



Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

DECEMBER
2019
UPDATE



THE THRILL OF

Hope

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DID YOU KNOW?

December
3 is **Giving
Tuesday**

#GIVING
TUESDAY

when many organizations invite participation of donors; check our website for a special Tool Kit for the day!



Joni Eareckson Tada joins Keith & Kristyn Getty in Washington DC on December 14 for this year's *Sing! An Irish Christmas* tour.



A typical week for **Jim Garlow** and the outreach of the Well Versed ministries team would include a Bible study in the U.N. and visits with Ambassadors as well as studies at the Capitol (Washington DC) for Congressional staffers and one for members of Congress. Pray for the light to shine in these places of leadership!



Cru ("Making Your Life Count") offers eight Winter Conferences at year-end. Intended to encourage students to focus on God, others and "next steps," the events will be held in the following cities: Baltimore, Denver, Ft Worth, Greensboro, Indianapolis, Minneapolis and San Francisco.

TECH UPDATE FROM JIM SANDERS

Be Careful What You Ask For

There's no question the marketplace is putting pressure on the FCC to license spectrum for 5G cellular carriers. And for good reason. The technology promises, among other things:

- Higher data rates on a cell phone (1-20 Gbit/s) which means faster downloads, better quality, streaming video.
- Less than one millisecond of latency. That aggravating pause as you watch a video will be functionally eliminated.
- More capacity for other high-bandwidth services delivered via a cell network such as "Internet-of-Things" devices.

About the only thing 5G won't do is cure cancer. At least that's the way it sounds in the PR material. Frankly, the scope of services coming will whet any technologist's appetite for broadband. But it comes with a cost. The FCC has indicated it's going to put up for auction more than half of the current U.S. spectrum used for C-Band satellite services. Unfortunately, that includes Amb-OS and most of the other operators in the Christian Radio Consortium (CRC).

A group including the NAB and major satellite broadcasters have created a market-based plan which would minimize 5G disruption (c-bandalliance.com). We're hoping the FCC listens to that strategy. But whether or not it does, Amb-OS has several options to continue our operation without fail (including a frequency move to "higher ground"—farther away from potential 5G interference). And our new AMR-200 receiver, which will be backward compatible, will make this change even easier. Stay tuned!

Holiday Special

The theme of every *Christmas in America* episode is to find the manger in a particular year of American history. This year's episode begins in 1783, the year George Washington came home for Christmas. America's first Commander in Chief makes it home in time for the holiday dinner as though he was fulfilling a Christmas song promise.



If you currently receive "The Public Square" broadcast, you'll automatically receive the program in two parts. For permissioning on your receiver, browse to our permission portal or contact Anna Welch at (800) 522-8683 or anna@thepublicsquare.com.

Learn the Bible in a Year

Seem impossible? Well your listeners can learn and understand their Bible from Genesis to Revelation through 365 concise, easy to understand audio lessons from *Learn the Bible in a Year*. Start the New Year right! The two-minute feature from Bibles for the World is designed to help your audience go beyond reading through God's Word. It's designed to teach the greater story of what the Bible is all about.

Learn the Bible in a Year will be available on Amb-OS FTP. Should you have any questions, please contact Michele Palmer at (719) 219-2111 or mpalmer@bftw.org.



From Haven ... *The Holy Spirit of Christmas*

Charles Morris takes a unique look at the work of the Holy Spirit in the Christmas story. Also featured are Pastor Costi Hinn and musician Laura Story.

From Carter Conlon ... *White Christmas: A Closer Look*

The familiar Irving Berlin tune provides the platform for a deeper understanding of the season's true message.

From Thrivent ... a special focus on *Finding Contentment This Holiday Season* both on-air (1:00 *Be Wise and Thrive*) and at their website.

'Tis the season

FOR SPECIAL PROGRAMMING



From Revive Our Hearts ... *Consider Jesus* is a 31-day advent devotional booklet from Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, focused on remembering the Gift of all gifts!

From Focus on the Family ... in addition to classic Christmas specials, a free Advent devotional for families, *A Season of Hope* to help families engage in the story of their Savior.

And for New Year's ... Carter Conlon returns with a new special with encouragement for 2020. *Kneel Before God So You Can Stand Before Your Enemies* brings to life the story of King Hezekiah with a message for a new year.

