

LEAVE A LEGACY

The Hensley Legacy Society (HLS) was created as a tribute to the mission and vision of EEM co-founder Gwen Hensley.

HLS honors individuals who support EEM through one or more estate gift arrangements.

A gift must be documented by EEM for membership. Estate gifts include: documented bequests, trusts, gift annuities, remainder interests in a residence or farm, life insurance, retirement accounts and more.

Each member will be presented with a special-edition Hensley Legacy Society Bible. These treasured keepsakes are a representation of the original Bibles that were printed and smuggled behind the Iron Curtain.

For more information visit eem.org/hensley

Connect

f @ @EasternEuropeanMission

800-486-1818 • info@eem.org PO Box 55245 Hurst, Texas 76054

Memorials and Honors

To see a list of recent Memorials and Honors visit www.eem.org/memorials-and-honors.

Newsletters

Newsletters are available in digital or print format. Contact us at 800-486-1818 or email newsletter@eem.org.





MILLION DOLLAR SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 31

At the beginning of September, we will kickoff our 2020 Million Dollar Sunday (MDS) fundraising campaign. MDS provides funding for Bibles and Bible-based materials in Eastern Europe and beyond, free to all. Your donations during this campaign will transform lives as God uses our partnership with you to proclaim the love of Christ!

This year's theme is "Open Our Eyes." We long for others to see what God is doing. He is awakening hearts, opening spiritually blind eyes, and making the deaf hear. We know this because He did the same thing with us and continues to transform us. While we were in darkness, he opened our eyes in the same way he opened the servant's eyes to reveal the hosts of heaven's armies sent for protection in 2 Kings 6.

New doors continue to open to meet the need for God's Word as we learn about new requests for Bibles daily. We have the unique opportunity to fulfill public school requests for Bibles in Hungary, Ukraine, and Croatia. We also have the opportunity to fulfill requests for Bibles in Urdu, Turkish, and Sorani this year. We will be sending the complete list of the 2020 highlighted opportunities to your mailbox in August!

Thank you for your continued support as our prayer and financial partners. You make it possible to publish, print, and distribute our materials in over 20 different languages and more than 30 countries.

PRAYER REQUESTS

The cost of Estonian Bibles still exceeds our ability to obtain them (25 EUR a copy). Continue to pray for God to open the door to an alternative translation that we could use in this language. The position of the Minister of Education is still vacant in Ukraine and our work in schools largely depends on the goodwill of this next person. The Ukrainian Parliament will be confirming the new candidate soon. Please pray that the new person in this position understands and shares the vision of Christian education.

Pray that God will give our European Team wisdom and insight to find solutions for changes happening on short notice during the pandemic.

Pray for the health of all EEM staff and their families during this time.

1

2

4



THE SECRET POLICE

DOCUMENT ABOVE FOUND IN THE CZECH SECRET POLICE ARCHIVES

Several weeks ago, EEM National Director Jaro Marcin came across Czech Secret Police archive records indicating that the secret police had put Gwen Hensely on their watch list under the code name "Oklahoma" on October 28, 1969 (pictured to the left). As most of you know, in the late 1960's, Gwen visited villages where only one copy of the Bible was found in the entire village—and sometimes it was just a hand-written portion. With tears in his eyes he said to his wife, "Gayle, if it is the Lord's will, and I believe it is, I am going to see that these people get the Bible in their own language." His great faith was evident in the fact that he went forward with total confidence that the Lord would provide Bibles in the hands of many.

With these records, we are reminded of the boldness of faith exemplified in the early days when EEM was smuggling Bibles. In the beginning of this ministry, communism was a common an enemy that united many Christians to work together to make sacrifices to provide God's Word. Today, we are still united by a common enemy and his name is Satan. Though the evil one goes to great lengths to steal, kill and destroy, we are also united by an even greater God who has given us victory over evil and will go to even greater lengths to bring people to Himself. Every story of new life in Christ from the early days of EEM with Gwen till today during a pandemic is a testament of God's faithfulness. We are thankful that God opened Gwen's eyes to the need to provide Bibles and we pray for God to open our eyes to the need and the harvest!

TEAM IN QUARANTINE

The past few months have presented a lot of challenges as the world has endured a pandemic. We reached out to a few members of our European Team on the front lines of Bible distribution to hear what they had to say about the following question:

"HOW HAVE YOU SEEN EYES BEING OPENED TO GOD'S MESSAGE OR BY GOD'S **MESSAGE DURING THE PANDEMIC?"**

Dasha Novikova - Kyiv, Ukraine **EEM National Director in Ukraine**

"I've observed that all of the sudden changes that happened in the world and Ukraine due to COVID-19 caused a lot of instability in many countries economy's, businesses, people's lives, minds and hearts, anxiety, anger, fear, helplessness caused many people to seek for stability, peace, comfort. The consequence that I observe in Ukraine after talking with representatives of different ministries, is that many people turned

their eyes towards an eternal source of love and peace - toward God. People are seeking to learn and find out about [the] peace that only God can provide. They see that there is nothing they can rely on, no governments, no employers, nor themselves. We are all equal at this time in front of one common enemy. In this situation, Christians strengthen their faith and people who are coming closer to Him through the Bible. Many have set their eyes on God now."



TEAM IN QUARANTINE CONTINUED...

"HOW HAVE YOU SEEN EYES BEING **OPENED TO GOD'S MESSAGE OR BY GOD'S MESSAGE DURING THE PANDEMIC?"**

Sasha Taran - Vienna, Austria **EEM Distribution Coordinator**

"I've been thinking about this topic for a while during the quarantine. We are living in spiritual warfare and if we don't do anything to lead people to Christ, then Satan will try to lead them astray from Christ. Expectation of the final judgement gives me a fresh boost of compassion for my loved ones to inspire them to seek the Lord with all their hearts and to give their lives to Him, I believe this is the most beautiful and important thing a person could do,"



Bart Rybinski - Vienna, Austria **EEM, VP of European Operations**

"This sudden and unprecedented "slow down" of everyday life (especially for those who were furloughed from their jobs) gave some of our friends in Vienna an opportunity to re-evaluate their relationship with Christ. In the last 2 months, two of them (a woman in her 40s and a man in his 20s) decided to commit to Christ and were baptized to raise to the new life in him. One person (a woman in her 20s) radically rededicated her life to Christ after spending some time away from the Body."



Jaro Marcin - Prague, Czech Republic **EEM National Director for Central Europe & the Baltics**

"I've long been thinking of how we could get the churches in Central Europe (and possibly an even wider area) to connect with one another and engage on a more regular basis. During this pandemic, I realized we can actually do this fairly easily—as we do now with Zoom. Instead of feeling like a tiny church in a big city, it feels like we're a part of something much greater. And that has really energized me and strengthened my faith. The pandemic hasn't stopped anything. Sure, we've stopped going out as much. But more and more people [in society] are now asking themselves the real questions, such as "What is it that truly matters in life?" We've realigned our priorities and more of us are searching for meaning—which, we know, is found in God alone."

