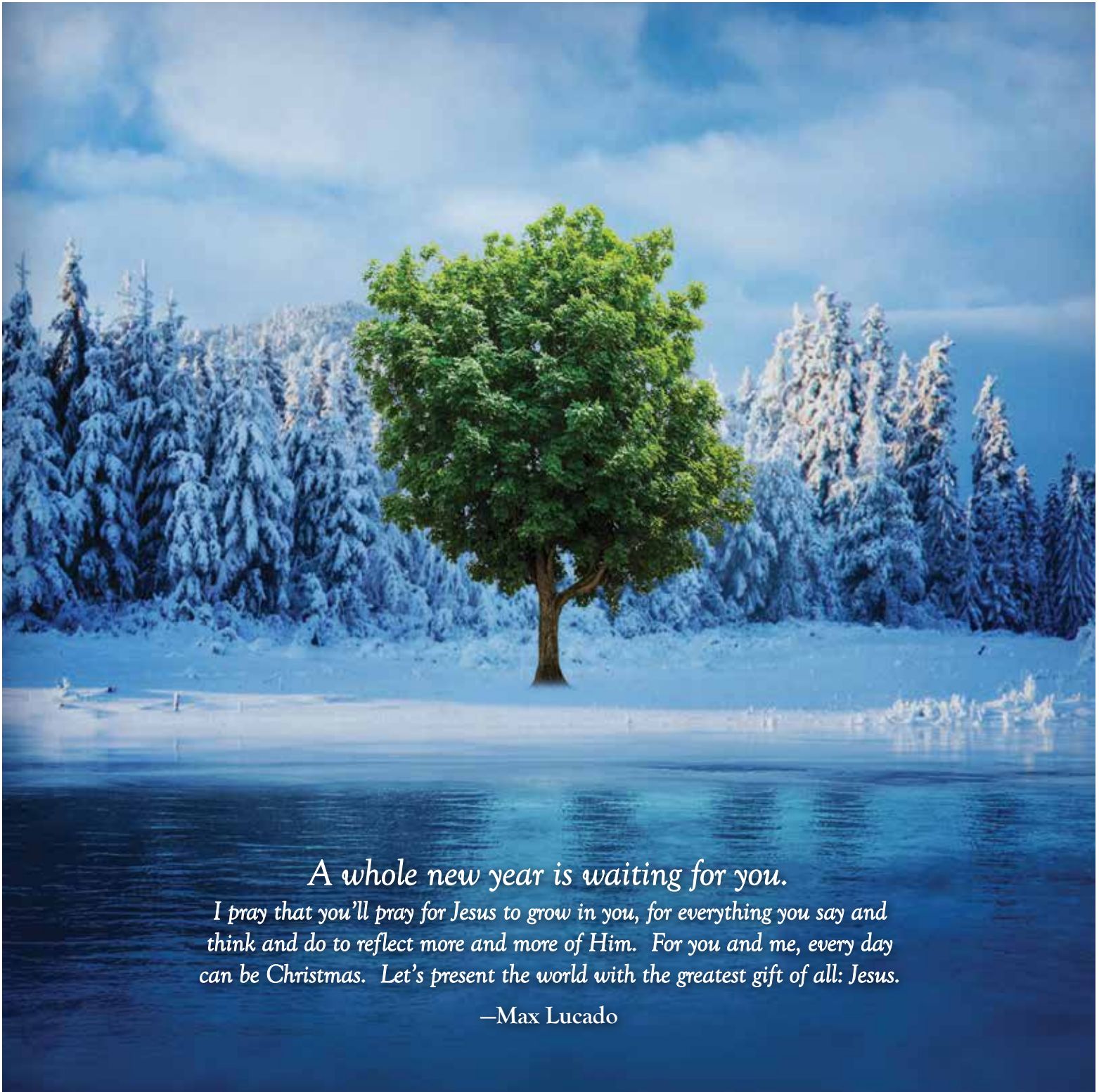




Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

DECEMBER
2021
UPDATE



A whole new year is waiting for you.

