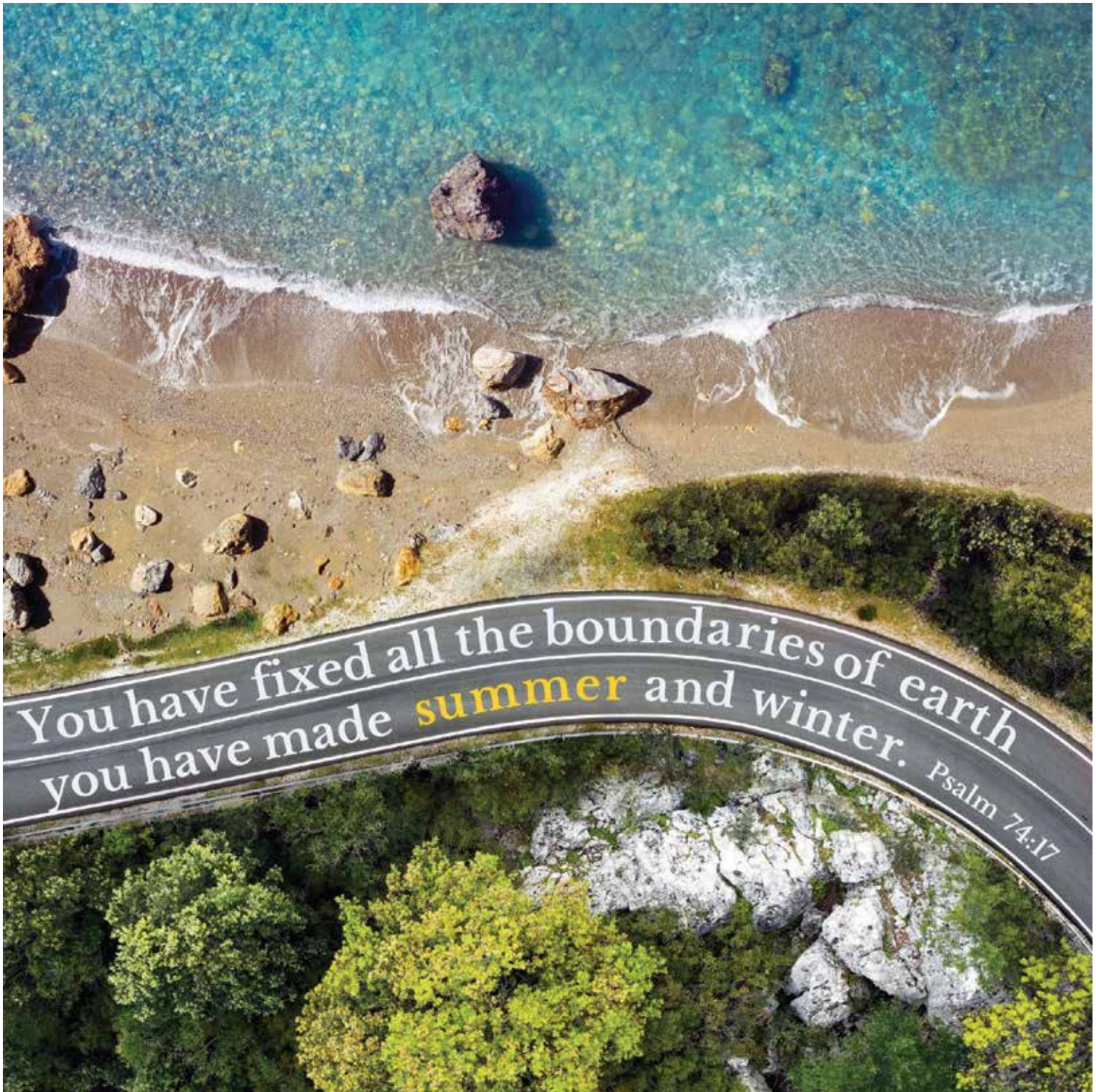




# Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

AUGUST  
2020  
UPDATE



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## DID YOU KNOW?

Cru (producers of *Making Your Life Count* with Steve Douglass) is using [Google ads in 14 languages](#) to help reach the world for Christ despite diminished opportunity for personal contact through the pandemic.



