

*your monthly update from . . .*

December 2015



# AMBASSADOR

WE CONNECT. MINISTRY AND MEDIA.

*You have*  
**FILLED**  
*my heart*  
*with* **GREATER**  
**JOY**

*Psalm 4:7*



*Celebrating together the Season and the reason for our joy . . . see inside for special programming and Christmas reflections from the Ambassador team.*

## did you know?



Two of the *Top 10 Marriage Bible Plans* on YouVersion are from **Focus on the Family**—"Marriage: A Lifelong Journey" (Jim Daly) and "Infidelity: Boundaries to Protect Your Marriage" are among the most popular plans for reading the Bible with the goal of strengthening marriage while gaining an understanding of His Word.

John Sorensen, President of Evangelism Explosion International (and featured daily on "Share Life Today"), has just announced the appointment of the Honorable **John N. Hostettler** as the new director of the D. James Kennedy Center for Christian Statesmanship—a ministry training outreach of EE.



The **FamilyLife** "Oneness Prayer Challenge" campaign resulted in 42,963 "sign-ups"—men and women committed to pray for their spouse every day for a 30-day period. The effort continues through a permanent webpage with resources to equip couples in that spiritual discipline.

## ministry update

### *The latest from The Colson Center*

1. As part of the newly-independent operation of The Colson Center, a **board** has been appointed. Thanks for your prayers as they continue to carry out Chuck Colson's legacy.

2. **John Stonestreet**, President for The Colson Center, preached at Saddleback Church (where Ambassador's Jennifer & Matt Perez attend) on the questions of authority and Christian worldview.

3. Formerly serving as Vice President of WORLD News Group, **Warren Cole Smith** has joined The Colson Center as Vice President/Mission Advancement.



1. **ABOVE** Pictured from L to R: John Stonestreet (The Colson Center); Doug Napier (Alliance Defending Freedom); Emily Colson; Steve Verleye (TCC); Chip Mahon (Board Chairman); Jennifer Marshall (The Heritage Foundation); Eric Pillmore (Pillmore Consulting); Dr. Bill Brown (TCC); Rev. Chris Brooks (Evangel Ministries). [Not pictured: Ed Simcox (Indiana Energy Association)]

## tech updates [BY JIM SANDERS]

### *Support Extended*

If you'll forgive my pride for a moment, I'd like to toast our Amb-OS support crew. I think I can say that since they are far smarter and responsive than I! For the last nine years, our support team has provided what I believe has been exceptional service. Our goal has been to respond to any issue within 30 minutes of being called. Even beyond that, unbeknownst to stations, we continue to monitor Amb-OS receivers which have lost their satellite signal. In those cases, we'll make contact with the station to help them effect repair.

Just as a reminder, our contact numbers are posted on our website, [amb-os.com](http://amb-os.com) (including direct numbers for me and the developer team). But more importantly, for toll-free Amb-OS support call 1-877-AMBOS2U (1-877-262-6728). It's manned 24x7x365 and we want you to use that number regardless of how simple your inquiry might be.

Given that, we're very pleased to announce that our superb support services are now being extended to hardware repair as well as providing a solid state flash drive upgrade for your AMR-100's current spinning hard drive. The only moving part in an AMR-100 is the spinning hard drive. We know hard drives eventually fail. When that happens, you have a couple of easy fixes: 1) a field-installable replacement solid state flash drive kit which runs around \$100 or 2) replacement AMR-100 receiver which runs about \$600. If you want some cheap insurance, contact support for your hard drive replacement kit.

### *FTP Miscellanea*

If you use Ambassador's FTP site to download programs, we've set up a special email address in case you have questions about permissions, username, password, or any other operational detail. Please use [ftp@amb-os.com](mailto:ftp@amb-os.com) and our FTP support team will be happy to help!

### *Parent Minute with Greg Yoder Coming!*

On January 4, Keys for Kids Ministries will premiere the new *Parent Minute*. This one-minute daily feature is hosted by Greg Yoder, the executive director of Keys for Kids Ministries. Amidst a vast sea of parenting experts, Greg is a real parent who's had successes and failures raising kids. While he's not an expert, Greg shares the good and the bad about raising his own four kids—three of which are now adults. He's a real parent and grandparent, talking to real parents and grandparents about real issues facing kids and their families today—iron sharpening iron from a biblical worldview. For more information please contact: Dylan Kraayenbrink at [Dylan@keysforkids.org](mailto:Dylan@keysforkids.org) or 616-647-4500.



2.



3.



# Merry Christmas

[from Ambassador and friends]

We hope you'll use these new as well as classic Christmas special editions to encourage listeners over the Season with inspiration that reflects clearly the reason for our celebration!