Audition & sign-up: ambaa.com/special

Every Life Matters

The Truth about Down Syndrome

January 19: Sanctity of Life Sunday

DID YOU KNOW? Contrary to the frequent advocacy of the abortion proponent's perspective, according to a recent study at Massachusetts General, 99% of Down syndrome adults are *happy* with their life. Yet, too often even physicians are engaged in encouraging that pregnancy be ended when the expectant mom learns of such a genetic marker.

JOIN BRAD MATTES with several special guests for a powerful reminder of the *value* of every human life.

• **Shauna Amick** (Vice President of Development at Joni and Friends) shares her own experience as a spokesperson for CareNet Crisis Pregnancy Centers who found out that her third child would be born with Down syndrome. Despite her doctor's urging that she terminate that unborn life, Shauna's conviction stayed firm and today her daughter is a thriving teenager.

• **Katie Shaw** is an articulate young woman from Indianapolis who has Down syndrome. Her role as an active self-advocate has included testifying before the Indiana state legislature and a visit to the White House to further lobby for the protection of those considered "less" by many in our society.

• **Karianne Lisonbee** is a state representative in Utah and is passionate about using legal means to guard the life of every pre-born child. It takes courage today to be that voice, particularly in the political arena, and Karianne shares what her journey has been, facing opposition to that conviction.

CONTACT Lee@ambaa.com for further details on this 26:00 special and confirmation of release—available via Amb-OS and FTP.



L-R: Lee Ann, Ben Shapiro, Rebecca Jackson, Lila & Joe Rose

A Night to Celebrate Life

Our Lee Ann Jackson and daughter, Rebecca, (who just launched a Students for Life Club on her public high school campus!), were privileged to attend Live Action's Inaugural **Life Awards Gala** in Los Angeles as guests of **Focus on the Family**. Honoring defenders of preborn children, Life Award recipients included Benjamin and Kirsten Watson and Ben Shapiro.

"Life is God's precious gift to each of us."

—Lila Rose, Founder and President of Live Action

One Week in November ...

HERE &
THERE



FOCUS ON THE FAMILY

offered listeners an opportunity to attend a LIVE program taping session in five cities, beginning with Anaheim CA, where **Joni Eareckson Tada** was the guest. Other locations and guests included Dallas, Tampa, Atlanta and Chicago with Steve Arterburn, Al & Lisa Robertson, Emily Colson and Scott Klusendorf. All this is a prelude to the recently-announced simulcast planned for May 2020—watch for more details soon!



Pictured here: A filled venue in Tampa featured Emily Colson (pictured left) taping an interview with **Jim Daly** and **John Fuller**. In Orange County, attendees included **Lance Emma** (GM-KWVE) and the crew from KKLA (**Terry Fahy** and **Frank Sontag** pictured). The hard-working (and little-sleeping) Focus team serving the events included **Stan Pracht**, pictured with Jennifer and Katie from AAA.



EVANGELISM EXPLOSION hosted ten station leaders for a special Summit at Ambassador on behalf of its *Equip America* project. Recognizing the key role stations play in local communities particularly on behalf of church relations, the session invited strategic input for efforts throughout 2020. Guests included (Front Row L-R, either side of Center Charley Mefferd): **Jeff Bean** (WCRH-Hagerstown MD), **Lance Emma** (KWVE-Orange County CA), **Roger Lonnquist** (Your Network of Praise-MT), **Andy Santamaria** (KDIA-San Francisco CA), **Beth Schafer** (KBXL-Boise ID), **Susan Reecer** (EE) and **Floyd & Susan Turner** (Evansville IN). Back Row: **Jeff Givens** and **John Sorensen** (Evangelism Explosion), **Dan Craig** (Moody-Chicago IL), **Jack Pelon** (KPOF-Denver CO), Jim Sanders, **Dave Young** (Blount Communications-New England), **Randall Wood** and **Jeff Reecer** from EE, **Doug Myer** (WDAC-Lancaster PA).

WHAT'S NEW

A NEW SHIP ... for Mercy Ships

Under construction for several years, the launch of the **Global Mercy** is anticipated soon. The ship has been built in China but heads to the Philippines shortly for getting the on-board hospital fully functional. Then ... off to Africa for ministry as the *Africa Mercy* goes to drydock. Most thrilling is that the ship's costs have been fully funded for quite some time.