The well-received radio special for 2020's *Sanctity of Life Sunday* is now available in a video format. Titled,

### [A Reason for Hope:](#)

[The Truth About Down Syndrome](#), the special features **Brad Mattes** and guests including **Shauna Amick** of *Joni and Friends*. (You can request a complimentary copy from [Lee@ambaa.com](mailto:Lee@ambaa.com).)



Don't miss [Light of Hope: The Corrie ten Boom Story](#), a special exhibit now open at **Museum of the Bible** (Washington DC).

**Thrivent** (*Be Wise and Thrive*) has published its [Summer 2020 magazine](#) including timely insights such as "Unexpected Summer" (*Have Fun Close to Home*) and "A Strategy in the Storm." Ask Katie for a copy or simply find the full edition online!



New from **John MacArthur** is [Sanctification: God's Passion for His People](#). Notes Sinclair Ferguson about the book: "Sanctification is a powerful tract for our

times—a purposefully short book. You can read it in an hour or two, but its goal is the transformation of the rest of your life."

## TECH UPDATE FROM JIM SANDERS



### Engineer of the Year

Congratulations to **Terry Cowan** who received CR Tech Forum's "Engineer of the Year" award for his many years of contributions to the radio community. Terry founded radio station KNLR-FM in 1984, located in the bullseye of Oregon, in the city of Bend.

Terry said, "I never dreamed of this. Of course, you use the word 'engineer' loosely. 'Tinkerer' might be a better word! God has been good to me and allowed me to serve Him through Christian radio. As I heard someone say once, 'Give God the glory, I'll take his grace!'" The award is typically given at the NAB convention, which was canceled due to the pandemic.

He might be a "tinkerer," but Terry's support for the Christian Radio industry has been renown with no less than 17 different software programs written to support fellow broadcast engineers: [knlr.com/software.htm](http://knlr.com/software.htm). Thank you, Terry!

### New to Amb-OS

**God Centered Life Ministries** features the daily (25:00) Bible teaching of **Pastor Josh Moody**. He is passionate about applying gospel-centered Bible truth to contemporary life issues. Josh Moody is the senior pastor of the historic College Church in Wheaton, IL and author of over 14 books, including a series of accessible guides to Christian living. With a passion for the gospel, Moody is an expository preacher who seeks to bring God's Word into the practical matters of the human condition and heart.



Inquiries should be directed to **Robb Hansen** at *Next Level Insights* (847-530-1055 or [rhansen@nextlevelinsights.com](mailto:rhansen@nextlevelinsights.com)).





# JONI AND FRIENDS

*marking 10,000 broadcasts*

Can you imagine? Over the course of almost 40 years, **Joni Eareckson Tada** has created a daily 4:00 feature (and since March 1, 2007, a separate 1:00 daily feature as well) intended to encourage everyone who is challenged by life's circumstances. (Talk about a timely agenda!)

This month, on August 28, listeners will be treated to Program #10,000—an extraordinary milestone that is being celebrated by friends of Joni including station partners, many of whom have become part of the JAF family after years of fellowship at NRB and elsewhere.

Though she wondered at the outset if she would "have enough to say" in a daily 4:00 spot, Joni hasn't skipped a beat. Despite cancer, pneumonia, rugged travel schedules and more, rarely has content been repeated!

Would you like to add a word of encouragement to this faithful communicator? We invite you to send Joni a note or brief video C/O [lee@ambaa.com](mailto:lee@ambaa.com).

And *thank you* to all those stations who have made #10,000 possible!

**STATION PARTNERS:** Join us for a special Zoom call with Joni on August 14!  
Contact [Lee@ambaa.com](mailto:Lee@ambaa.com) for information and RSVP.



“ When it comes to giving encouragement from God’s Word... there’s nothing that makes me happier.



# Welcome!

## SEEN AROUND



▲ Our summer internship is a little different this year with the pandemic, but we are so pleased that **Lauren Grace Patag** is sharing several weeks with us in that role. A high school senior in September, this fulfills her honors requisite as she foresees a business future (unless her gifts in the performing arts redirect that).



