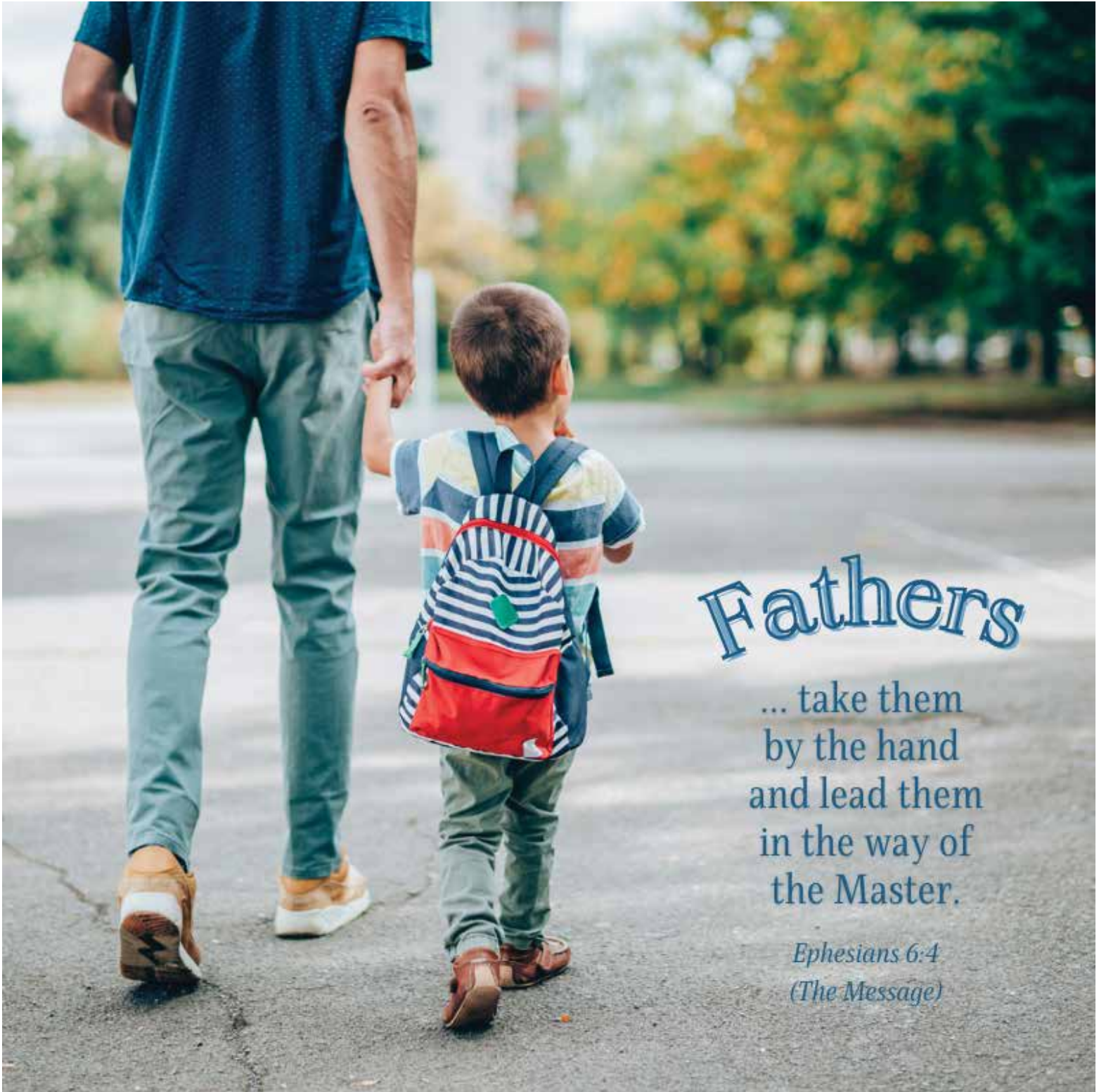




Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

JUNE
2021
UPDATE



Fathers

... take them
by the hand
and lead them
in the way of
the Master.