## CHRISTMAS



**NO ROOM IN THE INN**  
(26:00) **Carter Conlon** presents a dramatized rendition of Luke 2: 1-14, a fresh look at the innkeeper's response, and powerful contemporary testimonies make this a very creative presentation on answering God's call to make room for others in need during this season.



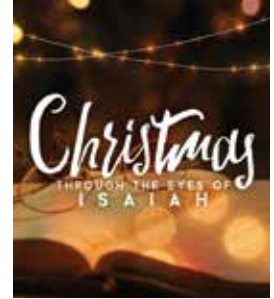
**ONE PERFECT LIFE**  
(2 x 25:00 each) The Christmas edition of this series includes *A Song is Given* and *Immanuel, God With Us*—a beautiful weaving of dramatized Scripture with commentary from **John MacArthur** takes the listener from the heralding of the birth of John the Baptist to the culmination of the Lord's earthly ministry.



**ADVENTURES IN ODYSSEY CHRISTMAS MARATHON**  
(6 episodes / 26:00 each) Share the holidays with Whit, Connie, Eugene and the rest of the gang from *Adventures in Odyssey*. **Focus on the Family's** popular series presents classic episodes like *Gifts for Madge and Guy*, *A Lamb's Tale*, *A Christmas Conundrum*, and *Silent Night*.



**A CHRISTMAS CAROL**  
(3-part special for 2-hour block / 1 hr. 39 min.) **From the Focus on the Family Radio Theatre** vault, it's the classic Charles Dickens tale of Scrooge, Bob Cratchett and Tiny Tim. Share a message that defines the spirit of the season of Christ's birth, of His loving compassion—*A Christmas Carol* brought to life on-air!



**CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF ISAIAH**  
(54:00) With a clear vision of the coming Messiah, Isaiah has been called "the fifth Gospel." This new special for the season includes readings from the prophet, classic Christmas songs and hymns, and a seasonal message from *HAVEN Today* speaker **Charles Morris**. Share the Good News this December!

## NEW YEARS

The descending ball over Times Square is seen by over a billion people each New Year's Eve. From the unique vantage point that is Times Square Church—literally in the midst of these revelers—Pastor **Carter Conlon** speaks about those who are **"WAITING FOR THE BALL TO DROP"** in a new 26:00 special.

The story of 1 Kings recounts a time when the people of Bael (ironically pronounced Ball) also looked hopefully—to a false god rather to the One who indeed provides hope. The biblical account, combined with the powerful testimony of a Broadway actor and a former modern-day Mafia member, remind us that we have only to face Him to find hope.

Start the New Year with a remarkably impacting message that draws our focus to the true reason for "reveling"—the hope that is found in Jesus Christ alone.



*For more information and to access content, we'll make it easy—just contact [Haley@ambaa.com](mailto:Haley@ambaa.com) for any of the above!*







## Year-end fun!

[ for more, follow us on instagram & facebook: @ambassadorsteam ]

**a)** Great to host **Jeremy Burton** (Center) from Museum of the Bible when he was here to visit the current Passages exhibit in Santa Clarita. He's surrounded by the AAA team who serves the 1:00 feature production and distribution (Evelyn, Haley, Selah and Mark).

**b)** BIG NEWS! Our **Haley Hook** is officially engaged to **Brian Jessup**—an April wedding is planned. This is another merger of Christian media. While Haley is part of our crew, Brian serves as Executive Assistant to Rick Warren.

**c)** It was a great delight to have **Ron Deal** and his advisory group at Ambassador just before the Blended Family Summit (Irvine CA)—Ron also shared in our staff devotions (you can hear those online!) Pictured (L-R): Michelle Blood, Nicole Burns, Shannon Simmons, Ron Deal, Mike & Brenda Gardner, Julie Denker.

**d)** At Joni and Friends' annual President's Retreat, fellowship with **Joni and Ken Tada** included **Ann Furrow** and **Michael Panther**. Ann is a Board member for JAF and also serves on the Board of AnGeL Ministries (Anne Graham Lotz). Michael is a native of the South Sudan whose life was changed by military action in his village. He will graduate from LSU (where he was recently named Homecoming King) in December with plans to return to the Sudan and continue his calling to lead as a believer in Christ.

**e)** It was an inspiration to gather with recipients of the Joni Eareckson Tada scholarship fund at Azusa Pacific University—affording **Rachel Maki** and **Natalie Ewing** (pictured on either side of Joni) the opportunity to meet Joni and Ken personally. Also pictured: **Dave Bixby**, **Corbin Hoornbeek**, **Lynn Raine**, **Mary Rawlings from APU**; **Rainey Floreen** (JAF); and AAA team.

**f)** From headquarters of Mercy Ships, **Don Stephens** ("The Mercy Minute") and Jim Sanders get some recording done!

**g)** Jim was privileged to join leadership of The White Horse Inn for a donor retreat in Florida. Pictured (L-R): **Mark Green**, **Adam Christing**, **Michelle Tedrick**, **Eric Landry**, **Michael Horton**, **Julius Kim**, **Jim Sanders**.