▲ We're so pleased to announce a new member of the Ambassador family! **Jack Joseph Medina** arrived on June 19 to parents Kari and Joe (and, we must mention, grandparents Steve & Michelle Blood). He joins brother Jameson much to the delight of all! We look forward to Kari's return to AAA early this Fall.

# Time to record



▲ Not too onerous for Jim Sanders to head to Colorado for updating *The Mercy Minute* features with **Don Stephens**. Don and his wife, Deyon, live "east of Montrose" in God's country!



▲ Great to have **Barry Meguiar** in the studio at Ambassador for *Ignite with Barry Meguiar* features. Barry's message to Northwest University grads which we shared in a recent A-List was outstanding—let us know if you need the link!



# Bill Maier

**GET TO KNOW**

It isn't often that the phrase "needs no introduction" works as perfectly as it does here. If you've been in Christian media for any length of time, you know the name **Bill Maier**. Keep reading to get to know Bill even better with our "Get Acquainted" column. As co-host for the *Core Christianity* program, Bill joins Adriel Sanchez with timely content daily. By the way, we're thrilled this makes him officially part of the Ambassador family too!

**So, which came first? You're a well-credentialed psychologist but also very well-known as a veteran of Christian radio.**

Early in my career I worked in general market radio, hosting shows at music stations in Seattle, San Diego and Los Angeles. After co-hosting the morning show at KBIG-FM in LA for five years, I felt the Lord calling me to enter graduate school in order to grow spiritually and intellectually.

After earning my doctorate in clinical psychology at Biola University, I worked with low-income children and families at a Los Angeles County community mental health clinic. In 2002 I moved to Colorado to join Focus on the Family, a position which allowed me to combine my experience in broadcasting with my degree in psychology.

While at Focus I hosted the "Weekend Magazine" program, the "Family Minute" radio feature, and the "Family Insights" TV news segments. I also served as Dr. James Dobson's primary fill-in host on the Focus daily broadcast. After my stint at Focus I hosted morning shows at KSBJ in Houston and the Faith Radio Network in Minneapolis. I'm currently using my psychological training as I attempt to raise three teenagers (I have to psychoanalyze MYSELF on a daily basis!!!).

**What excites you about working with Adriel Sanchez on Core Christianity?**

I have tremendous respect for Adriel as a pastor, theologian, husband, and father. But perhaps most of all, I appreciate his

heart for individuals who are struggling and for those who don't know Christ. His wisdom, empathy and kindness clearly come through when he is responding to questions from radio listeners. He also has a wonderful sense of humor, and we enjoy laughing together in the studio.

**What do you read to stay current on culture and issues families face now?**

I'm kind of a news junkie and I read several online news sources daily. I keep up with the latest developments affecting the family by following my friends at Focus on the Family and the Family Research Council. For parents with teenagers, I'd recommend PluggedIn.com and the weekly youth culture update from the folks at Axis.org.

**Anyone that you would name as a spiritual mentor?**

I've had the privilege to learn from some wonderful pastors over the years, including Dr. Jim Singleton, Dr. Jim Birchfield, and my current pastor, Rev. Jason Stonehouse. My spiritual journey has also been shaped by authors such as C.S. Lewis, Tim Keller and Max Lucado.

**How do you relax? What restores you?**

My wife and I try to take daily walks together, debriefing about our day and simply reconnecting. I'm also a bicyclist and I love to explore the hundreds of miles of paved bike trails here in Minnesota. Our family skis together in the winter and during the summer we love to explore our amazing country in our SUV. Earlier this year we spent a week in Washington DC where we toured the White House, sat in

on a session of Congress, and visited the Supreme Court.

**Tell us about your own family!**

I've been married to Lisa for 20 years, and she is an amazing wife and mother. I could spend several pages praising her attributes, but she is very humble and that would embarrass her.

Our son Joseph is 17 and a junior in high school. He plays soccer, works at Chick-fil-A, and leads worship for our church's youth group. Our daughter Anna is 15 and loves anything ACTIVE. She plays soccer, runs, rollerblades, bikes and has never met a zip-line she doesn't like. Our youngest (Eva) is 13 and is our singer/dancer/actress who will likely star on Broadway someday. Lately she's been into country music and she walks around our house belting out the country hits. The most energetic (and fluffiest) member of our family is our dog Sparky, a 6-year-old labradoodle.