*Ephesians 6:4
(The Message)*

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DID YOU KNOW



Continuing the theme that **"Heaven Rules, Revive Our Hearts"** has created a collection of gift items with that message from **Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth** (based on Psalm 29:10-11) including candles, notecards, mugs, gift tags and more.

Anne Graham Lotz recently taped a series of **seven TV shows with host John Ankerberg**.

The theme is "Jesus in Me"—Anne's messages on the Holy Spirit.



This year, **Joni & Friends** will open eight **"Joni's House"** locations in countries like El Salvador, Uganda, Nepal, and India. The centers are being established to provide physical, social, and economic needs with Christ-centered care for the disabled in those countries.

From **Barry Meguiar's Ignite America** ...68% of all **evangelical churches** in the USA have

a congregation of less than 100 people—half of those churches number under 50! (Get more stats at the ministry website).



A WORD FROM JIM SANDERS

Worst Case Scenario

I've been in enough engineering meetings with technocrats to know they think about the "worst case scenario." They're well too familiar with the algorithm that calculates the cost of reliability. They ask, "If something fails, what is the backup plan and what does it cost to stay on the air?" Generally, the cost-to-performance curve goes up exponentially as dependability increases. "Four nines" of reliability (99.99% up-time) is exponentially more costly than three. So, what is that reliability worth?

I remember December 19, 2004. That's the day the **750-foot primary tower for 50,000 watt blowtorch KFI-AM was hit by a private plane and collapsed**. I've driven past that tower hundreds of times. It was unstrategically planted near the end of the Fullerton Airport runway. (Such a tragedy for the Ghosop family as they lost Jim and Mary that fateful day).



An engineer was summoned to the site to figure out why KFI was off the air. He was shocked to discover a collapsed tower. He quickly switched over to a standby antenna, at a lower power. **It wasn't until August of 2008 that the station moved back to full power—nearly four years later.**

When the purchase order first appeared for a standby transmitter and tower, I'm sure someone asked the chief engineer if it was *really* worth it? He dutifully broke out the "adding machine" and figured out how many hours they'd have to be off the air to justify the expense. Needless to say, over four years, that standby system paid for itself thousands of times over.

I'm reflecting on an Amb-OS engineering meeting I attended more than a decade ago. We were exploring the costs and options of providing layers of redundancy in our receiver.

The AMR-100 was designed to keep operating system files on the motherboard while audio files stored on a spinning drive (or now, on an optional solid state Flash drive). If a drive fails, it's a simple matter to swap out the drive and repopulate the audio files. Many stations have purchased a backup drive so they have an off-the-shelf backup.

But what happens if the entire receiver fails? That's not a problem either. The Amb-OS User Interface (UI) doesn't care if the receiver is in the same office or around the world. The key is entering a new serial number and IP address in the UI. In the case of catastrophic failure, call us. We'll send you the public IP address of one of our "backup" receivers. Once you change the serial number in your UI and the IP address, you're back in business with all the files pushing to your automation system with the correct names.

I doubt a plane will ever crash into your AMR-100 (or soon an AMR-200 as well), but if it does, we have a backup plan!



It's been too long!

We're looking forward to connecting with you at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention in Dallas (June 21-24)!

We've stayed in touch in the year+ since last we met, but there's no substitute for face-to-face time to provide what's needed for fruitful ministry partnership. So if your plans for summer include attending NRB, be sure to reach out to Kari@ambaa.com to inquire about meeting with any of these speakers confirmed attending:



**John
FULLER**



**Jim
GARLOW**



**Ron
HUTCHCRAFT**



**Charles
MORRIS**



**John
SORENSEN**

This is us at NRB: From the Ambassador team, be on the lookout for Charley Mefferd, Jennifer Perez, Kari Medina, Katie Burke, and Michelle Blood.



