



Ambassador

We Connect. Ministry and Media.

MARCH
2024
UPDATE

Joy to the world!

He has risen, hallelujah!

He's risen, hallelujah!

He's risen, hallelujah, hallelujah!

—From *Easter Song* (Keith Green)

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DID YOU KNOW?



March is nationally recognized as *Disabilities Awareness Month*—don't miss using resources from **Joni and Friends** and others in reminding listeners of the significance of that focus.



Celebrating expansion of the *Hope Restored* initiative from *Focus on the Family*, **Jim Daly** will be in Wimberly TX on March 23 for the Grand Opening of that location's new Retreat Center. Other Center locations include Branson MO, Grand Rapids MI, and the Atlanta metro.



Evangelism Explosion (producers of "Share Life Today" with **John Sorensen**) hosts an in-person (Fort Lauderdale FL) and online streaming celebration of the ministry's impact on March 2.



Mercy Ships continues to invite *volunteer applications* as the need is urgent. You can find a full listing of opportunities at the ministry's website—many can be short-term and include a wide range of assignments!

THE LATEST FROM AMB-OS

Production Pro Tip: Fixing "P-Pops"

Perhaps you were astounded like I at the super-human ability AI has to remove an instrumental track from an old John Lennon cassette. The technology is nothing short of amazing.

But if you're a user of Adobe Audition, you already own a nearly super-human ability to remove "P-Pops" from your recording without destructing the wave form. It's far simpler and more transparent than you might think.

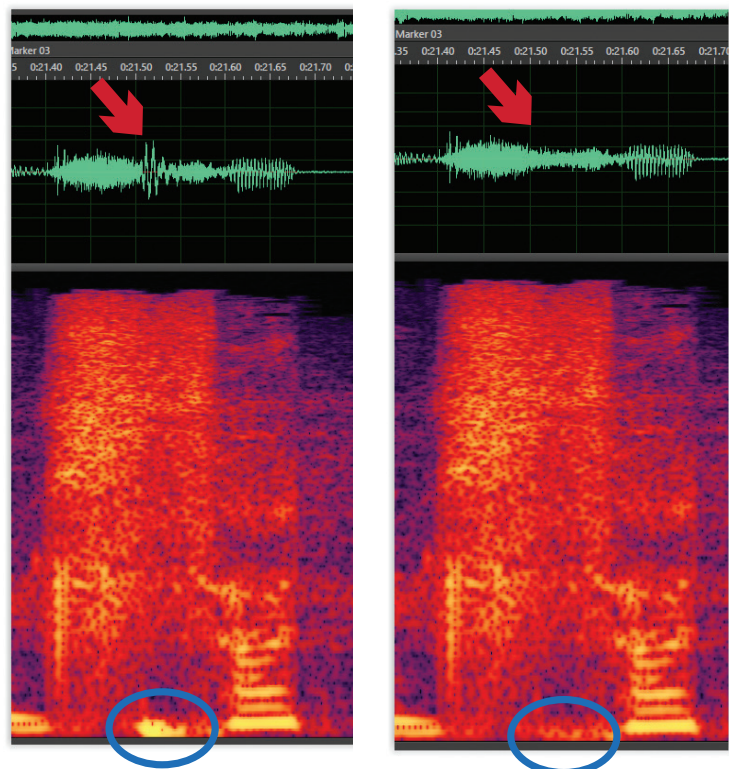
Below are two screen shots of the same piece of audio. The one on the left has a p-pop at the 21.5-second mark (red arrow). You can see it in the waveform as well as in the colorful Spectral Display below. (Circled in blue.)

Adobe Audition provides a "Spot Healing Brush Tool" which allows you to "erase" this energy from the spectral display in short order. Consequently, it also flattens out the waveform and removes the pop cleanly.

Next P-pop you encounter, here's what to do:

- Open the file in Audition and click on "View" and "Show Spectral Frequency Display"
- Click on the Spot Healing Brush Tool on the menu bar and scrub over the offending piece of audio.

It's just that simple to fix just about any transient energy which interrupts the flow of your recording.



Celebrating the Easter Season

**EASTER
SUNDAY
MARCH 31**

This year the month of March ends with the beginning—the beginning of the hope that is ours as believers as we mark the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We hope you'll be sharing many of these features which will encourage listeners anew with the Easter message.



