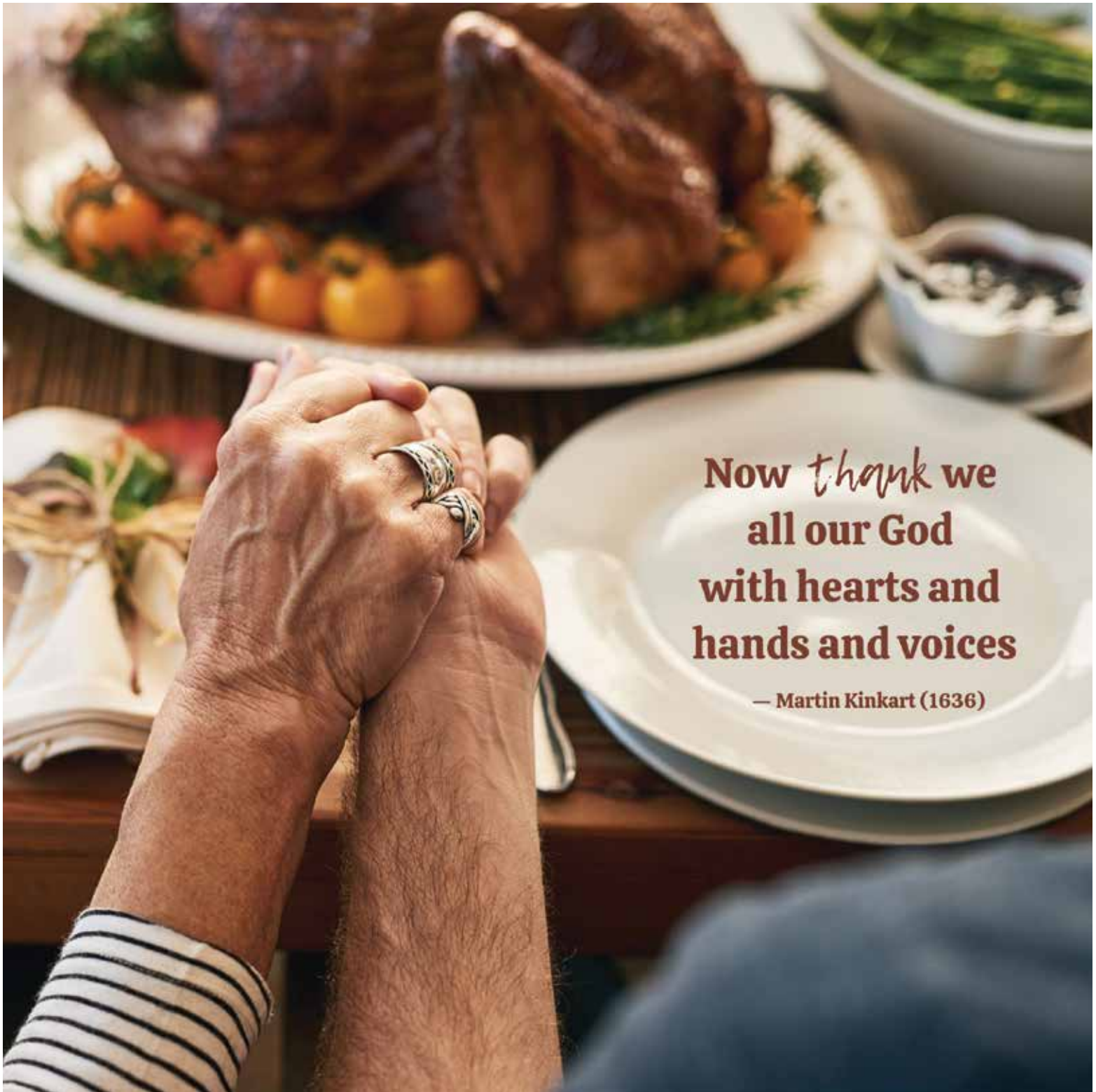




# Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

NOVEMBER  
**2020**  
UPDATE



*Now thank we  
all our God  
with hearts and  
hands and voices*

— Martin Kinkart (1636)

## INSIDE

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## DID YOU KNOW?