HOMETOWN HERO

Mercy Ships is bringing a piece of their home base (100 miles from the Convention) to NRB! Their sponsorship of the Opening Session will serve as your reminder to inquire about [volunteer PSAs to staff the new *Global Mercy*](#) when you greet the team at their booth in the Exhibit Hall. (Speaking of the team, let us know if you'd like an onsite interview with folks who have first-hand experience serving on the hospital ship!)

WHILE IN THE *Big D*

George W. Bush Library: The *Liberty & Laughter* exhibit shows the lighter side of the White House.

Globe Life Field: The Texas Rangers have home games scheduled all week; tours also available.

The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza: Check out the exhibit *John F. Kennedy and the Memory of a Nation*.

Frontiers of Flight Museum: See the Apollo 7 Command Module on loan from the Smithsonian.

Ron Hutchcraft



Actually, you probably *already* know this veteran broadcaster since Ron has been passionate about Christian radio for decades. A regular presence at broadcaster gatherings like NRB and an eager participant in events such as station sharathons, Ron is counted as *friend* by all who know him—including the thousands of daily listeners to “A Word With You.” Still, you never know what you’ll learn by asking questions . . . so enjoy Ron’s responses and get to know more fully the newest member of the Ambassador family!

How did you come to Christ?

I never heard about Jesus in that little apartment where we lived on the South Side of Chicago. But something happened that changed all that. My 6-month old baby brother died suddenly when I was 4. My inconsolable dad decided he should take his remaining son to church. He would wait in the car and read his Sunday paper while I went to Sunday School. One day I came out and reported that “today I asked Jesus into my heart.” I don’t think he understood — until months later when he accepted an invitation to go to a men’s class. Soon both my parents began a relationship with Jesus — and I got a new mommy and daddy!

What ignited your passion for evangelism?

First, we had been the lost — and I saw the difference when Christ came in. Second, seeing the lostness of my friends in high school. And third, the powerful example of people like Billy Graham. I was very moved watching all those people streaming forward to give their lives to my Jesus.

Is there someone you would name as a spiritual mentor in your early years?

Jay Kesler, who would become president of Youth for Christ, provided insightful counsel at several crossroads moments. And, though I had never met Billy Graham during my early years, he provided an amazing example of leadership integrity for me.

You’ve authored many books but your most recent one is a very personal one—*Hope When Your Heart is Breaking*—in which you share the loss of your wife, Karen, in 2016. As your life partner of 52 years, we know there are many reasons to miss her. What made you fall in love with her as a collegiate at Moody?

I loved her radiant joy, her infectious laugh, her evident love for Jesus, her godly wisdom and the mischievous streak we shared.

We understand you were a bit dubious about the impact radio could have for the Gospel. What changed your thinking?

I had always done face-to-face ministry. From a distance, radio seemed cold and impersonal. Until I began to hear back from listeners who clearly felt like we were friends. Today, I stand in awe of how deeply personal the connection is between me and our listeners. I am humbled and moved by their trust.

Why the special interest in the needs of the Native American?

After many years of crosscultural youth ministry, a reservation speaking invitation brought me into the middle of the most broken young people in this country. The only young people I’d ever met who had no dreams. Because the hopelessness of their personal world convinced them they would have no future.

God broke my heart that week — and I realized His tapestry for my life had prepared me for this unexpected mission. With 400 years of mission work among the First People of our land, only an estimated 4% know Christ. God led us to a breakthrough strategy of empowering Native young people to be the messengers to their people. I’m on the bus, praying for them — and seen them literally lead thousands of their people to Christ.

How do you recharge your batteries especially now without Karen as your companion?

Lots of praise and worship videos! Often start my day with those. I love to read, and I love to be with my grandchildren. But my ultimate recharging comes from

my early morning times with Jesus where he refocuses, refreshes and restores my perspective. “His mercies are new every morning!”