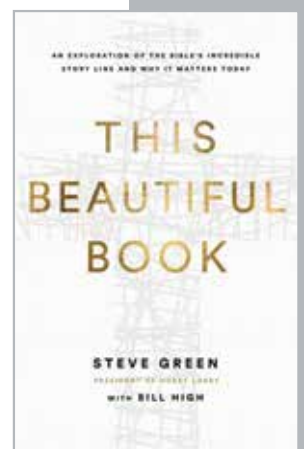


A NEW HOST ... for Revive Our Hearts

Revive Our Hearts is excited to announce the addition of **Dannah Gresh** as co-host for the daily audio teachings. (Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth will continue in her role as the primary Bible teacher and voice.) Dannah is a long-time, trusted friend of Nancy and *Revive Our Hearts*. She is a speaker and the author of numerous books, including *Lies Young Women Believe* (coauthored with Nancy) and *Lies Girls Believe*. We look forward to Dannah's warm heart and her communication skills enhancing the broadcast's ability to reach the hearts of women around the world. Join us in welcoming *Revive Our Hearts* co-host, Dannah Gresh!

A NEW BOOK ... from Steve Green

One of the founders for Museum of the Bible, Steve Green has recently authored ***This Beautiful Book: An Exploration of the Bible's Incredible Story Line and Why It Matters Today***. The new volume highlights the thematic threads woven throughout the ancient writings and shows us a new way to engage with Scripture as a whole. *This Beautiful Book* is a companion to *This Dangerous Book: How the Bible Has Shaped Our World and Why It Still Matters Today*.



NEW in 2020: Check out what's new with our team (p. 8-9) and ministries (p. 11)!

OUT & ABOUT



▶ **From AAA:** While in Orange County for the Focus LIVE event, **Joni Eareckson Tada** was able to squeeze in some recording time too. Pictured with Joni (R) are **Rainey Floreen** and **Catherine Cobb** from JAF's Radio team.

▶ **From Seattle:** **Bob Lepine** (FamilyLife Today) was special guest speaker at KGNW's "Revive" event which included both a Pastor's Appreciation Dinner as well as a special listener event following.



▶ **From San Diego:** The team at Core Christianity (**Mike Horton**, **Mark Green**, **Adriel Sanchez**) were delighted to welcome **Rich Bott** for a visit to their studios. The program is a new partner of BRN!



▶ **From Way Out There ☺:** That's our own crew—**Michelle**, **Katie**, **Lee Ann**, **Diana** and **Kari**—who graciously got into the Halloween spirit and were judges for a neighboring business's annual event!

..... *Update in hand!*

▶ **While in SoCal** for a Summit at AAA (see page 5), **Dave Young** took the opportunity to visit Grace to You headquarters. Hey guys (**Reagan Rose**, **Corey Williams**, **Jay Flowers**, **Darrell Harrison**, **Paul Ackerman**), we really would have put your pix in without *Update* in hand—but thanks for that!



▶ **We go global!** **Alan Cureton**, President of University of Northwestern-St Paul, with **Scott Jones** and **Jason Sharp** of NW Media, visit with **Ed Cannon** (President/FEBC) and **Rev. Jusak Widjaja** from FEBC Indonesia. Thanks for toting good reading to Jakarta, Alan! ☺



MERRY Christmas from AMBASSADOR!



Charley



Diana



Hannah



Jani



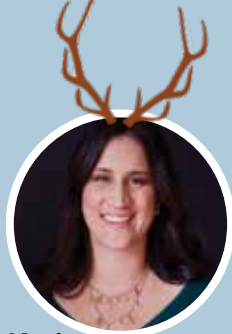
Jennifer



Jerry



Jim



Kari



Katie

Charley: If all goes according to plan, we hope to unveil the next generation of **Amb-OS** receivers in 2020. Stay tuned!

Diana: In 2020, I plan to **get outside** more – go biking and hiking with my husband, and also continue my education in Accounting.

Hannah: Watch as my **family** continues to grow, making holidays and celebrations more plentiful and festive.

