



Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

FEBRUARY
2017
UPDATE



“LET MARRIAGE
be held
IN HONOR
among all.”

INSIDE

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HEBREWS 13:4

DID YOU KNOW?

(Many) thumbs up for **Museum of the Bible's Facebook page**. In fact, MOTB now has more likes (527.1K in fact) than the Smithsonian and is second only (global museum sites) to the Musee d'Orsay in Paris. Museum of the Bible is scheduled to open in DC later this year (November 2017).



Wycliffe Bible Translators USA recently honored the life and legacy of the late **Vonette Bright** with its 2016 **Scripture Impact award** which commends men and women who have a passion for the Bible and demonstrate a personal commitment to see it reach and change others. Vonette's message of hope continues to be heard on each day's edition of **Women Today** (1:00).

Grace to You reports that since 2008 when the sermon "vault" was opened for free download of all material, more than **145 million messages** have been accessed without cost—an average of 60 thousand daily. What a tremendous impact!



Focus on the Family presents resources to celebrate and honor marriage this February. Help for cherishing your spouse is at honoringmarriage2017.com.

TECH UPDATE WITH JIM SANDERS

The Consumer Electronics Show can only be explained as an over stimulation of the senses by newfangled gadgets, interlaced by (literal) miles of mindlessly walking Vegas exhibit halls. I love it. It's a ton of fun. I always enjoy seeing the latest and greatest electronic toys and others' vision of the future. A few lines from my perspective of the CES show.

Favorite Gadget: Not exactly consumer-available yet, but **Sony's "CLEDIS"** is phenomenal, huge and clean. It's more like "Legovision"—it's a system of building blocks for a seamless monitor of any size. This one, displaying 16k resolution, is 32' x 9'. I need a bigger living room.



Coming to Your Future: VR (Virtual Reality) and AR (Augmented Reality) glasses. It's one thing to take a virtual vacation or use an electronic display to play a game (VR), it's another thing to see the real world punctuated by additional information. For instance, imagine you're at NRB and recognize someone's face, but can't recall their name. Welcome to your AR glasses. They'll call up a Facebook or LinkedIn page and let you know who they are and where they work. There are boatloads of applications, and these devices can even utilize your smartphone. Yep, like it or not, AR/VR glasses are in our future.



Also Coming to Your Future: Alexa in your fridge. Amazon has brilliantly licensed their voice recognition software to work in all sorts of electronic devices including refrigerators, thermostats and even cars.



Electric and self-driving cars. In all my years of going to CES, I've never seen more auto manufacturers displaying their wares. Self-driving, AI and alternative fuel vehicles were prolific.

Robot helper. Whether cleaning, making your coffee or checking out noises in your home, robots are coming!

The Thing I Would Like to Have Brought Home: Aside from the 32' wide monitor, it's this **three screen laptop by RAZER**, a CES show award-winner. Fold it open and then out side-to-side. And, as of this writing, someone DID take it home.

The company is looking for whoever stole their two prototypes.



MIND THE GAP

Read Some British Christian Authors

We look forward to the NRB Convention, under Dr. Johnson's leadership, later this month. In addition to the NRB website, check out pages 4-5 (and an AAA landing page as well) for more info on the event. See you in Orlando!

When worshipping in other churches around the world, I have always found the experience refreshing. Seeing the same Christian faith through a different culture not only reminds me that Jesus is the Desire of All Nations (Haggai 2:7), but it has a way of reminding me that the Gospel transcends geography, race, and tradition.

This is true with British Christianity, maybe especially so. Because Americans speak the same English language, we can understand almost everything they say or write, even though there are differences. "Mind the Gap" is not something Americans would say when warning someone not to step into the chasm between the subway car and the platform. But when you hear it, you get it – doubly so, because it's a little bit different.

This is why I like reading British Christian authors. I can understand British English, but it is just different enough that I read with fresh eyes and ears. Also, because the British outlook is different than the American view of things, the transcendent quality of Christian truth is fresh. In addition, if the books are bit older, what they have to say seems especially relevant, because they're timeless. The gap of language, culture, and time actually enrich the quality of the reading experience. So let's "Mind the Gap" in a different way. Read British Christian books and benefit from the difference!

