



Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

SEPTEMBER
2020
UPDATE

Come, you children,
listen to me; I will teach you
the fear of the Lord.

Psalm 74:17



INSIDE

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DID YOU KNOW?

Focus on the Family has launched a **new app** that makes it even easier to download content from the ministry. More than 32,150 downloads of the FOF app have now been accomplished!



The 2020 Thea Award for Outstanding Achievement (Museum Exhibit) has gone to **Museum of the Bible** for its **Hebrew Bible Experience**. Congratulations!

It'll be another virtual conference for the **Pregnancy Help Australia**



gathering on September 12, featuring **Brad Mattes** on men and abortion—a passionate expertise for Brad.

Cru is offering resources at their website on all the **issues facing today's culture**—from how to help marriages survive Covid-19 to “The Gospel and Race.” Check it out!



Also utilizing virtual opportunities, **Evangelism Explosion** is offering **Share Life**

University as a training tool. With a number of courses offered, it's a great way to learn how to more easily share the Gospel, especially in these difficult days!

TECH UPDATE FROM JIM SANDERS

We've Moved...

...but likely, so have you! Back on July 21st, we completed the transition to a new satellite space segment—from transponder 7(H) to transponder 23(H). Frankly, the process was so seamless, it's likely you weren't aware of the change.

You can verify if your receiver has made the move by browsing to your receiver's IP address (such as 10.20.30.100) and click on SYSTEM STATISTICS. (There's another way to get to the same place via the “Power Tip” below.) Check the “LBand Frequency” in the “RECEIVER STATISTICS” section and it should be set to 974000000. If that value is anything else, your receiver is tuned to an errant frequency. To make the change for frequency and “symbol rate,” send a request for the instructions, along with your receiver's serial number to support@amb-os.com.

The change in frequencies was caused by the FCC's re-allocation of spectrum originally devoted to fixed satellite services which will be used for 5G cellular service. The 5G “mid-band” is close to lower frequencies of our original C-Band satellite space segment. The good news is that we remained on the same “bird” (SES-2 at 87° West) which meant it was NOT necessary to re-point your antenna. We simply moved to transponder 23(H) instead of 7(H).

Personally, I'm skeptical about the commercial viability of 5G in part because its higher frequency operation means signals won't travel as far with the same amount of power. This means bigger batteries needed in your cell phone, more towers, or a combination of the two.

Antenna Peaking

Generally, we're seeing an improvement in signal performance in our new home. Though it wasn't necessary to re-point your antenna, we're strongly recommending you re-peak your dish. Our transmission “neighbors” are quite different on T23 compared to T7. The peaking process involves three things: 1) maximizing the dish in azimuth, 2) maximizing the dish in elevation, and 3) making sure the cross-polarization null is at its greatest point. Cross-poll nulling eliminates interference from adjacent transponders. We have a helpful PDF with full detailed instructions and spectrum analyzer screen shots available online: https://www.amb-os.com/pdfs/Antenna_Peaking_2020.pdf

One Last Transition Note

In June, we issued a mandatory User Interface (UI) update which means you should be on UI version 1.33.1 or later. You can find your current version by clicking on the HELP menu and the top line will tell you the version number. You can also use this UI menu to update your UI if you're not on 1.33.1.

UI Power User Tip

Often it's handy to look at your AMR-100 receiver data, but it can be a bit of a challenge to remember how to get there! Here's a simple way: Click on the HELP menu and then the option to view “RECEIVER'S WEB PAGE.” This will launch your default browser where you'll see the full menu available through the receiver's web page such as SYSTEM STATISTICS and SATELLITE DIAGNOSTICS (Eb/NO).



PRO-LIFE
EVENT

FOCUS ON FAMILY™
SEE Life™
2020



“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.” ~Psalm 139:13

Focus on the Family is inviting you to join the movement to end abortion. Here are two initiatives happening now, and ways for how you can get involved:

1. Direct listeners to focusonthefamily.com/seelife (or text “heartbeat” to 72000) to sign the pledge to #LoveEveryHeartbeat.
2. Promote the *See Life Clearly* online pro-life event (September 26) featuring powerful pro-life stories, commentary from dynamic Christian leaders, as well as music from award-winning artists — all culminating with a 4D ultrasound of a baby in the womb.