You’ve had a long ministry but remain keenly interested in reaching young people. So—how do you stay young yourself?

Simply being with young people — including my teenage grandchildren. Plus keeping up with the ever-changing youth culture trends, asking good questions. I love young people and try to show it in ways that are affirming, genuine and honoring. I’m honored that they are open and welcoming to this high-mileage guy. The laughs really help.

You spent a lot of your life in very urban centers—tell us what you love best about Harrison AR.

My life is a holy whirlwind, and the demands are many. So after many wonderful years serving Jesus in metropolitan areas, it’s refreshing to be able to do my personal life in a comparatively low-stress, manageable community. I’m navigating a very big world in my ministry — I’m rejuvenated by the small world I go home to.

For those of us who are too slow to share our faith, what one thing would you want us to know to encourage us in that discipline.

You’re the glove, not the hand. God picks up your personality, your story, your relationships, your interests and uses them to open doors to people’s hearts and lives. Your greatest impact will come through your personal Hope Story — and how His story has changed your story and could change their story forever.

Visit ambaa.com/ron-hutchcraft to see a few more questions—and answers from Ron!



SEE Life 2021

Families helping families!

That's the end goal for **Focus on the Family's** new digital experience designed to encourage and inspire families to have meaningful conversations and activate them in the pro-life movement.

See *Life 2021* takes people on a six-week episodic journey through 15-minute videos premiering Friday nights beginning July 16.

Invite your listeners to [#LoveEveryHeartbeat](https://www.facebook.com/loveeveryheartbeat) and sign up for reminders on when & where to watch this exciting event at [focusonthefamily.com/see-life](https://www.focusonthefamily.com/see-life).

SERIES GUIDE:

Look forward to six engaging episodes featuring special guests in a casual, discussion-style presentation with these compelling topics:

- 1. The Truth About Life!**
In this episode, we will tackle tough questions like, "When does life begin?" and "What does the Bible say about Life?"
- 2. Inside Pregnancy Resource Centers**
Discover the amazing work our PRC's directors, nurses, and volunteers are making in their communities!
- 3. The Power of a Picture**
You'll find out why more women choose life once they hear their baby's heartbeat and realize it's a real living human!
- 4. Sometimes the Choice is Hard**
Hear real life stories of parents who have made the decision to choose life even though the circumstances were overwhelming.
- 5. It's Going to Be Amazing!**
After a couple has chosen life, hear the heartwarming stories of children that culture would have cast aside, yet are making tremendous impacts in their communities.
- 6. Families Helping Families!**
So, after all you've seen, what can you do now? We'll share how you can partner with some amazing organizations that are making significant impacts in the pro-life movement!

OUT & ABOUT



A



B

A) We promise to include your photo when you take it holding *Update*, so here you go! This is Penny Bedson, daughter of one of our producers, Nate. He works remote from Wenatchee WA (American Christian Network territory, thank you, Tom Read ☺).

B) Nate, in fact, was recently in SoCal to check-in at the office ... which afforded a visit with his dad, Tom, who is our IT guru. In the “small world” category, Tom is also grandfather to children of Bryan & Kiley (Kemp—as in Roger’s daughter) Bedson. Got that?



C



F

C-E) Also trekking with *Update* in hand, **John Fuller** recently visited stations in Portland and Seattle on behalf of Focus on the Family. Pictured: **(C)** KPQO—**Dennis Hayes, Justin Mansfield, Mike Lee;** **(D)** KGNW—**Chuck Olmstead, Andrew Adams, Rob White;** **(E)** KCIS—**Mark Holland and Carrie Abbott.**



D



G

F-G) Proving that the best meeting days are outdoors—Jim Sanders joined **Brian Cousins, Chris Gould, and David Evans** **(F)** as part of the Salem group playing at a tournament on behalf of The Master’s Seminary where **(G)** **John MacArthur** serves as Chancellor.