Jani: I have a huge stack of books at my house and I would really like to make a concerted effort to **read more** of them in 2020!

Jennifer: C.S. Lewis said, "There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind." Knowing that a new year will bring about **change**, I will put my hope and trust in the Lord.

Jerry: I am looking forward to the development and the future of the **blockchain** in 20/20. How exciting it is for me as I watch it's growth and to be a part of it.

Jim: Spend more time with **kids and grandkids!** Turns out . . . life is short. Who'da thunk?

Kari: In 2020, my husband and I will become parents of TWO little ones! We will welcome **baby #2** in June! Can't wait. ☺

Katie: A multi-genre **reading challenge** to diversify my reading & find my next favorite book!



WHAT WILL BE NEW *for us in* 2020:

Lee Ann: The New Year ushers in a new season in my home – 2020 marks the **graduation** of my youngest from high school ... no more school carpools, homework, school lunches as my third heads off to college! #theday sarelongtheyears areshort

Mark: The world will change even faster in 2020 and I have to remind myself to keep my **focus** on Jesus and trust He is in control.

Michelle: Looking forward to starting the **certification program** for biblical counseling. The first year is devoted to reading and learning the basics. And I'm eager to do that!

Nate: This year, I will officially pledge my loyalty to the **Pittsburgh Steelers**, my wife's lifelong football team. I will even buy a hat.

Peg: A **new decade**. Simultaneously sobering and exhilarating (and hoping the latter is the more constant sense of ... 70s!).

Sheri: My goal for 2020 is to focus on "**less of me**, and more of Jesus."

Sparlin: My first decade as an official senior citizen is also my first decade with a son-in-law. Anticipating adding "**Grandpa**" to my resume!

Tom: Cultivate an attitude of **thanksgiving** and enthusiastically celebrate all the blessings the Lord has given me.



Lee Ann



Mark



Michelle



Nate



Peggy



Sheri



Sparlin



Tom



Tell us what's new
for you in 2020!
Send your response
to peg@ambaa.com

Mark Green

As President of White Horse Inn and **Core Christianity**, Mark Green commutes regularly from home (Fairfax VA) to ministry offices in San Diego. Travel isn't a big deal to Mark who has a global background, previously serving ExxonMobil in places such as Singapore and Rio de Janeiro. A sort of "Renaissance Man," Mark's business expertise is matched with a deep love for poetry—both reading and writing it! An ordained minister in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC), Mark is married to Lucy and four grown children complete the Green family. His great passion is that all the nations would hear the biblical gospel preached to the glory of God.



1. ***The Soul in Paraphrase*** by Leland Ryken. A collection of the very best in Christian devotional poetry. Dr. Ryken includes short commentaries on each poem. Pure deliciousness.
2. ***The Hobbit*** by J. R. R. Tolkien. A perennial favorite. I read it to my children multiple times and now am waiting for my grandchildren to experience the world of that little Hobbit.
3. ***Astoria*** by Peter Stark. The true story of one man's vision to found a worldwide empire in the Pacific Northwest in the founding days of our United States. He failed but the story of the unraveling of that grand plan is magnificent and a reminder of how our hubris often is our undoing.
4. ***Ordinary*** by Michael S. Horton. An extraordinary book by my colleague, Dr. Horton. What an encouragement to know that God uses ordinary men doing ordinary things to fulfill his grand and glorious plan to reach the world for Christ.
5. ***George Herbert Works*** (2 vols). This includes both poems and prose by one of our greatest Christian poets. He was an Anglican priest during the early 17th century and wrote some of the most riveting poetry ever written about God's relationship with man.
6. ***Paradise Lost*** by John Milton. Milton's epic work about the fall of Adam and Eve. Prior to Milton, no serious poet wrote in iambic pentameter that didn't rhyme. Milton did it and changed poetry forever. What an epic!
7. ***Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World*** by Jack Weatherford. My son and I read this after we took a trip to Mongolia, staying in yurts and marveling at entire families on horseback gliding over the beauty of the rolling plains. This is a story of how Khan conquered more lands in twenty-five years than the Romans did in 400 years. The Chinese have never forgotten.
8. ***Tangible*** by Chris Sicks. A PCA pastor (and a friend of mine) helps us balance out the need to help our brothers and sisters with tangible ministries of mercy while not forgetting the gospel in the midst of all of our useful activity.
9. ***Operation World*** by Jason Mandryk (2010 edition). This sits right next to my desk and has oodles of great material for your prayer life. Having lived and preached the gospel overseas for almost twenty years, I love this informational resource that prompts me to pray for the gospel to keep going out in power and for God to establish His church. Their website is also very helpful.
10. ***Games Without Rules: The Often Interrupted History of Afghanistan*** by Tamim Ansary. I lived for years next door in Pakistan and could never figure out why that country to my west could never seem to stop fighting. This book is a fantastic and entertaining read of the history of this country that continues to impact us in American. Ansary is from Afghanistan and he speaks with a winsome authority and dry wit that doesn't disappoint.



