

2023 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

- 2,186 jail inmates enrolled in small group Bible study
- 235 inner-city school children learn to read using the Bible in the first year
- 40 churches & ministries in partnerships to reach their community with the Bible
- 3,974 Scripture resources provided to jails, hospitals, schools and churches this year

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Chicago Bible Society

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Family Connection and Care

This year, Chicago Bible Society launched a new program – Family Connection and Care – which grew out of our work with Project Philip. This has allowed Chicago Bible Society to make its first major expansion since 2008, bringing in a program manager, and expanding the program budget by 50%.

Family Connection and Care grew out of the relationships we have developed in Project Philip. The inmate-students asked our chaplains to visit their families and make sure they are safe. In response, we began informal after-care several years ago. This year, we decided to do a better job and expand our connection to these families.



Gabriela Ruiz (left) interviews a family member

Beginning in January of this year we hired Gabriela Ruiz to be the program manager. For this first year we had modest goals of connecting with 40 families and assisting 30 families. The program has greatly exceeded its goals: we connected with 61 families

and followed up 76 families, which include families that we had been connected to before the official start of the program. We provided 74 Bibles, connected 40 families with churches, made 82 referrals for food, clothing and other needs.

PROJECT PHILIP HAS RECORD YEAR

Project Philip had a record year in 2023. Since 2007, Chicago Bible Society has been sponsoring this Bible study and small group program at Cook County Jail. Typically meeting twice each week over a twelve-week period, small study groups meet in six separate groups in four of the main divisions of the jail.

Two of the groups are in the women's section, and the rest are in the men's sections: with one English and one Spanish language group in each section. Each group has between 12 and 18 inmates participating at a

time, with multiple groups meeting over the course of the year.

Since the program started seventeen years ago, 2,660 inmates have enrolled in the program and 2,202 have graduated – an 83% graduation rate. This past year, we had a record number of inmates participate: 307 enrolled and 259 graduated. These inmates often become evangelist within their own section, and we have 360 make a faith commitment either directly or indirectly as a result of these study groups.

BIBLE PROVISION

A core mission of the Chicago Bible Society is to provide Bibles and Bible resources to those who do not have access to Scripture. This means we work with jails, hospitals and other institutions to make the Word available to all who seek its message.

In 2023, Chicago Bible Society provided nearly \$10,000 in free Bibles and Scripture resources to Chicagoland ministries. This includes 1,721 Bibles to Cook County Jail, Will County Jail and other ministries, and 2,205 Scripture portions, educational materials and reading guides to churches and individuals.

We will continue to work with churches and chaplains to fulfill their Scripture needs in the coming year.

Gutenberg Award honors civic leaders and pioneering urban pastor



Cheryl and Hill Hammock (left) and Wayne Gordon (right)

The 69th Gutenberg Award celebration was held this past October at the Union League Club downtown Chicago. Honored this year were Cheryl and Hill Hammock, civic and business leaders, and Rev. Dr. Wayne Gordon, know as “Coach.”

Cheryl was the chair of the Semi-

nary Consortium for Urban Pastoral Education, and Hill has filled many civic roles, including chairing the Sunday Evening Club. Hill is the retired Vice Chair of LaSalle Bank.

Pastor Gordon is the founding pastor of Lawndale Community Church and co-founder of Lawndale Health Center, Lawndale Community Development Corp, and the Christian Community Development Association.

Watch Gutenberg Video Online

The 2023 Gutenberg Awards can be viewed online at: [ChicagoBibleSociety.org/Gutenberg](https://chicagobiblesociety.org/Gutenberg)

PROJECT PHILIP

Project Philip by the Numbers

The chart on the left shows the progress of Project Philip at Cook County Jail. The current year had 307 enrolled and 259 graduating. The cumulative total covers the entire program since 2008.

The category “English” is English speaking men, “Spanish” is Spanish speaking men. The women’s groups are mixed English and Spanish.

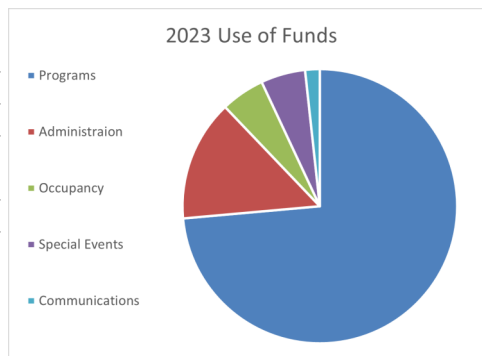
Faith commitment represent all faith commitments reported – both those inmates in the program and others in their circle of friends. This is due to the desire of these inmates to share their faith with other inmates.

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.

| | English | Spanish | Women | totals | percent |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| current year | | | | | |
| total enrolled | 97 | 103 | 107 | 307 | 100% |
| faith commitment | 94 | 98 | 99 | 291 | |
| graduates | 85 | 88 | 86 | 259 | 84.4% |
| Cumulative (since 2008) | | | | | |
| total enrolled | | | | 2,660 | 100% |
| faith commitment | | | | 2,094 | |
| graduates | | | | 2,202 | 82.8% |

2023 FINANCIAL YEAR IN REVIEW

This past year, 2023, continued to show a growth in donor support and in program development. Major donor and grant support are an increasing share of our revenue as small donors continue to decline and church support holds steady. With the program expansion, an increasing percentage of our expenses go to direct program operations. The chart on the right shows the breakdown of expenses by category, with Program expenses the majority of our costs.



| 12 Months Ending | Dec. 31, 2023 |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue & Support | |
| Donations | \$ 68,940 |
| Grants & Maj Dnr | 223,300 |
| Other | 12,094 |
| | \$ 304,335 |
| Expenses | |
| Programs | \$ 187,244 |
| Administration | 36,395 |
| Occupancy | 13,123 |
| Special Events | 13,336 |
| Communication | 4,383 |
| | \$ 254,481 |