E



H

H) Oops! When we featured **Adriel Sanchez’s** recipe last month, we noted the family includes three kids. We were wrong. But even if we’d said rightly there are four children, we’d have been wrong. Ysabel and Adriel have just announced #5 is on the way! Congrats to all the family including Adaiah, Talitha, Aurelius, and Ambrose.

NEW LOOK

REMINDER ... *FamilyLife Today* Partners

Be sure to check your inbox for a new resource tool kit as **Dave & Ann Wilson** move into on-air leadership this month. A new logo is unveiled at the ministry website accompanied by an updated tagline that identifies FamilyLife’s mission to *help families pursue the relationships that matter most*. Check with Michelle@ambaa.com if you haven’t yet received.





According to Luciano Pavarotti: "One of the very nicest things about life is the way we must regularly stop whatever it is we are doing and devote our attention to eating." Bravo, Mr. Pavarotti! Here's one way to "pay attention" from our Ambassador Cookbook. (Want a copy? Just send your favorite recipe and look for a Cookbook in your mailbox in return!)

Meet the Chef:

While *Thrive with Purpose* isn't about cooking, **Callie Briese** (who is the voice for that feature on behalf of Thrivent) daily delivers nourishment for the mind and heart relative to financial clarity. It's 1:00 that's all about encouraging people to make the most of all God has given them. For Callie and husband, Ryan, that includes four little ones—which certainly makes a recipe for lasagna an excellent choice!

PRIME TIME

Family Favorite Lasagna

CALLIE BRIESE



This recipe is my favorite from my Grandma Bonnie. She would make it for special family dinners and we were always lucky if we got to bring home some leftovers. I am blessed with the memories of sitting around the table at my Papa and Grandma's house enjoying this meal together.

Add the sauce ingredients to the browned beef and simmer until sauce is thick (about 1 hour). Add water if necessary.

Mix together filling ingredients. Boil lasagna noodles until tender; drain and rinse in cold water.

In a large baking pan, layer meat mixture, noodles, mozzarella cheese, and cottage cheese mixture; repeat ending with one more layer of meat. Top with remaining mozzarella cheese. Bake at 375° for 30 minutes.

Sauce:

- 1½ pounds ground beef, browned slowly
- 1 tablespoon parsley flakes
- 1 tablespoon basil
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound (2 cups) tomatoes
- 1 can (12 ounces) tomato paste

Filling:

- 3 cups cottage cheese, drained
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 2 tablespoons parsley flakes or chives
- ½ cup grated parmesan cheese (optional)

Other:

- 1 pound mozzarella cheese, grated
- 10 ounces lasagna noodles





Ambassador

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@AmbassadorTeam
#AmbassadorLife

Looking ahead!

Ministry occurs in many dimensions for the ministries we're privileged to serve! Here are just a few reminders of that.



June 14-18: Don't miss a special week series celebrating fathers on "Life Issues" with **Brad Mattes**



June 21-24: **NRB 2021 Convention** (Dallas) [see page 3 for more!]



July 16-17: Back in the stadium, the Promise Keepers 2021 Men's Conference features **Carter Conlon** and others (Dallas TX)



August 12: Continuing a monthly schedule, **Joni & Friends** hosts "Family Fun Night"—Zoom calls geared toward special needs families; check their website for the full list!



September 10-12: **Dave & Ann Wilson** are at Hume Lake (CA) for the conference center's "Reconnect & Rekindle" marriage retreat



October 15-16: It's another weekend conference for *Modern Reformation* with **Michael Horton** and others (Philadelphia PA)



November 14: **Max Lucado** will be out of his own pulpit and speaking at Peachtree Presbyterian Church (Atlanta GA)

Need to know more?

You can check ministry websites, or contact Kari@ambaa.com for details. And just a reminder, all activities subject to adjustment in sensitivity to pandemic concerns.