2020

FEBRUARY

"The Bible in Our Hands" with Dr. Gary Rendsburg focuses on two of the most prominent Jewish manuscripts in America. That's one of many events to be hosted at **Museum of the Bible** (Washington DC) in 2020.

It's a special night in Jackson MI when **Anne Graham Lotz** and Keith & Kristyn Getty present *Approaching the Final Hour* (February 21).

See you back in Nashville for **NRB 2020** (February 25-28).

MARCH

John MacArthur focuses again on pastors with the annual Shepherd's Conference hosted at Grace Community Church (March 4-6).

MAY

Hear Os Guinness, Andy Crouch, Lee Strobel and BreakPoint's **John Stonestreet** at the annual Wilberforce Weekend in Washington DC (May 14-17).

It's a nationwide pro-life celebration —**Focus on the Family's** Alive 2020, simulcast from five locations and featuring music, speakers and a live ultrasound!

Looking for "The Ultimate Christian Couples Getaway"—head to Cancun, Mexico, (May 9-15) with **Max Lucado**, MercyMe, Gary Thomas and others!

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SUMMER

It's a new "season" for **Momentum** as the annual event moves to May 27-29 in Orlando—no more hurricane threats!

Packing up and moving on out ... **FamilyLife** will be on the road to a new home in Orlando FL, joining parent organization **Cru** in facilities already being prepared for the team of about 300 staffers.

SEPTEMBER

Revive Our Hearts hosts True Woman 2020 (September 24-26) with speakers Jackie Hill Perry, Rosaria Butterfield, Mark Vroegop, and others, joining **Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth** in Indianapolis.

Here's a look at what's ahead!

*We love
being mugged!*

Watch our Facebook page every Friday for the latest we've received! And, as promised, we deliver! Here are a few recipients to prove it:



L-R: Ava Zettel (IT/Media at AnGeL Ministries) says the mug is ideal for a pumpkin spice latte with a nice chocolate biscotti! **Carl Miller** (Director/National Program Placement at Salem—and former AAA'er) recommends using while reading *Update* (we do too!). **Stephanie Daniels** (National Programming Project Coordinator/Salem Media) says "We love our coffee ... and I LOVE my new Ambassador mug! It is the perfect size, perfect shape, and even the perfect color." You happy, we happy, Stephanie! Want to participate in the great mug exchange? Send your organization's mug to: Ambassador I "You've Been Mugged" | 1641 Langley Ave. | Irvine, CA 92614.



Ambassador

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@AmbassadorTeam

#AmbassadorLife

Wait! Don't that ...

LOOK BACK



Not too long out of UCLA, she began working at Focus on the Family, initially as Coordinator of Radio Volunteers and ultimately in the role of Magazine Circulation Coordinator including a period of time serving on the Chapel Committee with Chuck Bolte (pictured). When the ministry announced its plans to move to Colorado Springs (1991), Ambassador wisely extended an invitation for **Lee Ann Jackson** to move down the 57 freeway to work at our place in Fullerton.

Over these 25+ years, Lee Ann has served as Media Strategist for many organizations including Joni and Friends, Life Issues and AnGeL Ministries (Anne Graham Lotz). Her fluency in Spanish affords strong leadership for all productions in that language. And, her personal interest in social media has made her leader of that team at AAA—in fact, she's earned a "Mini-MBA" from Rutgers in that field, becoming a "Scarlet Knight" in addition to the unfailing Bruin designation.



Find your "way back when" photos and send them in to peg@ambaa.com.