With that rationale, here's my list of 10 Top Recommended reads, all British and intentionally not recent publications (although you can still find them on amazon.com or abebooks.com):



Jerry A. Johnson

President and CEO
National Religious Broadcasters
@DrJerryJohnson

1. **All Round Ministry** (C.H. Spurgeon) — A pastoral book of advice and encouragement to Christian leaders. His chapter on how to have "strength in weakness" is worth the price of the book alone.
2. **The Everlasting Man** by (G.K. Chesterton) — A unique approach to Christian apologetics that influenced C.S. Lewis to understand and embrace the Christian faith. Considered by many to be Chesterton's masterpiece, it shows how Jesus Christ was historically the fulfillment of humanity's ultimate desires.
3. **A Grief Observed** (C.S. Lewis) — A personal reflection by Lewis on the death of his wife, Joy. He writes about his experience of grief in a way that will help anyone mourning the death of a loved one.
4. **Descent of the Dove** (Charles S. Williams) — A church history written by the "Inkling" that C.S. Lewis considered one of his spiritual mentors. The subtitle reveals the unique approach: "A Short History of the Holy Spirit in the Church."
5. **Preaching and Preachers** (D. Martin Lloyd-Jones) — A weighty book by one of England's greatest preachers of the 20th Century. It reminds Christian preachers and teachers that their calling is serious and gives advice on how to carry out that calling.
6. **Chronicles of Wasted Time**, 2 volumes (Malcolm Muggeridge) — An autobiography that is so well written that reading it is pure joy, even though it reveals the emptiness of socialism, sexual promiscuity, and celebrity. Ultimately his story points to spiritual need and to Christ.
7. **The Cross of Christ** (John R.W. Stott) — A doctrinal book which beautifully describes the majesty of Jesus' atoning death.
8. **Knowing God** (J.I. Packer) — Another doctrinal book, but this one focuses on who God is and what He is like. Reading this classic is a life-changing devotional experience.
9. **The Mind of the Maker** (Dorothy Sayers) — "The proper question to be asked about any creed is not, 'Is it pleasant?' but, 'is it true?'" From the first chapter, this incisive statement from Sayers shows you why this book is needed now, more than ever.
10. **The Great Heresies** (Hilaire Belloc) — As a non-Catholic, I of course do not agree with his section on the Reformation. However, the chapter, "The Great and Enduring Heresy of Mohammed" is striking, as well as relevant to what is happening in Europe and America right now.

We'll see you here! →

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NRB INTERNATIONAL
CHRISTIAN MEDIA CONVENTION

Whether it's your first Convention or you've been attending for decades, we're all "newbies" in terms of the venue this year. Before we all head to the Orlando World Center Marriott, you're invited to take a look at what we're most excited about (including seeing you in the Anaheim Hospitality Suite)!

For more and updated information, visit our NRB page: ambaa.com/nrb-2017. Also, be sure to follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @AmbassadorTeam.

* Join us in a standing ovation for **FamilyLife Today** who is receiving the **Program of the Year**, and also **Steve and Jackie Green** (Museum of the Bible) for the **NRB Board of Directors Award**.

* In the Exhibit Hall, once again you'll want to make time for an impressive 20,000-square-foot presentation from **Museum of the Bible**. Then, greet the folks doing great Kingdom work at **Cru** (#411) and **Evangelism Explosion** (#505).

SPEAKERS YOU'LL SEE

These speakers are attending NRB with the purpose of connecting with station partners! We'd love to help you schedule a meeting—each speaker's availability is limited, so please drop us a note at marketing@ambaa.com right away to compare schedules.



Lisa Anderson
The Boundless Show



Carter Conlon
It's Time to Pray



Joni Eareckson Tada
Joni and Friends



John Fuller
Focus on the Family



Jim Garlow
The Garlow Perspective



Michelle Hill
FamilyLife This Week



Bob Lepine
FamilyLife Today



Brad Mattes
Life Issues



Barry Meguiar
Ignite



Charles Morris
Haven Today



Dennis Rainey
FamilyLife Today



John Sorensen
Share Life Today



David Wollen
Anchor Today

****This list is subject to change; check the NRB page on our website for updates.**

INTERVIEWS

Are you broadcasting live or recording interviews at NRB?

We want to help you!

Some speakers are available for interviews throughout the Convention. Send a note to marketing@ambaa.com to let us know who you'd like to interview!