I pray that you'll pray for Jesus to grow in you, for everything you say and think and do to reflect more and more of Him. For you and me, every day can be Christmas. Let's present the world with the greatest gift of all: Jesus.

—Max Lucado

INSIDE

Sanctity of Life Sunday: A new special from Life Issues	Page 3
Christmas Greetings: Warm wishes from our team to yours	Page 4
Raising the Roof: The great satellite swap-out	Page 6

RSVP NOW



...join us on-air
for the holidays!

NEW SPECIALS:

**Christmas ... Your Light in the
Darkness** (24:55)

Carter Conlon, Times Square Church

The Son of David (54:00)

Charles Morris, Haven Today

Christmas Moments (Dec. 1-25 series)

Ron Hutchcraft, A Word With You

2022: Crisis or Confidence? (24:55)

Carter Conlon, Times Square Church

This is Your Moment (26:00)

Max Lucado, UpWords

The beautiful image on the
newsletter cover is borrowed from
Max's book of the same title

CLASSICS:

From Focus on the Family:

A Christmas Carol, Adventures
in Odyssey, Christmas Marathon,
Christmas Stories, Christmas by
Injunction, Shoemaker Martin

DETAILS & SIGN-UP:

ambaa.com/special-programming



A NOTE FROM JIM SANDERS

“Belt-and-Suspenders”

Through the years, I've heard that phrase a million times from Dick Becvar, who oversees our operations at Amb-OS. He also uses words like “redundancy,” “back-ups,” “fail-over plan,” and “tested failure” along with a horde of other concepts which underscore the importance of planning for failure.

No one knows the importance of belt-and-suspenders thinking more than those who are responsible for keeping their station(s) on the air. Bless you engineers who answer the trouble call in the middle of the night! No doubt you've missed more than your fair share of holiday, birthday and family celebrations. (By the way, you get bonus points for not complaining.)

For Amb-OS, Dick has taught us that a plan which has a single thread solution is destined for disaster. He's underscored in virtual red pen that two threads are better than one. But it's really *three threads* which help you sleep at night. (See Ecclesiastes 4:12b. Doubtful that the prophet had a satellite backhaul path in mind, but hey, the illustration works!)

An example of a multi-threaded plan takes us back a few months when Amb-OS carried the Greg Laurie Harvest Crusade at Angel Stadium in Anaheim. We had *three* diverse routes of transmission to get from the Stadium Club back to Anaheim and then up to our transmission site in Garner, North Carolina. The three “cords” were made up of a primary connection and two alternate hot stand-by routes in the chain.



That's all Preface to: AMR-100 Redundancy

It's no surprise, given Dick's oversight of Amb-OS, that our system was first designed with the “belt-and-suspenders” philosophy. The AMR-100 represented a major technological shift in system design: We were moving from real-time satellite feeds to a system that operated in greater-than-real-time and delivered files. We first referred to it as a localized FTP site being fed by a satellite signal. However, if the satellite signal or local antenna fails, not to worry. Our receiver will “backload” or backfill” all, or parts of, files.

So how does this help you? A couple ideas. One simple way to apply belt-and-suspenders to your station is by installing a **second instance** of the User Interface (UI). (You can actually run *several* instances of the UI, each one connected to your one receiver as long as the UI's aren't running on the same machine.) As a result, some station partners run a second UI and write their files to a backup machine or file location. The files are likely never to be used, but nice to know you can grab them if there's a catastrophic failure.

As another redundant idea: Program your AMR-100 to play the files you use at their scheduled time. Once it's done, you never have to touch it again. The files will always play out of the receiver. Should the automation system fail, there's a hot-standby which can be patched into your on-air chain.

There are lots of creative ways to utilize the AMR-100 for your station redundancy. We're happy to help you set that up! There are several tutorial videos on our website, but if you'd rather give us a call, we love telling folks how to build a watch...not just telling them the time.