**h)** Enjoying the fabulous DeMoss-Wolgemuth wedding in Chicago (see back page!) were **Rich Bott**, **Wayne Shepherd**, **Peg Campbell**, **Ken Tada**, **Doug & Nancy Hastings**, and **Bruce & Lynn Munsterman**.

**i)** Faithful readers of UPDATE include the Grace to You team (**Jay Flowers**, **Miguel Contreras**, and **Corey Williams**) as well as Salem's **Chris Gould**.

**j)** Our readership also includes the terrific folks at National Christian Choir. On tour in Ohio, they made a stop at partner WFCJ/WEEC and took time for this photo! Pictured: **Daryl Pierce** (left) and **Ken Kettering** (right) with **Kathy Bowman** and **Terry Tierney** from NCC.





# Merry Christmas!

[ from the Ambassador Team ]

"One of the most glorious messes in the world is the mess created in the living room on Christmas day. Don't clean it up too quickly."

— Andy Rooney

This month, we're answering the question: **"What was your favorite Christmas gift as a child?"** Wondering "who's who"? Take a guess, and check your answers at the bottom! *Plus, tell us your favorite at our website!*

**DICK BECVAR:** A "crystal-set" to listen to local radio (after stringing a wire antenna and connecting a water-pipe ground-wire, of course!)

**MICHELLE BLOOD:** A baby doll that cried and wet. But I remember making a fuss because it didn't do either until I realized it needed batteries!

**KATIE BURKE:** A Barbie motorhome. It was pink and the car part detached into a convertible. I'd love one this Christmas—life size & not pink!

**PEGGY CAMPBELL:** Every year my Granny gave us five silver dollars—I mean the real silver dollars from like 1895. I wish I'd kept them all but, of course, a whopping \$5.00 cash went a long way when I was a kid. At 10-cents for Baskin-Robbins cone (within walking distance), I was in heaven!

**JC COLÓN:** A ten-speed bike that gave me freedom to explore my surroundings.

**MARK CONNER:** A new bike with a banana seat and sissy bar.

**SHERI COOPER:** When I was 7, it was a big box of 72 Crayola Crayons! Oh how I loved the magenta one!

**SELAH COSENTINO:** A blue remote-control VW Beetle!

**JON DAVIS:** When I was young, I used to always get socks from my mother. It became a sort of running joke so that ALL she ever got me was socks, socks and more socks.

**EVELYN GIBSON:** A Parker fountain pen—my dad gave me a new one every year for years!

**HALEY HOOK:** An American Girl Doll — specifically Samantha because she looked like me and I liked her life (from the books).

**LEE ANN JACKSON:** My first visit to Disneyland. I was 9 years old and the "E" ticket rides were my favorite — to this day, the Happiest Place on Earth is still a place of childlike wonder to me!

**JERY LEE:** I remember being so excited to get an Easy Bake Oven. When we ran out of refills we would put bugs in the trays and run them through the oven.

**CHARLEY MEFFERD:** An Airedale puppy!

**JENNIFER PEREZ:** A pink bicycle with a banana seat! I grew up in Arizona where you can enjoy a bike ride on Christmas Day.

**KATHY RANDALL:** I received a sewing basket in grade school — and I still use it today!

**BILL REITLER:** I especially liked the "Vacu-Form." You placed a plastic sheet over a hot spot to soften it, then flipped it over onto a mold. You could make fake noses, miniature houses and other items. Amazing I didn't burn my hand off. Can't imagine it would pass safety muster today!

**JIM SANDERS:** Metal-flake blue Schwinn 10-speed. And a Bible of course.

**JANI WILLIAMSON:** My favorite Christmas gift was my Chatty Cathy doll. A few years ago Hallmark created a replica of my doll as an ornament and I nearly cried when I pulled the string behind her neck and she said "I love you."





## "2016: A Call to Action"

Once again, **Life Issues Institute** presents a new 26:00 radio special designed to inspire listeners with a thoroughly pro-life message. With critical decisions being made this year, **"2016: A Call to Action"** reminds us of the significant opportunity we have to impact culture on behalf of the sanctity of life.

Joining **Brad Mattes**, President of Life Issues Institute, will be Jerry Johnson, President of NRB, and exceptional women in leadership who are speaking out for women and their babies ...



**MIA LOVE**

First Haitian American and the first black female Republican in Congress, serving the 4th congressional district from Utah



**MISSY STONE**

National Field Director for Students for Life of America, an organization dedicated to "abolish abortion in our lifetime"



**MARJORIE DANNENFELSER**

President of the Susan B. Anthony List, an organization thoroughly committed to advancing pro-life women in politics



**JERRY JOHNSON**

President of the National Religious Broadcasters, noting it's time to take a stand in these crucial areas in the fight for life



“

**If the church rises up and follows biblical principles in the voting booth, we can secure protection for unborn babies and your religious freedoms. We can once again be a nation that truly serves and glorifies our Lord.**

**Brad Mattes**, President  
Life Issues Institute

”

It's been noted that the 2016 elections are crucial as to where we go as a pro-life movement in this country. The message is that we can make a difference—and educating listeners is part of that!