CAN'T MISS EVENTS & SPECIAL EXHIBITS

In-between your meetings and sessions, be sure to check out these must-see events and exhibits while you're in Orlando!



OPENING SESSION

Monday, February 27 | 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM | Crystal GHJ

Kick off the Convention week with worship and a message with your Kingdom co-laborers. **Barry Meguiar** (President, Revival Outside the Walls) will open the night in prayer, and **Cary Summers** (President, Museum of the Bible) will share the stage with friends from NRB, First Baptist Church Jacksonville, and Amazing Grace.



DIGITAL MEDIA SUMMIT

Wednesday, March 1 | 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM | Crystal Salon J

Focus on the Family's Director of Young Adults, **Lisa Anderson**, is emceeing this year's Digital Media Summit. Lisa's PR background, radio know-how, and media savvy—not to mention, dynamic sense of humor—will make for a full day of energized learning.



AMBASSADOR MEET & GREET

Wednesday, March 1 | 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM | Anaheim Hospitality Suite

While you're on lunch break from the Digital Media Summit, join us for Ambassador's annual Meet & Greet! Enjoy hors d'oeuvre, fellowship, and connection—and the grand finale that's become a treasured staple to many, hymn singing with **Joni Eareckson Tada**. No RSVP needed . . . come and go as your schedule allows!



FAMILYLIFE'S "NAME THAT TUNE"

Wednesday, March 1 | 9:00 PM – 11:00 PM | Canary 2

He preaches, he speaks, he ... sings?!? If you've ever attended FamilyLife Today's annual "Name That Tune" game night, you know it's very true—**Bob Lepine** not only sings, but proves he can host much more than a daily program when he moderates a gameshow-style event that'll have you laughing all week! It's the perfect way to end the mid-week night at the Convention. It's an NRB tradition you can't miss! No RSVP required—open to all!



L-R: Haley Jessup, Mark Conner, Jennifer Perez, Michelle Blood, Katie Burke, Jim Sanders



L-R: Bill Reitler, Lee Ann Jackson, Selah Cosentino, Peggy Campbell, Jon Davis

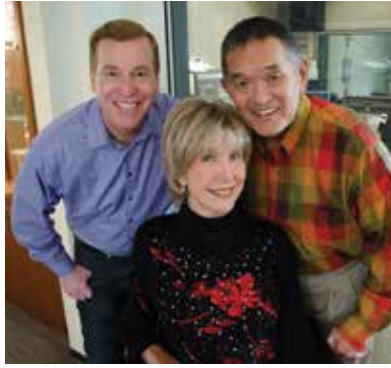
SEE YOU ON THE RED CARPET

We thought it'd be appropriate to bring "Hollywood" to the **Anaheim Hospitality Suite**. So be sure to stop by, pick your favorite red prop, and smile for the camera. We'll feature our favorite shots of you, our friends in media and ministry, in a future edition.

SNAP SHOTS



Where are you? Send your photos to peg@ambaa.com



L-R: We do local too! Core to the heart of Revival Outside the Walls is partnership with the local church—including closeby Newport Mesa where **Barry Meguiar** (pictured with Pastor Jordan Hansen) recently preached. | **Lance Emma** (GM-KWVE) is not only our neighbor but a great friend—nice to have him join us for a special luncheon with **Ken & Joni Tada** at Ambassador. | The festivities included marking, shall we say, a milestone birthday for Mr. Tada with cake and a good steak dinner after taping day at AAA.



ABOVE: Nice to be able to greet **Alice Budfuloski** with family while this Focus team member was in SoCal over the holidays.



BELOW: Meanwhile, her compadres **John Fuller** and **Rob Kirkpatrick** rendezvoused with Jim Sanders for an evening out during CES.



BELOW: Hosts at the retreat were ministry co-founders **Don & Deyon Stephens** who shared that the organization is close to fully funding a new ship currently being built in China!



ABOVE: It was a special treat to welcome Mercy Ships to the neighborhood too! Their annual donor retreat was held in Laguna Beach with special guest speaker, **Eric Metaxas**, underscoring our call to show mercy.