A new Advent devotional from **Revive Our Hearts** will be available this Christmas season. Titled *Born a Child and Yet a King*, the content from **Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth** provides thoughtful contemplation for a full month of reading up to Christmas Day.



## GROUNDED



**Grounded** has returned! Delivered every Monday at 9:00AM ET from **Revive Our Hearts**, the live videocast features hosts **Dannah Gresh**, Erin Davis, Portia Collins and Alejandra Slemin.

All Fall 2020 **Weekend to Remember** events have been cancelled due to Covid-19 concerns. Check **FamilyLife's** website for information on Spring events as details continue to be formulated and adjusted based on developments with the virus.



**Anne Graham Lotz** returns to **The Cove** this month (November 6-8) for the annual "Drawing Near to God in Prayer" seminar which will also be available to the public via livestream.

## TECH UPDATE FROM JIM SANDERS

### AMB-OS UI AND FTPS

It's safe to say we're all in favor of increased security—whatever the situation might be! But it's especially true when it comes to uploading and downloading files. You want to be sure you're getting authentic and secure content. That's why Moody has changed their FTP access to include increased security. At the same time, Amb-OS has implemented a secure connection to their FTP site through our User Interface (UI).

If you're not using the FTP module in our UI, give it a try! You can connect to virtually any FTP site in the world and download new content. Once it's set up, the process is automated, saving a great deal of time trying to grab files one-by-one. We like "set-it-and-forget-it" technology, and this is a great case in point. If you need help in implementing our UI for grabbing programs via FTP, give us a call at 800-262-6728.

### NEW MEMBERS OF THE AMB-OS FAMILY

**Everyday Matters** is a North American radio ministry committed to helping people walk in freedom and hope by applying God's Word in their everyday lives. Founder and host **Debbie Griffith** communicates with high energy, humor and sincerity. Debbie shares heartfelt portions of her journal with the goal of helping others to have an active and genuine relationship with Christ. She says, "God is not a Genie in a Bible. His living and active Word is a game changer. God can work ALL things FOR THE GOOD."



Debbie Griffith's new book, *Orange is the New Blessing: From Busted to Blessings* is set to be released Spring 2021. Visit [DebbieGriffith.com](http://DebbieGriffith.com) to hear recent programs or contact her for more information: (218) 240-4744 or [debbie@debbiegriffith.com](mailto:debbie@debbiegriffith.com).



**The Presidential Prayer Team** is releasing a new weekly 2:00 radio feature called **Pray First** that underscores the importance of seeking God's will before making any significant decision. Each episode includes commentary, prayer, and a Bible verse — all designed to offer listeners an uplifting perspective as they develop a robust prayer lifestyle.

NOTE: The new feature is in addition to the daily 1:00 feature, **Pause to Pray**. Each day, a different national leader is lifted up in prayer. This daily, non-partisan radio feature includes Bible-based commentary and specific prayer points to create a powerful real-time call to prayer.

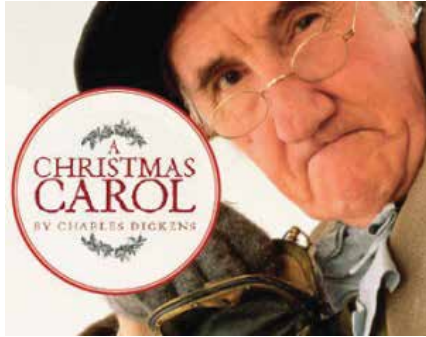
To learn more about these features, go to [PauseToPray.org](http://PauseToPray.org) or contact Dave McMinn at [dave.mcminn@presidentialprayerteam.org](mailto:dave.mcminn@presidentialprayerteam.org) or (833) 321-7729.