Revitalize attention to this critical concern with a timely encouragement of its importance ... and underscoring of the reason for "Sanctity of Life Sunday" each January!

*For clearance, contact [Lee@ambaa.com](mailto:Lee@ambaa.com); delivered via permissioned FTP site or Amb-OS.*



# 2016

Here's a quick look at what's already planned for impacting ministry in the year ahead! Watch this space for monthly details in upcoming editions!

## JANUARY

### Evangelicals for Life

It's a first ever major pro-life conference (1/21-22) for evangelicals being hosted by Focus on the Family and ERLC with speakers including **Jim Daly** and **John Stonestreet**.

*Plus see page 6 for Sanctity of Life Sunday programming!*



## MARCH

**Anne Graham Lotz** is in our neighborhood when she speaks at the Women's Leadership retreat (3/11-13) for Calvary Chapel (Costa Mesa). We can't wait!



## APRIL

It's the annual Wilberforce Weekend Conference (4/8-10) for **The Colson Center** featuring John Stonestreet, Eric Metaxas, Ed Stetzer, and more!



## MAY

May 15 is not only Pentecost Sunday, it's the newly established "**International Day for the Unreached**" ... watch for more information from Reach Beyond on how you can participate!



## JUNE

Sail away ... to Alaska (6/25-7/2)—and enjoy an unforgettable cruise with **Max Lucado's** inspiration and Steven Curtis Chapman's musical artistry.



## SEPTEMBER

**True Woman** convenes again in Indianapolis (9/22-24). This year's theme "Cry Out" (Psalm 34:17) will be covered by speakers like Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, Russell Moore and Janet Parshall.



## OCTOBER

October 13-23 is when one of many trips anticipated in 2016, "Wheels for the World" (Joni and Friends) will deliver refurbished wheelchairs to Thailand. Check the ministry website for full details on each trip.



## MORE

Be sure to follow us on social media (@AmbassadorTeam) where we share "the latest" updates and prayer needs.

## FEBRUARY

Don't miss NRB '16 and a visit to our Hospitality Lounge (Delta Island "E") especially on Thursday morning (2/25) when we host speakers for a great 90-minutes of fellowship and open house.

Highlights of the program for this year's Convention include:

- ◆ **"Dinner with the Greens"** on Wednesday (2/24) featuring Steve Green, founder and Chairman of the Board for Museum of the Bible. The dinner will be followed by a public worship service with Rick Warren (member of the Museum Board) and Steve Green; special music with Michael W. Smith.
- ◆ **"Closing Gala Dinner with Special Services Awards"** featuring Anne Graham Lotz ("Daily Light for Daily Living" and "Living in the Light") and special music from Keith and Kristyn Getty on Friday (2/26).
- ◆ Convention host will be FamilyLife's **Bob Lepine**.

## proclaim16

NRB INTERNATIONAL  
CHRISTIAN MEDIA CONVENTION



## ALL YEAR-LONG



The work of **The Africa Mercy** continues in '16 in Madagascar before the ship will head for its annual refurbishing. We couldn't resist including this photo of some women who are welcoming the new year with obvious joy—thanks to the dedicated team aboard the ship.



# AMBASSADOR

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## *Congratulations, Robert and Nancy!*

Celebrating their marriage as “a portrait of God’s redeeming, covenant-keeping love,” Nancy Leigh DeMoss married **Robert Wolgemuth** on November 14 at the beautiful College Church (Wheaton IL).

Surrounded by a host of family members and friends—including many from the world of Christian publishing and media—Robert and Nancy (speaker on “Revive Our Hearts”) affirmed God’s providence in bringing their lives together, acknowledging their commitment that the wedding, and marriage that follows, would “showcase the loveliness of Christ.”

The afternoon nuptials were followed by a wedding supper ... and then a Candlelight Vespers Service with special guests Keith & Kristyn Getty who led the congregation in a number of Christendom’s most moving hymns.

Just as the wedding processional was led by bell-ringing children, so it concluded as Nancy and Robert exited the church to bells—both those in the tower and those in the hands of guests.

Written in the Scripture-filled wedding program as an encouragement to all of us: “*May God grant a fresh sense of wonder and awe as we contemplate His magnificent love. May Christ be magnified through our humble, grateful response to our majestic, holy Savior-Shepherd-King. And may He use our lives and marriages for the advancement of His great Kingdom.*”

Amen and amen! And thanks be to God for this marvelous gift!