From Carter Conlon

Jesus—My Heart, My Mind, My Life

With Colossians 1:27 as the backdrop for this Easter message, Pastor Carter Conlon reminds us of that text that says Christ in us is the hope of glory. The question is—whose glory? God's? Mine? Others? Or maybe something for all. A unique focus on these words in light of the risen Christ, in us, today!

From Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth

Incomparable: The Person of Christ

In a series that stretches from Valentine's Day to Easter, Nancy reminds us that there is no one else like Jesus. That sounds like a simple statement, but in today's world, it's a radical one. Find out why Jesus claimed to be the only way to God. And think through whether you're willing to base your life on His claims.



From Joni Eareckson Tada

You'll hear Joni's reflection on "Glory Prayers" on March 25 and "Our Guilt Not His" on the Good Friday edition of "Joni Eareckson Tada: Sharing Hope."

From Ron Hutchcraft

Easter Moments with Ron Hutchcraft

New Easter-themed *Need Him* features (written and voiced by Ron) are available for download via Amb-OS. If you aren't yet familiar with these evangelistic PSAs, be sure to take a listen—the intent is providing evangelistic features for Christian radio with opportunity for people to respond.



From John MacArthur

On Good Friday, John's message focuses on "God's Own Commentary on the Cross."

From Brad Mattes

His Resurrection is For You

On "Life Issues" (1:00 Daily) preceding Easter, Brad underscores the gift of life. Both physical and spiritual birth comes from our heavenly Father and both have eternal consequences.



From John Sorensen

With a special series titled "Walking thru Easter," features during Holy Week from "Share Life Today" explore who Jesus is, what He did for us, and why we celebrate these special days every year from His triumphant entry to death on the cross.

From the Ambassador Tool Kit

Don't miss the array of graphics, audio PSAs and other resources intended to add to your station's marking of the Easter season. All at our website!

A New Chapter for *Ron Hutchcraft Ministries*



L-R: Doug Hutchcraft; Brad Hutchcraft; Ron Hutchcraft; Lisa Hutchcraft Whitmer.

With so many reasons for excitement at the organization, the Board of Directors of RHM recently voted unanimously to name **Ron Hutchcraft** to the newly created position of Chairman and to appoint **Doug Hutchcraft** as President of the ministry effective immediately.

As Chairman, Ron will be able to focus more concertedly on what he is most passionate about—sharing the Gospel as he continues the broadcast outreach of “A Word With You,” the daily 4:30 feature that began in 1982, and continue creating content for print, video, social media and more.

“I am truly looking forward to focusing even more on the defining passions of my life – bringing the lost to the Cross and awakening God’s people to do the same. I thank the Lord for great health and energy and a fresh sense of His anointing on my ministry.” — Ron Hutchcraft

A seasoned organizational builder and veteran ministry leader in his own right, Doug Hutchcraft has thrived in numerous leadership roles within the organization and contributes seasonal radio Gospel Spots for stations, as well as co-hosting the “Go M.A.D.” (Make A Difference) podcast with his brother, Brad.

“I am so grateful to God for the kind of Father He is, and the kind of father, visionary, friend, and mentor He has blessed me with in Dad. It is my great honor to serve with this amazing team and ministry partners, as we continue in God’s great rescue mission together!” — Doug Hutchcraft

With these changes, by Board mandate, Brad Hutchcraft assumes the role of Executive Vice-President, continuing to serve in his strategic roles of shepherding the fast-growing *On Eagles’ Wings®* program, with increased responsibility in the overall operations of the ministry.

Looking to an exciting future, that includes a celebration in April of the completion of the new *On Eagles’ Wings* Leadership Center, serving Native American developing leaders, fulfilling a significant aspect of RHM’s mission to serve this population.

If you aren’t yet airing “A Word With You,” contact Charley@ambaa.com for details!



Got Some Time On The Weekend?

If you're looking for something fresh for weekend audiences, we've got two recommendations for you! These half-hour broadcasts offer substantive content—and some new voices for Christian radio.

WEEKLY
EDITIONS



Straight Talk on Life Issues

Brad Mattes | Life Issues Institute

Launched last Fall with the goal of diving deeper into timely topics, Straight Talk is hosted by longtime pro-life leader **Brad Mattes**, President of Life Issues Institute whose daily 1:00 commentary ("Life Issues") continues to be the leading short feature on the topic.