**You've been a Minnesotan for three years now—what does a SoCal boy love about life in the far North?**

Minnesota gets a bad rap for our winters. Yes, it's often colder than Alaska, but the spring, summer, and fall months are glorious here. There are lakes, ponds, rivers and regional parks in every direction, and each suburb of the Twin Cities has its own unique community "feel" with festivals, holiday celebrations, farmer's markets, etc. I also love the long summer evenings when the sun sets at 9:00PM.

*For details on "Core Christianity," contact Charley Mefferd at [charley@ambaa.com](mailto:charley@ambaa.com).*



# Jonathan McKee

## MY TOP TEN BOOKS



Jonathan McKee, a Focus on the Family Associate, voices three of the five daily 1:00 features of “Plugged In” in a new format that launched in February 2020. Jonathan’s expertise with teens and technology makes him an ideal voice to help parents navigate today’s media landscape. He’s the author of over 25 books including *The Guy’s Guide to God, Girls, and the Phone in Your Pocket*. He speaks to parents and leaders worldwide and provides free resources at [TheSource4Parents.com](http://TheSource4Parents.com). Check out his top ten book picks!

*As a guy who studies the Bible and culture all day for my own writing, when I relax and read a book at night it’s typically fiction so I can “unplug” for a few hours. Here’s my all-time favorites.*

### 1. *A Painted House*, John Grisham

I love this glimpse through the eyes of a 7-year-old boy growing up on a cotton farm in 1952, a reminder of how life was... and still is. Truly my favorite of all time.

### 2. *Mindhunter*, John Douglas

This behind-the-scenes peek into the life of John E. Douglas’ 25-year career in the FBI hunting and interviewing real life serial killers is entrancing. As a guy who has spent hundreds of hours diving into the mind of school shooters for my book *Bystanders*, I’m fascinated by John’s knack for psychological profiling (maybe because he’s the guy who really launched it).

### 3. *Encounters with Jesus*, Tim Keller

Keller has so many amazing books, but he truly captivates me with the way he walks

me through Jesus’ day-to-day connections with people. I read this book like a personal devotional.

### 4. *Along Came a Spider*, James Patterson

I’m taking liberty when I list this title, because honestly I love Patterson’s entire “Alex Cross” detective series. His keen insight into the criminal mind, his dedication to his family...it all started with this book.

### 5. *Jaws*, Peter Benchley

This is not only on my list of favorite books, but favorite films as well (the 1975 Steven Spielberg original, not the pathetic sequels).

### 6. *Crime and Punishment*, Fyodor Dostoyevsky

How did a Russian book get on my list? This is the one book I read in high school that I’ve returned to countless times.

### 7. *What’s So Amazing about Grace*, Philip Yancey

All of Yancey’s books are great, but this one grabbed me on the

first page (as all books should). A must-read for any Christian.

### 8. *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell

Maybe it’s just because I love research, or because I’m bewildered by a business book that evaluates how *Sesame Street* keeps our attention and why.

### 9. *The Meaning of Marriage*, Tim Keller

Best marriage book ever, hands down. His comparison of the “covenant marriage” compared to the “consumer marriage” is worth the entire book. Groundbreaking stuff.

### 10. *The Walking Dead Graphic Novel*, Robert Kirkman

Uh, yeah...I’m a nerd (and the author of a zombie survival guide for teenagers). And this is one of the greatest escapes into a post-apocalyptic world where you consistently ask yourself, “What would I do in this situation?” (Although I always have to wonder if Kirkman’s opening premise is a little too much like the truly terrifying Danny Boyle film, *28 Days Later*). Hmmmmm.

## DID YOU KNOW?

If you’re airing “Plugged In,” it’s Jonathan’s voice you’re hearing each Monday (with what new movies to rent, stream, or buy), Wednesday (all things teens and screens), and Thursday (TV reviews). The daily feature will soon be available in a customized version; contact [hannah@ambaa.com](mailto:hannah@ambaa.com) to confirm station ID or to sign up.