Stand and speak up on behalf of preborn human life!

HELP PROMOTE

Download on-air/digital assets and interview pro-life experts.

STAY IN TOUCH

Get updates in the weekly *Focus Forward* station e-newsletter.

TUNE IN

Share the September 26 livestream on your social channels.

CONTACT

Connect with katie@ambaa.com for questions and more details.

SIGN THE PLEDGE

I commit to love every heartbeat by:

PRAYING fervently for a reawakening to the sanctity of every human life

SUPPORTING both women and men facing unexpected pregnancies and their babies through the health-affirming work of pro-life pregnancy resource centers

ENCOURAGING leaders in my church, community and nation to embrace and promote pro-life values

SHARING my pro-life values with family, friends, and neighbors with grace and conviction

Sign the Pledge to #LoveEveryHeartbeat at focusonthefamily.com/seelife (or text “heartbeat” to 72000)

#LoveEveryHeartbeat

BITS & PIECES

MERCY SHIPS

Upon completion, the *Global Mercy* will be the largest purpose-built civilian hospital ship, capable of more than doubling the surgical and training capacity of the current *Africa Mercy* in service. A launch in 2021 is anticipated with field service in west Africa following.

With construction costs completely covered, **the critical need is recruitment** of men and women of faith who can help fulfill the mission of bringing hope and healing to thousands in need—not just medical professionals but cooks, maintenance, teachers and much more. Thanks for sharing the need!

Contact Hannah@ambaa.com to schedule an interview and opportunity to share this need with your listeners!



EVANGELISM EXPLOSION

Despite the pandemic, **kids learn how to share the Gospel** in remote training sessions from Evangelism Explosion!



JONI AND FRIENDS

With release of **Program #10,000** accomplished, there's no end in view for Joni Eareckson Tada as recording of both the 4:00 and 1:00 daily features from the ministry continue ... even during pandemic days!

THRIVENT

Emphasizing that **money itself isn't the end goal (but it can help you get there)**, "Be Wise and Thrive" (daily 1:00) helps listeners move forward with solid financial guidance. Readers of *Thrivent Magazine* get that as well, plus a sprinkling of fun which we've borrowed from their latest edition. **Solve the four word puzzles** and submit your answers to katie@ambaa.com for a chance to win a Starbucks gift card.

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Adriel Sanchez

MY TOP TEN BOOKS

See that smile? That's for real! What a joy it has been to partner with *Core Christianity* in its mission to help every believer live a courageous, hope-filled faith knowing that the gospel is nothing less than "the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16). Adriel's infectious enthusiasm for that mission is as winsome as that smile—and as authentic. We're glad to share his book recommendations as further window into our good friend's passion for helping Christians hold on to the core of our beliefs.

I'm one of those people who has a hard time finishing a book! I don't know about you, but I tend to get a few chapters in and then BAM! Another book comes along that captures my attention and displaces whatever I was previously reading. This means that when I finish a book, it's a pretty big deal. Many books have had a big impact on my life and ministry, and I want to share 10 of them that I believe will encourage you in your walk with the Lord.

1. *The Confessions of Saint Augustine*

My third son is named Aurelius Augustine, after the bishop of Hippo famous for the *Confessions*, his sermons, and his theological writings. I first read Augustine's *Confessions* in college, and I was struck by the fact that this follower of Jesus lived so many centuries ago, but knew and loved the same Jesus I had come to know. This book traces Augustine's life story, and highlights how the faithful prayers of a mother can impact the world forever.