IT'S
SO VERY
SPECIAL

SAY 'yes' TO LIFE!

Marking Sanctity of Life Sunday in January,* **Brad Mattes** (President of Life Issues Institute and speaker for the daily 1:00 feature "Life Issues") hosts an all-new half-hour special that will underscore the pro-life message with encouraging and uplifting input from three special guests:

Daniel Wechter, MD is a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist based in Michigan who has over 45 years of experience in the field. He also speaks from the very personal perspective of a dad whose daughter has Down syndrome. Powerful advocacy for the sanctity of life from a physician's vantage point.

Jenny Foster is author of "Natty's Pond—A Memoir" which shares her journey to finding healing and forgiveness after a medically-advised abortion. The traumatic loss resulted in a 20 year path from isolation and shame to full acceptance of Christ's forgiveness.

Matt and Courtney Baker are mom and dad to 6-year-old Emmy. They said "yes" to life, giving birth to their daughter with Down syndrome despite doctor's advice to abort. *Emmy is pictured here with Brad following his interview with her parents.*



Be encouraged ... share the hope of these personal messages ... plan to add Say 'Yes' to Life! to your broadcast schedule in January!

A wide array of **resources** available to listeners will also be offered without cost.

The special will be delivered to all **Amb-OS** receivers by Thanksgiving. For more information, **contact** Lee@ambaa.com.

*Because of the calendar for January 2022, both **January 16** and **January 23** will be designated as days to mark "Sanctity of Life Sunday."



If you visit our office at Christmastime, you'll see this tree covered in ornaments of our team members' baby pictures. Each "baby" has a favorite ornament memory of their own, captured here for sharing!



See if you can match the “baby” with the name!

Tom Bedson: My favorite ornament is a flat clear crystal diamond shape ornament that says “First Christmas 1980.” It was our first “family” ornament that we got for our first married Christmas together.

Michelle Blood: When my mom passed away in January, a dear friend gave me a lovely pewter ornament with the inscription, “When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.” It’s adorned a framed picture of me and my mom since then, but now it’ll be adorning our Christmas tree.

Katie Burke: Growing up, globe-trotting family members gifted us ornaments from Europe, Asia, and Africa. These beautiful, foreign trinkets helped inspire my own future travels...and collection!

Peggy Campbell: Every year, for more than 25 years, my mom has handcrafted a “bejeweled” orb for the women of the family. There are too many now to hang on a real tree so I love putting them in glass jars to display on the counter. The ornaments, now that Mom is 95, are a real treasure and remind me of her talent in so many arenas. An annual Christmas blessing!

Mark Conner: I treasure the ornaments our proud daughters made in pre-school which instantly bring back memories of them being so young.

Diana Cook: My favorite “ornament” is actually my mother’s nativity scene. The wooden manger has moss on the roof. Each figure is hand-painted: Joseph, Mary, and Baby Jesus to the sheep, donkeys and wise men. I have not found a nativity that matches its beauty and glory. It has become a family heirloom.

Lee Ann Jackson: My favorite ornament is one my mom gave to the kids and I over twenty years ago. It’s a Hallmark ornament of a mouse on the phone on which my mom recorded, “Feliz Navidad! Love Grandma, Abuelita.”

Jery Lee: My favorite ornament was one I had made when I was 8 years old. It was just a small piece of foil pressed together with a Christmas cartoon picture on it, and every year it hangs on my mother’s Christmas tree.

Charley Mefferd: Each of my kids made a handmade ornament with their photos as a 1st grade class project. Those four ornaments are equally special to me.

Jennifer Perez: More than 25 years ago, when we put up our first Christmas tree as a married couple, I bought this old-fashioned looking, porcelain angel for our tree topper. I was unaware of its significance until a few years ago when I mentioned replacing it, and my kids reacted with horror! I mean, how could I be so insensitive wanting to get rid of our angel?!? Knowing how special it has become to our family makes it my favorite part of our tree.