Joining Brad each week is newcomer **Victor Nieves** whose youthful outlook combined with a deep passion for the pro-life movement brings an insightful perspective to amplify the weekly topics.

Adding texture to the dialog are guests who speak to the topic from expert and often first-hand experience and understanding. Recent shows have considered homelessness and pregnant women, men and abortion, the power of pro-life education and the church and foster care—all topics relevant to today's cultural battle for life.

Contact Lee Ann Jackson (lee@ambaa.com) to initiate placement and add your station to the growing network.



Revive Our Hearts Weekend

Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth | Revive Our Hearts

With a new approach to providing strong teaching in a creative format, this weekly feature offers teaching content from **Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth** in addition to guest interviews and additional teaching.

Anchored by author and ROH team member, **Dannah Gresh**, listeners will hear the week's theme covered from a variety of perspectives including a segment each time from Dannah herself whose teaching and writing has encouraged millions.



In addition to her ROH work, Dannah is the founder of True Girl—a ministry dedicated to providing tools to help moms disciple their 2-12 year old girls. She's authored nearly 30 books and shared transparently on her journey with husband, Bob, as they share life on a farm in central Pennsylvania.

Ready to add to your schedule? Send a note to Jennifer@ambaa.com—we'd love to begin immediately!

More Programming Available for the Weekend

These long-form editions are also available for airing in companion with daily short features or stand-alone.



"Living in the Light" features the teaching ministry of **Anne Graham Lotz** whose 1:00 M-F is titled "Daily Light for Daily Living."



"A Call to the Nation" features messages from **Carter Conlon** who is also heard on "It's Time to Pray" (also 1:00 M-F).

Pictures Worth A Thousand (or less) Words

Nothing like fellowship with fellow broadcasters (whether large or small gatherings) to lift spirits. (And just wait for the NRB images in our April issue.) Here are just a few of such occasions that represent so many more!

We'll admit that as productive as our meetings may be, there is always good food and hearty laughter when the AAA crew connects with the Focus Audio team including **John Fuller**, **Brian Krause** and **Rob Kirkpatrick**.



It was a delight for our own Charley Mefferd, who is our resident Texan, to welcome **Jay Flowers** (COO/Grace to You) to Dallas not long ago.



The team at **Joni and Friends** was pleased to welcome friends from the Bible Broadcast Network to the ministry's IDC in Agoura CA. Pictured L-R: Thomas & Luciana Gilmer; Catherine Cobb; Miriam & Daniel Francia; Shauna Amick; Barbara Redemann (President of BBN); Tracey and Rob Daulton; Carl Redemann with **Ken and Joni Tada**.

(Names in italics are part of the *Joni and Friends* Radio team.)



"The Men of Radio" met in McCall ID for fellowship—and nice of them to read over *Update* at mealtime 😊. Pictured L-R: Ashton Curee (Killer Bee Marketing), Russ Jones (Abide), Rich Hooper (Imagine Three-Twenty), Dave Arthur (radio host for Positive Life Radio Network), Paul Cameron (COO/The Family Radio Network) and Jared Mitchell of Convoy of Hope.



Longtime friend **John Hayden** (formerly at KLJC as well as Revive Our Hearts and Moody Radio) met with **Sean McDowell** who was in town for a city-wide event for his book, "So The

Next Generation Will Know". Among the many connections is that Sean is professor of Christian apologetics at Biola University where Ambassador's roots began, serving "The Biola Hour" when Al Sanders was part of Biola's administration.



Meet Mark Gauthier | “Making Your Life Count”

GETTING
ACQUAINTED!

In the months since the homegoing of Steve Douglass, leadership at Cru have prayerfully considered who might step into the speaker role for the long-standing short feature the ministry produces titled “**Making Your Life Count.**” And with the new year as catalyst, the next chapter for the feature launched in January 2024 with Mark Gauthier providing the daily encouragement that so well represents the heart of Cru’s mission.

While a student at Colorado State University, Mark met Christ and the transformation was striking. As a student, he participated in a Cru summer project to Romania. It was there, in 1983, that he felt a call to missions, joining the staff of Cru in 1986. Today, Mark serves as Vice President for North America and Oceania on the Global Executive Team at Cru. Married to Kristi, Mark and his wife have three grown children and four grandchildren.