### WE APPRECIATE YOU, TOO!

From Paul Martin at Moody Radio Chattanooga:

“ We so appreciate the work of your team that really provides an integral service to so many radio stations. It “just works.” On the rare occasion I've had an issue, the Amb-OS team quickly responds to resolve the issue. Your heart to serve shines through. Thank you! ”

## Classics



"A Christmas Carol" has become a beloved holiday airing from Focus on the Family's Radio Theatre. Available in three parts for convenient airing of the 1:39:00 length, it's a message that defines the spirit of the season!



"Christmas Stories" is a one-hour special (spots available) from Focus, featuring some of the broadcast's favorite guests recounting their favorite Christmas memories.



"Adventures in Odyssey Christmas Marathon" presents timeless stories from your favorite characters in Odyssey; five episodes are featured.

## New this year

HOLIDAY  
RADIO



What comes to mind when you think about God? Infinite. He's everywhere. He fills the whole universe. But on that first Christmas, the God who is everywhere became veiled in flesh in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. In this new Christmas special, **Charles Morris** invites you to consider this great mystery as you celebrate the greatest gift of all.



In a unique consideration of the familiar Luke 2 Christmas story, **Carter Conlon** calls attention to the closed door at the inn juxtaposed with the open manger where Jesus received society's "least of these" — the shepherds. He's joined on-air with daughter, Kate Hughes, as they share personal holiday memories with Scripture in view.

NOTE: This special will be delivered to all Amb-OS receivers by November 1 for audition and airing availability (also available via FTP site). Stations airing "A Call to the Nation" will receive this as part of the schedule for airing the weekend of December 19/20.

*Carter Conlon is also featured on a special for New Year's—"Searching for Old Truth in a New Year."*

**Be sure to monitor the A-LIST email from Ambassador every Friday where updates on holiday programming will be noted. You can also find information at our website under *Special Programming*.**

*When you're in Christ, every day you have a reason to celebrate Christmas.*

— JOHN MACARTHUR —

# SEEN AROUND

## FAMILY NEWS at Ambassador



We're SO happy to welcome back **Kari Medina** after a three-month maternity leave. And, happy to introduce you to baby Jack who joined the Medina family on June 19, welcomed by brother Jameson and daddy, Joe. *(Oh, did we mention his nana, Michelle Blood, is very happy too!)* Kari returns to the Marketing team, serving in a number of capacities. You can congratulate her at [Kari@ambaa.com](mailto:Kari@ambaa.com)!



She's been part of our team for nearly two years, but as of this month, **Diana Cook** assumes leadership of our Accounting team and we can't be more delighted. A graduate of Hope International (B.S. in Business Administration), Diana can talk shop easily at home—her husband, Coleman, owns his own accounting firm! You can reach Diana (if ever a question) at [Diana@ambaa.com](mailto:Diana@ambaa.com).

P.S. Diana wasn't confused about when we celebrate St. Patrick's Day—she's supporting her sister through cancer treatment with shaved head and dyed hair!

## Out and About!

We'd put their photo in regardless, but glad that **Phil Johnson** (Grace to You) had a copy of *Update* handy when FamilyLife's **Bob Lepine** visited the ministry offices not too long ago! You know what we say ... *Update* in hand guarantees a photo in the publication!



Speaking of which—thanks to great friend **Beth Schafer**, with son **David**, who recently hosted TWR team members **Andy Napier** and **John Summerville** at Inspirational Family Radio (KBXL-FM/KSPD-AM) in Boise.



We believe it's been proven—the most productive meetings often take place outside. This time it's **Jim Daly** (Focus on the Family) and Chuck Bolte with Jim Sanders and longtime Daly friend, John Szozda. *(By the way, Jim Daly—we apologize again for that stray ball that Jim Sanders sent your way ... ouch!)*

Salem's **Lisa Campos**, part of the National Program Development & Ministry Relations team in Camarillo (and a great friend to our team too), was a recent visitor to the Focus campus, enjoying fellowship with many there including **Ken Windebanks**, COO at the ministry.



