



Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

AUGUST
2017
UPDATE



The steadfast love of the Lord

NEVER CEASES

*his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;*

GREAT IS YOUR

faithfulness

Lamentations 3:22-23

INSIDE

Focus on the Family's *40th Anniversary* (Page 3)

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DID YOU KNOW?



At the new [Grace to You website](#), you'll find Grace Stream—a continuous broadcast of **John MacArthur's** verse-by-verse teaching through the New Testament. No matter where you jump in, you'll hear clear and encouraging biblical teaching.

From **Cru**, take a look at the new [Mission Hub app](#) designed to help keep track of the people we want to spiritually encourage—from sharing the Gospel to prayer requests. Every step can be tracked in this helpful tool for staying connected.



Can you name the country? A nation of 24 million, its largest city is the seaport of Douala. Its president, seen as one of Africa's most entrenched leaders, has been in office since 1982. Described as "Africa in miniature," natural features include beaches, deserts, mountains, and rainforests. And this month ... *Cameroon* will become the temporary home for the crew of **The Africa Mercy** as the ship begins its next assignment in Western Africa. Pray for the team as they begin medical assessments for the work that will be done over the next nine months.

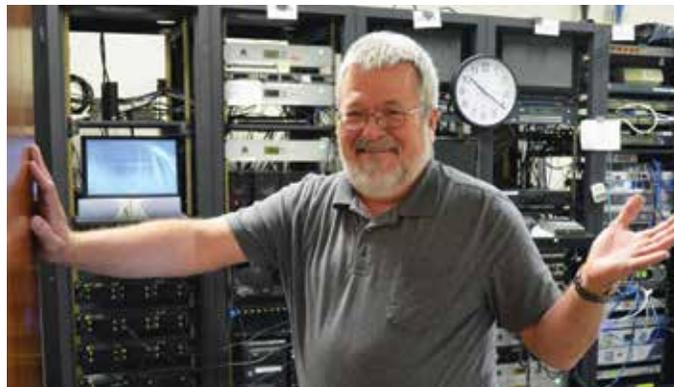
This month marks the 500th episode of **The Boundless Show** which began as a podcast and is now also distributed to stations across the country. Host **Lisa Anderson** remains the anchor for each week's creative, magazine-style delivery of content for singles. Interested in airing? Contact Katie@ambaa.com for all the details!



Traveling this summer? **Max Lucado** will spend the summer teaching at Oak Hills Church, currently finishing the topic, **This Sacred Home**—a helpful and encouraging new series on marriage and family.

TECH UPDATE WITH JIM SANDERS

INTRODUCING ... If you call Amb-OS for help, there's a good chance you'll speak with the newest member of our support team, **Tom Bedson**. Tom oversees the technical needs for Ambassador and Amb-OS Media. He's a seasoned professional having previously worked in IT with organizations like Arco Refinery and the City of Chino Hills, California.



He and Nancy have been married 37 years and two of their adult children, Bryan and Nathan and their wives, have made the Bedsons happy grandparents! Their youngest, Noelle, is a recent high school graduate, living in Ireland with Nathan and his wife. She's taking classes at the Calvary School of Ministry in Waterford, Ireland, where Nathan is administrator.

When Tom and Nancy met it wasn't exactly love at first sight! She was a Christian and Tom was having nothing to do with Christianity or church. But in time he realized Nancy had what was missing in his own life. He says, "I came to realize I needed what God had to offer." Praise God for that!



Another new addition—to the Sanders family—is **Jim's grandson** born June 24 ... **Stephen Timothy** is doing just great!



➤ Privileged to feed Harvest Crusade (Phoenix) over Amb-OS, our Charley Mefferd was on the scene—pictured with the team from Bott Radio Network including **Sam Rinearson**, **Eben Fowler** and **Rich Bott**.



THIS IS FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

Focus On The Family*

Focus on the Family (daily 28:30) with Jim Daly and John Fuller provides today's families with biblically-based, yet practical, everyday insights on marriage and parenting — insights that help families thrive!

Adventures In Odyssey

Available as a daily (Monday-Friday) or weekly feature, each 25:30 episode is all of the fun of Saturday morning cartoons ... without the worry!