Rebecca Richardson: I did ballet when I was younger and a family friend gave me a ballerina bear ornament. The bear is made of paper mache and has the pink outfit hand painted on with a tulle skirt. It’s the first ornament that I remember being given to me.

Jim Sanders: My favorite ornaments were ones handmade by my mother—a long time holiday tradition of Christmas heirlooms!

Jani Williamson: Anything with the word “JOY” on it. I’ve been collecting them for years and I have a “Joy Tree” filled with them!

ANSWERS: a) Jani Williamson b) Mark Conner c) Michelle Blood d) Lee Ann Jackson e) Jennifer Perez f) Charley Mefferd g) Katie Burke h) Jery Lee i) Diana Cook j) Tom Bedson k) Lee Ann Jackson l) Peggy Campbell m) Rebecca Richardson n) Annie & Maisie

NEW SATELLITE DISH

You're probably off the grid if you haven't heard the growing hype about 5G cellular service.

The way cellular providers talk about 5G, it sounds like the panacea for every disease known to mankind, much less fixing poor cellular service. It's true that 5G is already on the market, but it has not yet been *fully* deployed everywhere.

There are three frequency bands in which 5G operates, cleverly called Low, Mid and High band. The "low band" (600-700MHz) can provide coverage over hundreds of square miles with speeds ranging from 30 to 250 megabits per second (Mbps). The "mid band" (3.5GHz) has much smaller coverage—in the range of several miles. Lastly, the "high band" (24-39GHz) is the most limited because of the high frequency—it covers only about a mile, but delivers 1-3Gbps. This is the part of 5G which will cause the increase in cellular tower sites.

The challenge for 5G providers has been that there are thousands of licensed downlink sites (including ours) which would have interference in the mid band. So, the FCC, in its wisdom, conducted an auction of the space segment. The revenue from that auction was designated to install filters and/or new antennas as part of the deal.

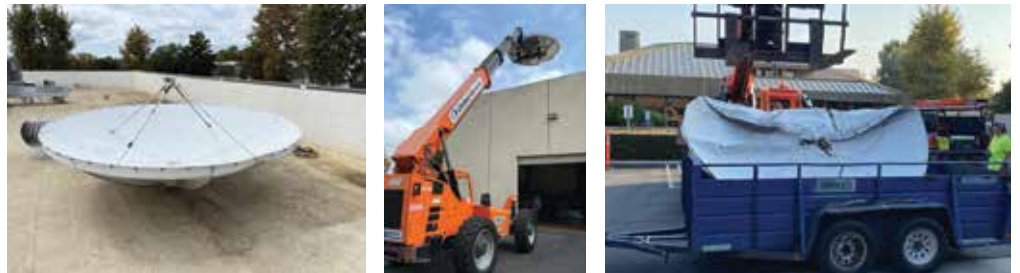
Each licensee was given the option of a "one time payout," or choose to have the providers install equipment at their cost. Enter the photos at the right—we chose the latter path. **Our dish, roof mount, LNB and filters were all newly installed.** Watching the process is almost as exciting as walking into the tool section of Home Depot. Nothing like it.



On the right: the brand new antenna! (The secondary dish in the left side of the photo is a Ku-Band antenna). The photos below show the step-by-step replacement process . . .



It starts with a high lift hoisting our new antenna mount on the roof. In no time, our new mount was put together.



Our old antenna was brought down off the roof and "gently folded" into the back of a trailer which hauled the old equipment away.



It's a little like an erector set, putting the new dish together. When it's all done, the signal is improved and the bits are flowing!

We think we found the perfect recipe from the Ambassador cookbook to include in our December Update—after all, Christmas is all about tradition and memories, as **Carter Conlon** notes in his intro to a favorite family meal. By the way, we'd be happy to send you a copy of the cookbook ... and even a copy of the CD Carter mentions. Just email peg@ambaa.com!