L-R: From the studio—ours and others: Speaker for Glad News for Muslims, **Samy Tanagho**, was at AAA to produce pilot 1:00 vignettes. | We also welcomed **Charmaine Lillestrand** to the Ambassador facilities—she and her husband are leaders at CRU (“Making Your Life Count” and “Women Today”). | From the other side of the country, our Times Square Church friends stopped long enough to send this snap: **Pastor Carter Conlon, Adana Atkinson, Loretta Busch, Tammy Shannon.**

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What's your favorite "sweet" indulgence?

"Life is short, and it is up to you to make it sweet."

SARAH DELANY

We love just about anything from *"The Chocolate Ox"*, a little store in Nisswa Minnesota!

Phil Kvamme | Program Director
KTIG-FM | St. Cloud/Pequot Lakes, MN



White chocolate bark candy that my wife makes for Christmas is my favorite!

Neil Sandford | Station Manager
WVKJ-FM | Dublin, NH



Chocolate is the first thing that comes to mind . . . chocolate kisses, chocolate chip cookies, chocolate covered cherries . . .

Sherri Ginkel | Business Development Coordinator | WAY-FM Media Group



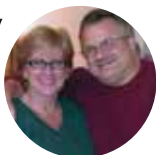
Chocolate and peanut butter in any configuration! I like it so much...I dress in colors that remind me of it.

David Oglesby | Promotions
WTRJ-FM | Jacksonville, FL



My favorite "sweet indulgence" is time with my sweetheart...a date with my wife!

Bruce Barrows | Station Manager
KNWI-FM/KNWM-FM | Des Moines, IA



My love language is Reese's cups!

Derek Gregory | Program Director
WCVK-FM | Bowling Green, KY



"Chocolate Almond Turtles" hold an allure that has lasted all of my adult days, even when stale!

Rocco Barros | General Manager
WCFT-FM | Dover, NJ



"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt."

CHARLES SCHULZ

WHAT'S UP THIS MONTH

FEB 5 The new half-hour weekly broadcast with **Carter Conlon**—*"A CALL TO THE NATION"*—begins national release.



FEB 10-11 **John MacArthur** joins Dr. Henry Morris III, astronaut Jeff Williams and others for the *"Unlock Genesis"* Conference (Lubbock TX).



FEB 13-18 Join the FamilyLife team (**Dennis Rainey, Bob Lepine, Ron Deal** with Michael Jr., Jeremy Camp and a host of others) for the *"Love Like You Mean It"* Cruise (Mexican Riviera).



FEB 19 Ministry partnership hits again ... **Eric Metaxas** (The Colson Center/BreakPoint) speaks at **Times Square Church**—check out our item for February 5 for more on TSC's Pastor Carter Conlon!



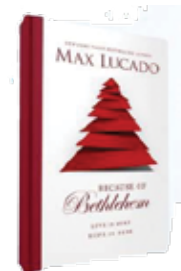
FEB 22 At Dallas Theological Seminary, **Anne Graham Lotz** speaks at the school's **Impact Partner Luncheon** (Dallas TX).



RECOMMENDED READS



Adorned: Living Out the Beauty of the Gospel Together is the newest release from **Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth**. Called a "legacy work," this volume focuses on Titus 2 and its powerful vision for women. Whether old or young, Nancy helps women discover God's remarkable plan for community, woman to woman, whereby we learn best how to glorify God and make His truth believable to our world.



Christmas may seem to be in the rearview mirror but the message of **Because of Bethlehem: Love is Born, Hope is Here** remains deep encouragement in the new year. **Max Lucado's** words are captivating despite our familiarity with the story of Jesus' birth. Accompanying products include a study guide, DVD, and ... a coloring book! Merry Christmas all year long!



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@AmbassadorTeam



ALL IN THE FAMILY

LEFT: We promise a spot in Update to anyone who'll take a pix with Update—so why shouldn't that include our own team! Good work, **Michelle Blood** (standing next to husband, Steve). It means your beautiful grandson Jameson (held by dad, Joe, and standing next to mom, Kari) gets another posting. Jameson's other grandparents, Will & Kathy Lopez, joined the Blood family for a fun weekend in Lake Arrowhead.

TOP: And since it's "all in the family" this month ... great to welcome Chicagoans **Jake and Heather (Sanders) Rosenberg** with Josiah and Rachel to an AAA visit also over Christmas vacation. Watch for our media wall (and all the fun props to go with it) at NRB!



Where are you? Send your
photos to peg@ambaa.com