The Boundless Show*

The weekly 26:00 program hosted by Lisa Anderson helps young adults grow up, own their faith, date with purpose and prepare for marriage and family.

Plugged In*

Bob Waliszewski is a trusted media and culture analyst for the daily 1:00 feature highlighting five of the big-deal areas in the entertainment world today: music, DVDs, video games & apps, TV shows, and movies.

Plugged In (for TV)

Shining a light on what's coming up in movie theatres is Bob Waliszewski with the *Plugged In Movie Review* weekly 2:00 for television.

Focus On The Family Weekend

Available in two convenient formats (55:00 or 27:30), audiences get the very best of what's been heard on Focus on the Family the preceding week.

Focus On The Family Radio Theatre

Classic stories are combined with motion-picture quality cast and sound design in a weekly 28:00 drama for family entertainment unlike any other.

Focus On The Family Minute

John Fuller hosts the daily 1:00 feature – a sampling from the daily half-hour program that gives a “nugget of truth” for building strong families.

Focus On The Family Spanish

Four of the top-rated programs from the global ministry of Focus on the Family are now available in Spanish: *Enfoque a la Familia*, *Aventuras en Odisea*, *Comentario de Enfoque*, *Conectados*.

For more info and demos, visit ambaa.com/programs.

*Available for customization with a station ID

Happy 40th, Focus!

Join the celebration! We're adding our voice to those honoring Focus on the Family for their 40 years of saving marriages in crisis, equipping moms and dads to thrive as parents, speaking to crucial policy issues and creating a culture of life in our nation—all anchored by the commitment to God's Word as the platform for transformed lives.

Events commemorating the milestone include a special chapel (see page 4!), the Focus on the Family 40th Anniversary Cruise in November, and a station celebration at NRB '18.

As the ministry marks a significant year of ministry, now is the perfect time to check the list of excellent programming options. No matter what you select, you can be assured what you air will align with the heart of Focus on the Family . . . *helping families thrive!*

HELPING FAMILIES THRIVE SINCE 1977:

- Resources and outreach efforts have helped more than 210,000 people make decisions for Christ
- Responded to 19 million phone calls and answered 54 million cards, letters, prayer requests
- Conducted 770,000 counseling consultations and welcomed 185 million visitors to its websites

FACES & PLACES

1-3. Such fun for Jim and Peg to join the celebration in the Springs—pictured with **John Fuller**, with **Brian Krause** and the PR Team (**Andrew Montgomery**, **Ashley Durand**, **Allison Meggers**) and with **Rich Bott**, **Jim Daly** and FOF veteran **Chuck Bolte**.

4. “On the road” (literally) for a car drive and car show in New England, **Barry & Karen Meguiar** were able to spend Father’s Day with **Bill & Debbie Blount** and their tribe.

5. We also salute **David Ruleman** who retires from WAVA and 31 years of service with Salem. It was a joy for Michelle with husband, Steve, to attend the farewell event—pictured also with **Emmitt Fowler** (FamilyLife) and **Jay Flowers** (Grace to You). Dave and Tracy—our prayers go with you!

6. And while in DC, Steve & Michelle were able to visit the site of the **Museum of the Bible**—see you in DC for the Grand Opening in November!

7. About 200 people, including Freedom Fighters and NC State Senator Deanna Ballard, gathered for a prayer of dedication for Ashe County, led by **Anne Graham Lotz**.

8. We also salute every GM who ever climbed a radio tower. If you look at *Take 5* you know we recently featured a video of that brave work. This is **Tom Gentry** (WHSV-Charlotte) doing his duty!

9. **John Sorensen** made the WMBI studios home base for a five-station “tour” with Moody AM hosts—including **Karl & June** in Chicago.

10. It was a privilege for Jim Sanders to join **Steve Arterburn** (*New Life Live*) in Washington DC to speak about radio’s impact for a gathering of ministry donors. (Yes, that’s the White House; no, they didn’t meet there.)

11. The partnership with WVCY (Milwaukee WI) goes way back so it was a special delight for one of our own, Haley Jessup, to visit the operation under **Jim Schneider’s** capable leadership.