FROM
OUR
KITCHEN



Meet the Chef

Throughout his pastoral ministry, Carter Conlon's clarion call has been the call to pray. As pastor at Times Square Church (NYC), the power of prayer was evidenced in dramatic ways, over and over and remains his consistent message in a daily 1:00 feature ("It's Time to Pray") and the half-hour weekly "A Call to the Nation." Married to Teresa (who serves as President of Summit International School of Ministry), the Conlons have three married children and enjoy holiday time with eight grandchildren!

PRIME TIME

Tourtiere (Meat Pie)

CARTER CONLON



Makes 5 or 6 pies

5 or 6 pounds ground
pork

4 cups onion, finely
chopped

3 cups water

4 teaspoons salt

2½ teaspoons thyme

2¼ teaspoons cloves

2 teaspoons pepper

Pie crust:

5 cups flour

2 teaspoons salt

1 pound lard

Water

1 egg, beaten

When I was a child, one of the absolute delights of Christmastime was when my mother and grandmother began baking their meat pies. It was a French-Canadian tradition that most every family I knew followed. In French, the pies are called Tourtiere. Having no freezers in those days, the pies were stored in big galvanized tubs with lids on the front porch. In Northern Canada, it literally froze in November and stayed cold until April. It became such a pleasant memory that I wrote a song about it called (obviously) "Meat Pie" on the Christmas CD "Where Christmas Never Ends." Mom is in heaven now, but her original recipe still decorates our Christmas tree every year! By the way ... I now am the official meat pie maker of our family.

In a large pot, combine ingredients. Bring to a boil and cook, stirring constantly until meat loses red color. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 45 minutes or until tender. (I make the meat the day before and next day make the pies.)

For the pie crust: In a large bowl, combine flour with the salt. Cut in lard until mixture is a roughly even crumbly texture. Add water and blend just until dough comes together. Shape into a rough disc, wrap and chill in the refrigerator.

Divide dough into five or six portions. On a lightly floured surface, divide one portion of dough in half and flatten one ball of dough with your hands. Roll dough to about 12 inches in diameter to fit a 9-inch pie pan.

Place the pastry into the pie plate and add the meat filling. Brush around the outer edge of the pastry with the beaten egg. Roll out the top pastry and place on top of the filling. Fold the top crust under the bottom crust and pinch or flute the edges. Brush with egg wash and cut vent holes.

Heat oven to 425° and bake pies for 15 minutes or until golden. Reduce heat to 350° and bake an additional 15 minutes. Freeze and reheat to serve with tomato catsup or cranberry sauce.



Ambassador

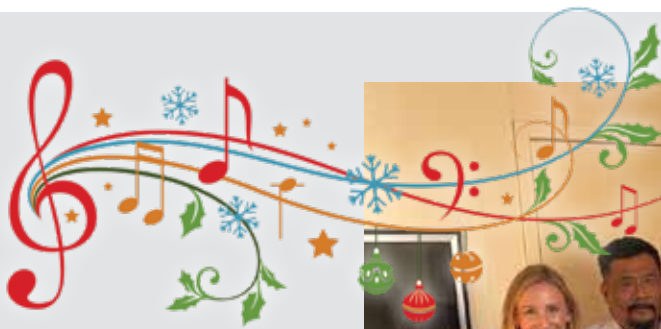
ambassadoradvertising.com

1641 Langley Avenue
Irvine, CA 92614

949.681.7600



@AmbassadorTeam
#AmbassadorLife



merry
CHRISTMAS

from our team to yours!

TOP:

Katie Burke, Jerry Lee,
Jim Sanders, Tom Bedson,
Jennifer Perez, Mark Conner,
Peggy Campbell, Charley Mefferd

BOTTOM:

Michelle Blood,
Rebecca Richardson,
Lee Ann Jackson,
Jani Williamson, Diana Cook



It's been a challenging year in many respects but we remain so very grateful for the extraordinary privilege of partnership with gifted communicators and with stations who continue to share their messages.

As we close 2021, we look forward to a new year and fresh opportunities to grow impact for the Kingdom. Thank you for letting us do that with you each day!

Blessings on the New Year, too!