Despite pandemic days, ministries continue to deliver not only daily content for radio audiences but important events that amplify the message. Here's a brief report on several just completed!



**A BUSY FALL**



**PLYMOUTH ROCK PRAYER MEETING: LORD, FORGIVE US!**

As an outgrowth of an extraordinary encounter months ago, **Carter Conlon** led the Times Square Church weekly global prayer meeting from Lot #1 in historical Plymouth MA last month. (Jerry Perera, who owns that property and is a committed believer, is pictured above with Jim Sanders.) Evidencing God's leading in so many ways, there were 51 who led in prayer during the two-hour meeting—the same number (according to accounts from 400 years ago) as the pilgrim assembly for the first Thanksgiving. Thousands joined the prayer meeting via stations carrying it live via Amb-OS and multiple other delivery channels.



**FOCUS ON THE FAMILY**

While virtual rather than the originally-envisioned five-city tour, the one-hour *See Life 2020* presentation has now been viewed by nearly 200,000 people. The impacting messages intended to tell the pro-life story is part of the campaign that includes signing a pledge to stop abortion (now signed by over 160,000).



**JIM GARLOW**

At the *Well Versed Summit* in DC, nearly 20 speakers were involved in a "TedTalk" format designed to train the layman in how to speak into and influence our culture from a biblical foundation. Topics included the significance of marriage (one man/one woman), religious liberty, and the role of the church in governmental issues.

# Joni Eareckson Tada



A voracious consumer of books, Joni was one of the first people we asked for recommended reading (see the original list from 2016 at our website). During this extraordinary year, however, she notes “the books below have stuck with me during 2020.” Whether it’s an audiobook edition, reading on a plane (in better days!) or using for research, she says her list is constantly updated. We’re so glad to share this special edition with you!

## 1. *Becoming Elisabeth Elliot* (Ellen

**Vaughn)** Elisabeth was a young missionary when members of a violent Amazonian tribe savagely killed her husband Jim and his four colleagues. Incredibly, she took her toddler daughter, snakebite kit, Bible and journal back to live in the jungle with the very Stone Age people who speared her husband to death. *Becoming Elisabeth Elliot* is the new biography of her life (I had the honor of writing the foreword). Her husky faith and no-nonsense approach to trials kept my hope focused on Jesus during months of sequestering.

## 2. *The Warner Boys: Our Family’s Story of Autism and Hope* (Ana and Curt

**Warner)** My heart is always attuned to pray for weary parents whose homes are filled with chaos, emotional exhaustion and the constant fear for the safety of their beloved, but unpredictable, children with ASD. Former Seattle Seahawks star running back, Curt Warner, and his wife share their inspiring story from stardom to heartbreaking, self-imposed isolation. Above all, it’s a story that proves faith in Christ is always the path to healing and peace, no matter how significant the disability in a family.

## 3. *The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment* (Jeremiah Burroughs)

Jeremiah Burroughs was a Puritan preacher known for his contented, uncomplaining and grateful walk with God. In this book, he writes gently yet authoritatively on cultivating contentment. His principles are timeless, especially in this age of grumbling when so many people are discontent with God’s ways concerning the global pandemic. If you desire to be satisfied with life as God gives it, this book is your guide.

## 4. *Silence and Beauty: Hidden Faith Born of Suffering* (Makoto Fujimura)

I have long been interested in things

Japanese. Especially Japanese art. It’s why I was drawn to this unusual book by artist Makoto Fujimura. The author/artist not only explains the nature of Japanese art, but its hidden connections to suffering and the Gospel. In my own suffering, Japanese art has always provided an aesthetic soul-rest that I don’t often find in Western art.

## 5. *Coronavirus and Christ* (Dr. John

**Piper)** From the outset of concern, John Piper sensed that coronavirus might not be a blizzard or even a long winter season, but would perhaps be more of an “ice age” through which we would learn to survive and thrive. His book contains hope-filled lessons every Christian should cleave to when set aside. “Hope keeps people moving forward ... hope gives meaning to our daily lives, even when they are locked down and quarantined.”

