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The Evangelical Press Association Awards The Mission Society's Publication, *Unfinished*

(Norcross/Atlanta, GA - January 14, 2009) –*Unfinished*, The Mission Society's quarterly publication, received an Award of Merit from the Evangelical Press Association (EPA). The award was presented at The 2008 Awards of Excellence banquet on May 9, 2008 during the annual Evangelical Press Association Convention, held this year in Portland, Oregon. Awards honor the best work contributed by EPA publications during the 2007 calendar year.

Ruth Burgner, The Mission Society's director of communications, is the editor of *Unfinished*, which was redesigned and released under its new title in fall of 2006. Point of Vision, an Atlanta-based firm, is its designer. Its publisher is The Mission Society president and CEO, the Rev. Dr. Philip R. Granger.

"The Mission Society will celebrate its 25th anniversary next year," notes *Unfinished* editor, Ruth Burgner. "Our publication being honored by such notable colleagues as comprise the Evangelical Press Association community is a testament to the ministries and stories of our missionaries and partner-churches. I hope this award also serves as a timely reminder to those who founded and established The Mission Society that the Lord continues to use their bold witness for Him."

Judges for the EPA contest included Debra L. Mason, director of the Center on Religion and the Professions; and Amy White, associate director of the Center of Religion and the Professions, both from The University of Missouri School of Journalism.

EPA Awards of Excellence are given to winners within various categories of publications, such as "Denominational," "Devotional," "Youth," "Online," and several others. The Mission Society's *Unfinished* magazine won the Award of Merit in the "Missionary" category, along with Wycliffe Bible Translators and JAARS, a ministry of Wycliffe. Receiving the Award of Excellence in the Missionary category was <u>World Vision</u>, published by World Vision International.

Among other EPA contest winners were *Christianity Today*, which took home the Award of Excellence in the "General" category; and "YouthWalk," a Walk Thru the Bible publication (also Atlanta-based) which won in the "Devotional" category.

The Evangelical Press Association was founded in 1948 to serve the Christian periodical publishing community. Its members are responsible for publishing more than 300 periodical titles which have a combined circulation of more than 20 million. EPA seeks to provide Christian fellowship among members of the Association; offer practical experience, stimulating mutual helpfulness among members, encouraging high ethical and



technical standards in the field of Christian journalism; and suggest concerted and timely emphasis on important issues.

The Mission Society, an Atlanta-area based ministry, was founded in 1984 in the Wesleyan tradition. It recruits, trains, and sends Christian missionaries to minister around the world. At present, The Mission Society has more than 225 missionaries in 32 countries. The Mission Society develops diverse programs and ministries in accordance with its missionaries' unique callings and gifts, ranging from well-drilling and the arts to more traditional ministries such as teaching English and church planting. Its church ministry department provides seminars, workshops, and mentoring for congregations in the United States and overseas, helping equip churches for strategic outreach in their own communities and throughout the world. For more information on The Mission Society, call 1.800.478.8963 or visit www.themissionsociety.org.

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