2. *Grounded in the Gospel*, J.I. Packer and Gary A. Parrett

Many Christians today have a truncated view of the gospel. They understand it as the "entryway" to Christianity, but don't recognize how our entire lives should be grounded in and shaped by the gospel message. In this book, Packer and Parrett talk about how to recover gospel centrality with an emphasis on catechesis. The gospel isn't just about how to begin the Christian life, it's the source of our vitality each step of the way into maturity.

3. *Life Together*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer

This small book presents a beautiful and yet realistic view of what Christian community is supposed to look like. One of the big takeaways for me from Bonhoeffer's work was that the church isn't supposed to be the *fellowship of the pious*—as he calls it, but a community of sinners united by the blood of Jesus. This means that we don't have to pretend

we have it all together in church. God welcomes broken sinners, unites them in one family through Jesus.

4. *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus*, Gary Habermas and Michael Licona

The Christian faith hinges on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and there are a lot of good reasons to believe that the resurrection miracle was a real, historical event, with everlasting implications. Habermas and Licona do an excellent job of walking through the key evidence in a way that will strengthen your faith and give you hope.

5. *A Grief Observed*, C.S. Lewis

This short piece contains C.S. Lewis' meditations after the death of his wife, Joy. To read them is to be invited into his grief, and to wrestle with some of the most common questions we ask in the darker seasons of life. Where is God? Why does he seem silent in the midst of my pain? *A Grief Observed* is a helpful companion in times of grief, and commentary on its depth, all the while not leaving us hopeless.

6. *Losing Susan*, Victor Lee Austin

My wife and I cried through this one together. Austin is a priest whose wife died tragically of brain disease. *Losing Susan* tells their story, from the time of their meeting and falling in love, until the Lord took Susan home to be with him. In between, Austin gives an honest depiction of the suffering faced even by God's children. I found this book sobering, and refreshing (because it didn't hide from difficulty).

7. *Rejoicing in Lament*, J. Todd Billings

Billings is a theologian who was diagnosed with incurable cancer just before turning 40. This book is a beautiful example of how theology and Scripture can help us during suffering. Billings recognizes that the Bible doesn't always give us cookie-cutter answers, but that doesn't mean it leaves us with nothing.

God gives us the language of lament in the Psalms.

8. *The Compelling Community*, Mark Dever and Jamie Dunlop

The church of Jesus Christ isn't an affinity group. God brings people from all different backgrounds together around the gospel of his Son, and this diverse community is a powerful witness to the world. Dever and Dunlop contrast gospel revealing community, with what they call *gospel-plus* community. In gospel revealing community, the makeup of the church exhibits the power of the gospel to bring together different people. The community itself says something about the gospel's power. In gospel-plus community, the church tends to revolve less around the gospel message, and more around our particular affinities (similar life experience, or similar taste in music, etc.). This book provides a biblical vision for what church community ought to look like.

9. *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*, Rosaria Butterfield

This book underscores the relationship between community, hospitality, and evangelism. Rosaria Butterfield was in a lesbian relationship when God began to soften her heart through the hospitality of a Christian family. Over time, the Lord used the faithful witness of this family to bring her to faith, and in *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*, Rosaria gives practical wisdom for living a life of Christ-centered hospitality.

10. *Ordinary*, Michael Horton

Pastors aren't the only ones who are burning out at high rates. Sadly, many believers in Jesus Christ are exhausted by trying to live the extraordinary Christian life. We need to understand what it means to walk with Jesus in faithful service to our families, and the church. *Ordinary* will help us do just that, *sustainable faith in a radical, restless world*.

NEW
FOR
RADIO

LAUNCHING
OCTOBER 3

Revive Our Hearts™
WEEKEND



In response to station (and listener!) interest, Revive Our Hearts is launching a new half-hour weekend edition of the program.

Anchored by Dannah Gresh, the program reflects the ministry's commitment to encouraging the study of God's Word. Listeners can catch daily program highlights along with fresh insights to inspire digging deep into Scripture.

Whether you air the daily edition or not, consider *Revive Our Hearts Weekend* as a perfect addition for creating substantive weekend content! Contact jennifer@ambaa.com for permissioning via Amb-OS or FTP.