12. Welcome back, **Schlacks!** We do love visitors and this time it was AAA alum Becky Schlack with husband, Dave, and her tribe—Andrew, Jon (our Jon’s namesake!), Nathan and Benjamin. That’s a lot of (great) boys!

13. We love that our location makes for convenient studio use for other organizations— like **Greg Cynaumon** (R) of MultiMedia GPS with client Optima Tax Relief (**Harry Langenberg**, Co-Founder/ Managing Partner) and **Brant Rickles**, agency creative director.





Got a BEACH CHAIR or HAMMOCK or A GOOD EASY CHAIR or POOLSIDE?

NEW 4
YOU



[Here's yet MORE] Good Reading Recommendations for this Summer

Winsome Persuasion: Christian Influence in a Post-Christian World is a timely encouragement on how to engage a "cantankerous" culture with the ability to speak truth and show love. Biola professors Rick Langer and Tim Muehlhoff write persuasively about how to be salt and light in a world that needs both, desperately!

Meet Rick Langer: Professor of Biblical Studies and Theology and Director of the Office of Faith and Learning at Biola University, Rick has a passion for helping Christians of all ages understand the connection between the Gospel and all the diverse facets of our culture. A former pastor, he and wife, Shari, have two grown kids.



Meet Tim Muehlhoff: Teaching in the Department of Communication Studies at Biola, Tim has a long experience in the study of civil dialogue. Outside the classroom Tim and his wife, Noreen, are parents to three grown children and are frequent speakers at marriage conferences and seminars including FamilyLife's "Weekend to Remember."



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And for recommended LISTENING ...

He's been singing since 1965 when, for his Bar-mitzvah, he sang the ancient words of the Torah—never imagining 20 years later, having encountered Jesus, he would be featured at Billy Graham's Rally in Central Park.

Growing up the only child of a modern-day psalmist, she composed her first recorded song at the age of eight, ultimately debuting a solo album and serving as worship leader in many settings.

Together ... **Marty Goetz** and daughter, **Misha Hoyt**, have just released *L'Dor / V'Dor* (which literally translates as the subtitle text From Generation to Generation). Featuring tunes such as Ruth's Song and Yeshua, the album is not only extraordinarily powerful music but reflects both Marty's and Misha's commitment to create spiritually uplifting and biblically-based musical artistry.



Editor's Note: It was my privilege to meet Misha when she was a student in our Senior Seminar class at APU several years ago ... and to be able to tell her, when I spotted the last name and guessed the connection, that her dad's music was among my husband's favorite to play through his life-ending journey with cancer. I can't speak highly enough about the album—and about Misha and Marty!

TOP TEN READING LIST

John Fuller

If you've spent any time at all in Christian radio, you know John Fuller's name. Arriving at Focus on the Family in 1991 after a successful career on the station side, John has served as the daily program co-host for 16 years. In addition to hosting duties, he is Vice President of the Focus Audio team. An author himself for various magazines and his own book (*First-Time Dad: The Stuff You Really Need to Know*), John and wife, Dena, are parents to six children and live in Colorado Springs. And ... he's just about the nicest fellow we know!

