



Bible Society News

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Since 1840

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Sister Jean and Chaplain Hunter 2019 Gutenberg Award Winners



Sister Jean Schmidt, BVM

Chicago Bible Society celebrated the 65th Annual Gutenberg Awards at the Union League Club with a luncheon on

October 15, 2019.

This year we honored Sister Jean Delores Schmidt of Loyola University Chicago and Chaplain Leslie Hunter of Holy Family School, a Lutheran K-8 grade school in the Lawndale neighborhood of Chicago.



Chaplain Leslie Hunter

Sister Jean – who recently celebrated her 100th birthday – is the well-known chaplain of Loyola University’s men’s basketball team. Chaplain Hunter is both the chaplain for the school and an instructor in the school’s religion courses. Our own board member, Michael Renetzky, was the Master of Ceremonies.

Sister Jean was honored for her work in promoting prayer and Bible study with the student athletes *Continued on page 2*

It’s Back to School with the Bible



Student gets Bible with backpack

It is a tradition in many communities to support their school children with new backpacks at the beginning

of the new school year. They are filled with all sorts of necessities: paper, pens, composition books, etc. Some churches have taken on this task in Chicago’s neighborhoods, and have added one more necessity: a Bible or New Testament.

This year Chicago Bible Society joined with By the Hand Club for Kids and Uptown Baptist Church to provide the Bibles and New Testaments for the backpacks. We were able to provide 200 Bibles to By the Hand, and 75 New Testaments to Uptown Baptist Church.

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Gutenberg Award (continued from page 1)



Guests celebrate at last year's Gutenberg Award Luncheon

at Loyola. In her remarks, she said that this award helped her understand her ministry as an apostolic work in spreading the gospel at the university. Chaplain Hunter uses his creative musical and poetic gifts to communicate the message of Jesus to a young generation. He was honored for his work in the school and his earlier work as a parish minister.

Michael Renetzky remarked in opening the Awards, the Gutenberg recognizes both the famous and the little known because in God's eyes both are equally important.

From the Executive Director's Desk

Start the New Year with the Bible

There are many plans out there to read the Bible. Often they try to get you through the Bible in a single year. In the past, I would start them and then give up a few months into the year because I got so behind. I also tried just reading straight through the Bible, and I usually got bogged down somewhere between Exodus and Leviticus. That is why at Chicago Bible Society, we produce a reading guide that helps overcome these problems.

Our goal is to provide a small portion of the Bible to read every morning that is arranged in a way that is both appropriate throughout the year, gives a balance of Old and New Testament readings, and that if followed faithfully, will allow the reader to cover most of the Bible in a few years. This guide is as much a joy to produce as it is to use. And I know, because I do both.

We would be happy to mail you a free copy of the guide. Or even better, go to our website – under Programs /Bible Online – and click on Daily Bible Reading Guide. You will download a PDF version that is formatted to work on your smart phone or tablet.

I invite you to start the new year with the Bible. Just eight minutes every day will open the door of Scripture in your life. I know you will be blessed. The Bible changes lives.

Back to School with the Bible (cont'd from page 1)

We were blessed by the pictures that By the Hand Club sent to us, showing the kids with their new Bibles. In many cases, the Bible that Chicago Bible Society provides will be the only Bible in that household. In almost all cases, the parents are appreciative of the gift and thank the church for providing this gift. Sometimes, it even results in families reading the Bible together. That is our goal, providing the Bible so that it is read and understood.



It is because of the gifts that our members and supporters give to the Chicago Bible Society that we are able to partner with churches to reach out to these children. Making sure that each child has access to the message of the Bible is, perhaps, the most important work that we do.

Gutenberg Photographs by Have Faith Productions



Chicago Bible Society At A Glance

Where we have been

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

What we are doing

- 1,633 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study
- 235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible
- 39 churches & ministries in partnership to reach their community with the Bible
- 6,098 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year