## 6. *The Strength of His Hand—Chronicles of the Kings Book #3* (Lynn

**Austin)** Listening to these audiobooks, Suzanne Toren’s creative narration breathed a fresh reality into the story of King Hezekiah. I felt as though I were scrambling through the cobbled streets of Jerusalem to escape the approaching Assyrians in all their savagery. This series gave me a deeper appreciation for the way God may have worked out His sovereign plan during that heartbreaking era in biblical history.

## 7. *The Practice of the Presence of God* (Brother Lawrence)

Most Christians want to live godly lives that reflect the love of Christ, but many fail to “put into practice” what they already know. Brother Lawrence, a Carmelite monk who lived in Paris in the 1600s, was at first a proud man. Eventually, he began to see that menial, everyday tasks provided the perfect opportunities to develop intimacy with Christ. The principles in this classic will humble you as you learn to value small chores, whatever they may be.

## 8. *The Cry of the Soul* (Dan Allender)

If you choose to read this, you will have stumbled upon the best of guides to help you out of depression. I should know. I first read it decades ago when I was still climbing out of the clinical depression brought on by my diving accident and resulting quadriplegia. *The Cry of the Soul* showed me what to do with my anger and hurt—not stuff it under the carpet of my conscience but actually do something good with it. Using the Psalms, Allender explains that all emotions give us a glimpse of the true nature of God.

## 9. *Gay Girl, Good God* (Jackie Hill

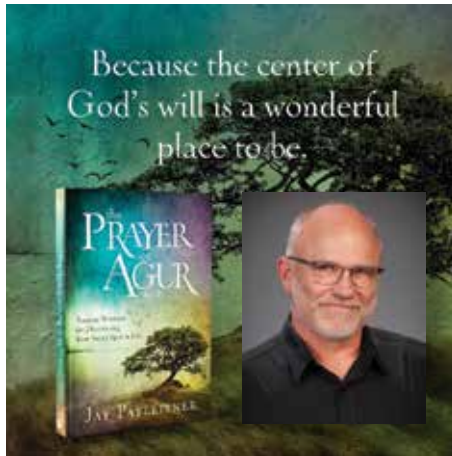
**Perry)** I chose to listen to this audiobook to better understand, from the perspective of a young woman who had fully embraced the gay lifestyle, core issues of homosexuality. Jackie Hill Perry shares her story, revealing how God can completely transform the deep-seated affections of a heart gone awry. The book will enlighten and encourage you to pray for friends or family members who are enmeshed in this aberrant way of thinking and living; the book will also better inform you on how to engage gay individuals in meaningful conversations.

## 10. *Knowing God* (Dr. J. I. Packer)

Whenever I’m asked “Joni, who has greatly influenced your walk with Christ,” I like to point to Dr. J.I. Packer. His classic book shaped my ideas about the importance of knowing, praying to, and communing with the triune God. In the early 80s, after I wrote to tell him how much I appreciated his work, Dr. Packer and I became friends. Many years later, I still paraphrase his words, “The weaker we feel, the harder we lean. To live with your ‘thorn’ uncomplainingly — that is, sweet, patient and free in heart to love and help others, even though every day you feel weak — is true sanctification.”

## FRIENDS WRITE...

... and we recommend you read!



**Jay Payleitner** is a prolific author whose latest book is titled *The Prayer of Agur: Ancient Wisdom for Discovering Your Sweet Spot in Life*. Jay considers the often overlooked prayer of a fairly obscure biblical character who asks for balance and contentment: "Give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread" (Proverbs 30:8). It's a brief petition that offers life-changing potential!



