of Bible study within the Catholic

Church. She has been the President of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal Center for Chicago for over ten years. A native of Haiti, she came to the United States in 1971 and works for Allstate Insurance.

Michael Renetzky is being honored as an emerging leader for his work with Lutheran Life

Communities and the Lutheran Church (ELCA). Michael is a partner in the international law firm Locke Lord LLP, and is a member of the Lutheran Church of the Atonement, where he has served as President. He has also served on the ELCA Mission Investment Fund Advisory

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Moving Forward – Greater Impact



Tyndale House donation: This year we received a wonderful gift: a pallet (that is about 30 cases) of Bibles from Tyndale House Publishers. The donation was considered “damaged goods” because the boxes were either damaged in shipping or returned by bookstores. As a result, there were about a dozen different versions in different sizes and formats mixed throughout the pallet. When they arrived at our warehouse, we spent a full day unpacking and sorting through the myriad types of Bibles.

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Gutenberg Award (continued from page 1)



Group and as Vice Chair of the Board of Lutheran Life Communities.

Every year for the past sixty-one years, the Chicago Bible Society has identified leaders who deserve to be

honored for their work in promoting the Bible and the Christian mission. From Bible scholars such as Howard Thurman and Eugene Nida to preachers like Billy Graham and Norman Vincent Peale, the Gutenberg Award has gone to outstanding men and women of God.

Please join us this year in honoring the awardees and support the work of Chicago Bible Society. The award dinner will be held at the Union League Club, on October 7, 2015. To purchase tickets, please visit our website www.ChicagoBibleSociety.org or call the office at 312/573-8809.

From the Executive Director's Desk

Who will be the next generation of Christian leaders? That is a question that I have been thinking about recently. This year, we are doing something different with the Gutenberg Award. Instead of honoring a lifetime of achievement, we have selected one of the awards to go to a relatively young man who is an emerging leader. Michael Renetzky is a successful attorney with an internationally renowned law firm. He takes his faith seriously, and has dedicated himself to serve the church and the Bible cause. We need more Michaels.

Over the past few years, I have had the opportunity to work with some young leaders. These men and women are still in their 20's – the so-called millennial generation. They are dedicated to following Jesus and have a passion for evangelism and justice. Yet they also feel distant from the older (i.e. "boomer") generation. They see the conflict and the culture wars of past years and are turned off.

They want to learn, but are intimidated by the Bible. The Bible is something the older generation fights over. How to get young people to open the Bible and read it? That is the challenge before us.

Moving Forward (continued from page 1)

After a couple of months, we have found a good home for almost all of them. Some were specialty Bibles for women, men or those in addiction recovery. The study Bibles have been given to people who are leading Bible groups or who have graduated from a Bible study program.

A new way to read the Bible. Chicago Bible Society is partnering with Biblica to promote a new way to read the Bible. For so many people, especially those under 40, picking up and reading the Bible is intimidating. The new Community Bible Reading experience presents the New Testament in an unconventional format that is easier to read. Said one Young Life leader who we are working with: "because of the layout it's a lot less weird for a student to sit and read and have a conversation with the text and God. It's been awesome to see students connect in that way and bring questions."

Reach more kids with Bible-based literacy. We finished the school year with 200 students, mostly 1st and 2nd graders, using the Bible literacy kits in the By the Hands Club tutoring program. This coming school year, we want to double that number.



Chicago Bible Society At A Glance

Where we have been

- 1840 - Founded in Chicago.
- 1868 - Worked with Dwight Moody
- 1871 - Provided Bibles to the city after the Great Fire.
- 1890 - Chicago Bible settlement house with Emma Dryer
- 1952 - Gutenberg Award established

What we are doing

- 1,144 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study
- 235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible
- 23 churches in partnership to reach their community with the Bible
- 9,045 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year