



Bible Society News

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Since 1840

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Photography by A. Askew

Gregoire and Renetzky 2015 Award Winners Honored October 7



Maryse Gregoire speaks at the award dinner

One hundred people gathered on Wednesday October 7 to honor the 2015 Gutenberg Award winners: Maryse Gregoire and Michael Renetzky.

Maryse Gregoire was 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 Catho-

lic 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 was honored as an emerging leader for his work with Lutheran Life Communities and the Lutheran
(Continued on page 2)



Michael Renetzky, with Oliver and Abrahamson, shows his award.

Engagement Partnerships Expand

Chicago Bible Society's effort to engage people with Scripture continues to show results. Project Philip, our Bible engagement program at Cook County Jail enrolled 126 students and graduated 114, for a graduation rate of 75%. Of those enrolled, 84 were English-speaking and 42 were Spanish speaking. Over the past eight years, 1,163 students have enrolled and 1,044 have graduated, for a graduation rate of 90%. During that time, 711 have made a first time commitment to follow Jesus.

The **Urban Children's Literacy** partnership with By the Hands Club for Kids is expanding to a new neighborhood and reaching more children. This year, following a successful pilot project, CBS and By the Hand Club expanded the program to reach 120 kids in the Cabrini-Green and Englewood neighborhoods. In 2016, we will be expanding to our third site: the Austin neighborhood, working with By the Hands and the Moving Everest charter school.

Our partnership with Courtside Minis-

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Gutenberg Award (continued from page 1)



Sign welcomes everyone to the 2015 Dinner

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 in Barrington, where he has served as President.

Named for Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press and publisher of the first printed Bible, the Gutenberg Award Dinner has been held annually since 1952, recognizing those who have shown leadership in the cause of promoting the Bible and serving the Christian church. The first award winner was General Douglas MacArthur. Other award winners include Billy Graham and Cardinal Bernardin. Find out more about the Gutenberg Award, including former award winners, please visit our website:

<http://ChicagoBibleSociety.org>

Partnerships Expand (cont'd from page 1)

tries continues to show results. CBS provides easy-to-read New Testaments in English and Spanish as a part of a prayer outreach to people at county courthouses in the greater Chicago area. This year we provided more than 800 New Testaments in English and Spanish. Courtside expanded their Chicago area ministry to include Northwest Indiana. They have reached thousands of people who come to pray and hear about Jesus.

Our partnership with small churches continues to grow under the leadership of Bill Seitz, our church ministry coordinator. We added ten new church partners, helping them with literature, ordering pew Bibles, and providing consulting on outreach activities. We have provided Bibles to thirty-three churches and numerous chaplaincy ministries. In addition we have provided three thousand Scripture portions for outreach efforts.

Chicago Bible Society continues its important role as providers of whole Bibles to English and Spanish speaking inmates at Cook County and Will County jails. This year we provided two thousand Bibles to the county jail systems. We also have provided Bibles to four Chicago area hospitals working with the staff chaplains at these institutions.

From the Executive Director's Desk

"Transforming Mission"

The good thing about the Chicago Bible Society is that it is 175 years old. Also, the bad thing is that we are 175 years old. History and accomplishment are important; having roots that go back decades or even centuries is a strength. The challenge is that an older organization has to work harder to change its strategy and structures to meet the changes that are happening in our society.

I have worked for start-ups before. It is fun and exciting to discover a new challenge and create a strategy to meet an urgent and unmet need. But start-ups have their downside and most fail. This is true in both the for-profit and non-profit world. An established company or ministry that can transform itself is often in a better position to produce a product to market or to develop a program to address a critical need.

Chicago Bible Society is in the process of transformation. Next year you will see changes as we continue to mold our mission to address twenty-first century needs. It is exciting and challenging, but it is also necessary. Stay tuned.



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

- **1,163 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study**
- **235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible**
- **33 churches in partnership to reach their community with the Bible**
- **9,022 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year**