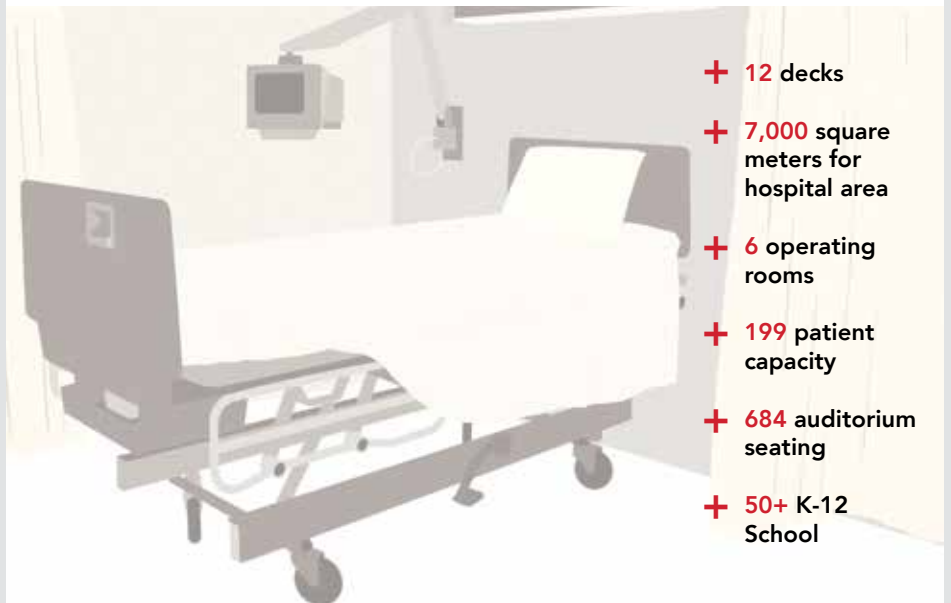
**Jennifer Epperson** is a new author who's written *The Pioneer's Way: Leading a Trailblazing Life that Builds Meaning for Your Family, Your Community and You*. Can't think of a better time than in the midst of distressing days to be motivated by the example of pioneers past and present to keep pushing forward. This longtime Christian radio veteran has beautifully written a message to be read and shared!

SOME  
THING  
NEW



## SAILING SOON...

When the *Global Mercy* sets sail next year (joining the *Africa Mercy* in reaching that continent), the impact of Mercy Ships will more than double in surgical and training capacity. With expectation of 50 years of service ahead, the vision is that more than 150,000 lives will be changed by onboard surgeries alone. Here's a quick look at some other stats:



- + 12 decks
- + 7,000 square meters for hospital area
- + 6 operating rooms
- + 199 patient capacity
- + 684 auditorium seating
- + 50+ K-12 School

### How can you help?

Well, here's one more stat—*Crew Capacity is 641*. Now all that's needed are the volunteers to serve as cooks, nurses, teachers, maintenance workers—and many more assignments, filled for short or long-term service. Know someone who might be interested? Go to [mercyships.org](http://mercyships.org) for more details. And thanks for sharing the need—and praying!



# Ambassador

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#AmbassadorLife



*Wait!  
Isn't that ...*

**WAY  
BACK  
WHEN**

This apple didn't fall far from the tree! Veteran broadcaster, **Joe Emert**, grew up around radio, his dad (William) having built and owned WPHB (Phillipsburg) and WPGM (Danville) in PA. While still in high school, Joe began the "wearing of many hats" typical in radio—announcer, news director, program director (et al)—and ultimately, General Manager of three stations.

A lifetime serving in Christian radio has taken Joe and wife, Jenny, to places like State College, Cincinnati, and Atlanta. Along the way, Joe's commitment to international outreach via the airwaves meant serving Wantok Radio Light in Papua, New Guinea, as well. (Providing great perspective from "the other side of the coin," Joe helped to establish and then served as Executive Director of *Leading the Way* for several years.)



It's been our privilege to partner with Joe through all those assignments which makes it a special delight to salute his faithful Kingdom service!



Send in your "way back when" photos to [peg@ambaa.com](mailto:peg@ambaa.com).