MEET DANNAH GRESH

She's a popular author ("*Lies Young Women Believe*") on biblical womanhood, modesty and purity ... and already a familiar name to the *Revive Our Hearts* audience as Dannah has been featured on-air and at the *True Woman* events. Recently joining the daily on-air team as host, Dannah expands her assignments by anchoring the new weekend edition. Watch for a "Get Acquainted" opportunity in next month's edition of *Update* when we ask Dannah to tell us about herself!



COMING
SOON

The Return

In-person (Washington DC) & online: thereturn.org

September 26: A speaker team that includes [Jim Garlow](#), [Anne Graham Lotz](#), [Carter Conlon](#) and many others will participate in this 9AM-9PM one-day event focused on our turning, returning, to God by coming before His presence in humility, in sincerity in prayer, and repentance. Visit "The Return" website for information on how to participate individually or in hosting a group.

Well-Versed Day Summit

In-person (Washington DC) & online: wellversedworld.org

September 27: Hosted at [Museum of the Bible](#), the Summit is a one-day crash training on articulating the biblical foundation to governmental issues—"learn how to discuss politics at family gatherings without starting WWII"! Speakers include [Jim Garlow](#), [Rosemary Schindler Garlow](#), [Congresswoman Michele Bachmann](#), [Congressman Bob McEwen](#) and more. Info easily found on the web!

The Summit on Stepfamily Ministry

Online only: summitonstepfamilies.com

October 1-3: Become part of a grassroots movement that is making a difference in families around the world by participating in this online event. There will be main sessions, breakouts with the opportunity to interact with speakers and experts, interaction with other attendees working in stepfamily ministry, and panels. Speakers include [Ron Deal](#) ("FamilyLife Blended"), [Ed Stetzer](#), [Kathy Lipp](#), and others.



"You are Never Alone"

New inspirational radio special from [Max Lucado](#)



October: As many find themselves isolated to due to pandemic concerns, [Max Lucado](#) provides words of comfort and encouragement in this new special. With special guest, [Steve Arterburn](#),

listeners will be reminded from the miracles of Jesus that God's presence and power is always ready to be engaged, no matter the challenge that may be faced.

"Court is in Session—Life Hangs in the Balance"

New pro-life radio special from [Brad Mattes](#)



October: What does it matter who sits on the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS)? In this timely new half-hour special from Life Issues, [Brad Mattes](#) is joined by several guests who provide a "grass roots" understanding of this important question—and the significant answer, particularly as it relates to the pro-life movement.



Ambassador

ambassadoradvertising.com

1641 Langley Avenue
Irvine, CA 92614

949.681.7600



@AmbassadorTeam
#AmbassadorLife

Wait! Isn't that ...

WAY BACK WHEN



He was a ninth-grader when the radio "bug" hit while visiting KEAR-FM (San Francisco). Offering to volunteer, **Ken Boone** ended up spending the next 50 years (plus!) serving in Christian radio. Working up from "sweeping the floors," Ken eventually landed in front of the microphone, hosting a Saturday afternoon music request program. Eventually, he became a creator of content, developing programs including the popular "We Kids" broadcast which has been "pointing kids to Jesus since 1986."

Many of Ken's friends joined in praying for the family when the 2018 "Camp Fire" (estimated to be the most expensive natural disaster in the world) destroyed the town of Paradise (California), leaving Ken's home and studio in ashes. (The catastrophic fire is brought to life in a new Ron Howard film, released last month, titled "Rebuilding Paradise.") The devastation didn't stop Ken, though, who was able to jerry-rig facilities and get back at the microphone before long.

It's been a privilege to be your partner in ministry, Ken ... blessings on your faithful work for His Kingdom!



Hope you've had as much fun as we have over the past couple years, looking "back" with friends. We'd love to continue but that requires participation! If you are ready to contribute a "back then" and "now" photo for us, please send (peg@ambaa.com) and we'll be sure to feature your story before we say "time's up"!