1. **Mere Christianity**, by C.S. Lewis. As a new believer in Christ, I read this book with wonder while working overnights at a paper mill. Lewis put forth such a cogent and compelling defense of the faith that, to this day, I find myself referring to the key principles he so powerfully expressed.
2. **The Call**, by Os Guinness. Given to me by a friend, this book captures something that every individual needs to consider: for whom are you living? What audience do you desire to please? If you are facing some decision-making, or feel a need for direction in life, this book will challenge and inspire.
3. **All is Grace**, Brennan Manning. The author of the influential "The Ragamuffin Gospel," Manning was an ardent follower of God, although clearly a flawed man. What draws me to this autobiography is the candor with which Manning's many struggles are exposed, and better, the deep, rich and unconditional love of our heavenly Father for us, because of, not just in spite of, our weakness.
4. **7 Habits of Highly Successful People**, Steven Covey. Several of the key ideas in this personal development book have stuck with me over the years, notably "Begin with the end in mind," and "Seek first to understand, then to be understood." Remembering these has been crucial for my relationships and work, and I've quoted them more than a few (hundred) times to my children.
5. **Ghost Soldiers** is the riveting, horrific account of more than 100 American soldiers who survived the Bataan Death March, only to be subjected to a cruel imprisonment that tested their will and ability to live. Replete with gripping battle scenes, emotionally laden moments in their remote POW camp, and a daring rescue that brought them freedom when nearly all hope was lost. One of the most compelling tales of courage, endurance and camaraderie I've ever read.
6. **The Grace Awakening**. Chuck Swindoll's wonderful sermon series have encompassed many biblical topics but for me, this particular doctrine has become a key to life. This book addresses the need to leave legalism and live in the freedom of God's grace with anecdotes throughout and practical application in every chapter. This is a great guide to everyday, grace-oriented life.
7. **Listening To Your Life**. This compilation of quotations and entries by Frederick Buechner is thought-provoking, inspiring, edifying and even entertaining. There's a breath of observation and insight about God and the Faith that is really engaging. The writer seeks to prompt us to listen, really listen, to God in the mundane as well as the spectacular. I am almost always richer for reading this devotional.
8. **Decision Making and The Will of God**. Gary Friesen addressed the popular notion of "the center of God's will" just as I was trying to determine how my relatively new walk with God was supposed to work. In seeking to please Him, I struggled to find decision-making criteria that was reasonable, reliable, and most of all, biblical. The author's encouragement offers freedom to take steps of faith without worrying about missing God's best—because He uses all of life, even my bad decisions, to accomplish His purposes.
9. **Ryrie Study Bible**. I worked with a close friend of Dr. Ryrie, who one day looked at my original study Bible and gave me an NIV Ryrie instead. I was hooked! Dr. Ryrie's gift of being able to offer concise clarity about key passages and verses helped me as a younger believer to understand the beauty and reliability of Scripture, and gave me a holistic view of God's character.
10. **Where Is God When It Hurts**, Phillip Yancey captured a biblical perspective on the difficult topic of suffering, helping me see that God is intentional when it comes to the pain we experience in life—it is designed for us to move closer to Him when life is hard.



In early June, John participated in NRB convention planning meetings in D.C. Pictured here with broadcasting friends of Focus: (L-R) **Ross McCampbell** (WBCL), **Ric McClary** (KTIG), **Doug Myer** (WDAC), **Eben Fowler** (Bott Radio Network), John, and **Tracy Figley** (WFCJ/WEEC).



John has been active with NRB (where Reagan once spoke ☺), serving many years on the Ex Committee and Board.



After the meeting, John had the perfect chance to stop in to give greetings at Salem D.C.'s H.Q. Pictured is John with talk show host **Don Kroah** and GM **Tom Moyer**.



The WMIT team can be found in beautiful Asheville, NC (L-R): **Kevin Van Buren**, **Jon Wood**, **John Owens**, and John.



John found the His Radio Morning Crew in great spirits (L-R): **Jim Mann**, **Alison Storm**, John, and **Rob Dempsey**.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What's your funny parenting story?

Our 4 year old began suddenly raising his hand at pre-school and proclaiming, "Heil Hitler!" Who wouldn't wonder what's going on at home? When it came up at parent teacher conference we all had a good laugh. Our impressionable son picked up the phrase when our family had just watched "Sound of Music."



Dave Brooks | Station Manager
WCIC-FM | Peoria, IL



When my middle daughter (Rachel) was very small she needed to go to the bathroom. I took her into the men's restroom and it was the first time she had seen urinals. She asked what they were. I told her that is where boys and men go to the bathroom. She gave me a surprised look and asked, "Well how do you sit down on that?"

John Adams | General Manager
WRJZ-AM | Knoxville, TN

When my daughter was first learning to write her letters she left me a love note. It said, "You're the best mom I ever had." Me being the ONLY mom she's ever had doesn't take away the best part, does it?? She's ten now... and I'm learning new things about God every day from my parenting journey!



Carol Davis | Director of Programming and Promotions
WMIT/WFGW | Black Mountain, NC

*"In the middle of the chaos
and mess, there's love,
there's forgiveness, there's grace."*

JIM DALY



What's your funny parenting moment?

First responders will receive a copy of Jim Daly's latest, "When Parenting Isn't Perfect." Email your story to peg@ambaa.com.