# WATCHING THE CALENDAR

## FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

This is a year for innovation as many organizations have adjusted plans based on the pandemic concerns. For Focus on the Family, that meant foregoing a five-city nationwide event for Alive2020 ... with opportunity to escalate involvement by a now-virtual event, **See Life 2020**.



Scheduled now for **September 26**, further details of the online event are at [focusonthefamily.com/seelife](http://focusonthefamily.com/seelife).

## #LoveEveryHeartbeat



## CARTER CONLON

Did you know? This fall marks the 400th anniversary of the heroic *Mayflower* voyage and the founding of the Plymouth Colony.

Acknowledging the significance of this milestone, particularly in the midst of nationwide turmoil, Carter Conlon with others will be leading a special event on **October 6**.

It would be hard to think of a more appropriate time to call believers to "**Rededicating the Nation to Prayer**" as a virtual gathering is undertaken that day from 7:00-9:00PM.

More details coming soon but mark the calendar now for this important focus.



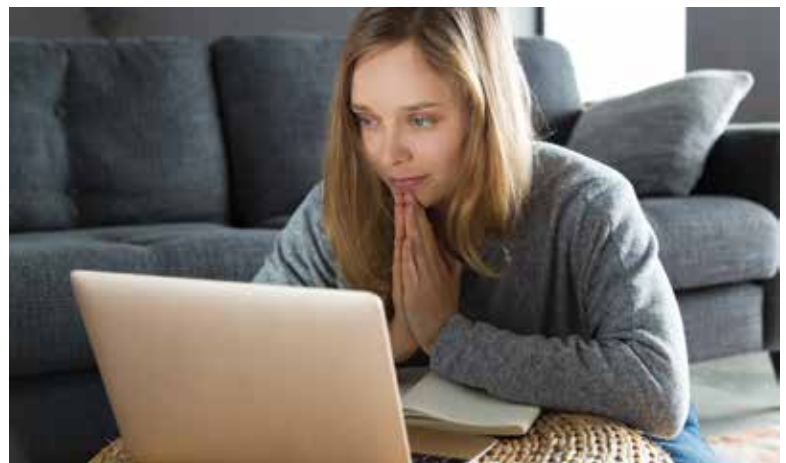
## JIM GARLOW

**Every Wednesday**, you are invited to gather with others to hear **Scripture read aloud publicly**. Following the biblical mandate (1 Timothy 4:13) and hosted by Jim Garlow (*The Garlow Perspective*), a virtual event is held online for thirty minutes of simply hearing God's Word aloud with others. Contact Jennifer for Zoom call information!

## REVIVE OUR HEARTS

Another change necessary due to the pandemic is cancellation of the True Woman '20 conference originally scheduled for September. The bi-annual event is now planned to resume in 2021 (again, in Indianapolis). Meantime, a special **virtual gathering for prayer**, hosted by Revive Our Hearts, will be held on **Saturday, October 10**. Watch our A-List for details.

And ... we're pleased to share that a new **weekend feature** from Revive Our Hearts will launch on **October 3** with Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth and co-host, Dannah Gresh. Contact [Jennifer@ambaa.com](mailto:Jennifer@ambaa.com) for more information!





# Ambassador

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@AmbassadorTeam  
#AmbassadorLife

## Wait! Isn't that ...

WAY  
BACK  
WHEN



The year was 1991, the place was Milladore (Wisconsin) and the assignment for this young man was serving as music director at WGNV which was broadcast out of a mobile home. Then WGNV Manager Art Gregg's HVAC efforts included rerouting heat from the transmitter into the mobile home ☺. (Our team has visited more than one similar facility over the years!)

After a short stint at KNLB (Lake Havasu AZ), **Coy Sawyer** (pictured here with staffers Katie Chism and Andi Miller) returned to 89Q to serve as GM. The studio is no longer housed in a mobile home but in a new building purchased just a couple years ago. A long way from the beginning of his career as the play-by-play man for local high school sports ☺.

Grateful for the nearly 30-year partnership, Coy! And thanks for sharing the flashback!



We want to see your "flashback" photos at [peg@ambaa.com](mailto:peg@ambaa.com).