COMING UP THIS MONTH

AUG 5 Generously hosted by the [New York Mets](#), Citi Field will be the site of a prayer meeting for the NYC metro following the evening's ballgame. The extraordinary service will include worship, testimony of two Mets players, and a message from **Carter Conlon**.



AUG 6 It's been 50 years since **Joni Eareckson Tada** dove into the Chesapeake Bay and her life changed forever. To mark the remarkable milestone, a newly-digitized edition of the original [Joni film](#) will be premiered at a "Red Carpet" event at Calvary Community Church (Westlake Village CA).



AUG 21 Wherever you are ... hope you take time to experience the **first solar eclipse in 26 years in the USA!**



AUG 24-26 The fourth annual ERLC (Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the SBC) National Conference on "[Parenting: Christ-Centered Parenting in a Complex World](#)" will take place at Opryland (Nashville). The outstanding speaker line-up includes **Jim Daly**, **Dennis & Barbara Rainey**, **Kelly Rosati**, and **John Stonestreet**.



COMING THIS OCTOBER

This year marks the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation and the posting of Martin Luther's 95 Theses! The commemoration of this momentous event will be celebrated in a new special from [Museum of the Bible—1517: From Wittenberg to the World](#) is the remarkable story of the tireless efforts by the Reformers to assure the translation of the Bible into the language of the common people.



The half-hour dramatized broadcast will be available for airing anytime in October but ideal for Reformation Sunday (10/29).

And start planning now to visit some of the extraordinary biblical artifacts that will be part of the Museum's ongoing exhibits—opening November 2017!



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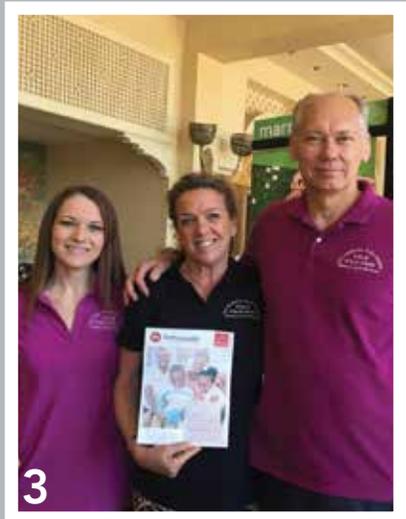
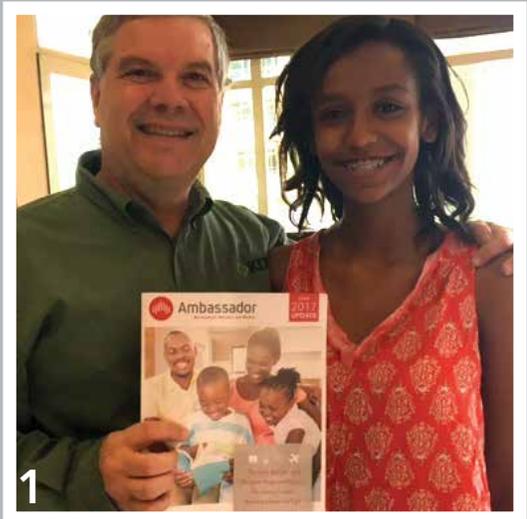
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1641 Langley Avenue
Irvine, CA 92614

949.681.7600



@AmbassadorTeam



THERE YOU ARE!

It's always fun to see where our friends are in the world—thanks for taking us with you!

1. From Ethiopia, **Glenn Price** and daughter returned to Favor's homeland for a visit—the first time since her adoption in 2009.
2. Taping day at **Joni's** offices are *always* a celebration. Plus it puts **Ken** into *Update*—our monthly goal!
3. From Las Vegas, KNLB GM **Faron Eckelbarger** and wife **Debbie** along with **Sarah Myhre** host a booth at the Weekend to Remember.
4. From Malawi, **Rainey Floreen** (Joni and Friends) was on the road to visit son, Matt, and family who serve in that country.
5. Our man in Seattle (but only on family vacation!), **Charley Mefferd** at the Space Needle.



Where are you? Send your photo with our Update newsletter to peg@ambaa.com.