Now ... we’ll let Mark tell you more about himself!

How did your relationship with the Lord get started? How did you get introduced to Christ?

My first year in college, I was going through orientation to get my courses. At a student activities fair, there was a Christian organization called CRU doing spiritual interest surveys and someone stuck it in front of my face. Like any good first year student, I grabbed it and filled it out.

One of the questions was, “Would you be interested in talking about spiritual things?” I put maybe ... and subsequently, it was the first time I had ever heard the message that they shared with me. My dad was an agnostic and we were kind of outside the religious community but I always wanted to know more about God. I just had no idea how to know Him. And on that day, what these two individuals shared with me was that there was a God, and He loved me, and He wanted to know me. And He sent His son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross on my behalf. And all I needed to do was to put my trust in Jesus Christ and His payment for the penalty for my sin. I processed that for a few days, and then I finally said, yes, this is what I want, and I invited Jesus into my life—and my life just started to change.

How did your ministry in Cru get started and how did God direct your steps?

It was a missions trip to Romania that started me on a deep spiritual journey. We eventually accepted a role in the Campus Ministry at Harvard. It was such a rich experience. People would always ask if that experience was hard or challenging. No, it was great. We got to share Christ so much there. We saw many, many, many students come to Christ. It was a fertile place to be doing ministry, and we saw God do a lot of things there.

Is there a life verse or some scripture that is prominent in your life and gives your direction?

Hebrews 11:6—without faith, it’s impossible to please God for he who comes to God must believe that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. I think about that with anything new. First of all, it’s going to require faith, and faith is always predicated on the fact that I don’t have all the answers. Stepping into the role with *Making Your Life Count* is certainly a new experience for me as was the leadership role over North America and Oceania. It’s by faith we are able to do the “new”—believing the God of the impossible. And God’s been faithful. It’s not always easy or without challenges. It’s not always perfect—in fact, it’s never perfect—but He works in ways that only God can work.

Who would you consider a mentor of yours?

I think of an individual who disciplined me in college. And to this day, I think often about what he taught me in those early years of my walk with God and about believing in God to do the impossible. I also think of Steve Sellers. We’ve worked together for 27 years and he’s been someone who always challenged me with new opportunities. Just watching him live and lead, and processing life with him, has been a huge blessing and a catalytic support in my life.

What’s on your bookshelf?

I tend to work on a few books at a time—not usually just one. I’m reading *A Grief Observed* by C. S. Lewis. I’ve read the book before several times about his journey in losing his wife, Joy. It’s such an insightful book. I’m also reading *The Rebirth of Orthodoxy* by a professor (Thomas Oden) which talks about the place of theological fidelity or orthodoxy that has been true of the church from the very foundations of the church and how “rock solid” it is even today.

I’m reading a commentary on the book of Matthew from Frederick Dale Bruner that’s wonderful, opening my eyes up to so much in Scripture. And one more ... my wife and I are reading *The Meaning of Marriage* by Timothy Keller, which is really challenging us in our marriage.

In recent years you lost both of your parents. Talk about that part of your journey?

You know, what struck me, up until my parents’ home going, is that there’s never been a day where my parents didn’t factor into my mindset some way. God blessed me with two wonderful parents, who came to know the Lord later in life. They really leaned into that walk with God, He was so real in their lives, and I’m grateful for that. There’s two sides to the coin. One is the grief, the loss—though not as those without hope. And then the other side of the coin is knowing the confidence they both had that they were going to be with the Lord. And what a difference that made in their lives, at the end of their lives.

What do your grandchildren call you?

Pops! And my wife is Yaya. That started with our oldest granddaughter who just started to call Kristi “Yaya.” That’s a great name and I love it. So it’s “Pops and YaYa” for us!

Making Your Life Count is produced in both a 1:00 and 2:00 daily format; you can audition the feature at our website; for placement, contact Rebecca@ambaa.com.



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Take a look around ...

... because Spring is on its way (at least in these parts)! And, as we look forward to the celebration of Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday, March 31, there are a few more events in March that are worth noting—check it out below!



March 3: Join us in sending best wishes to someone who celebrates birth as a lifework—Happy Birthday to President of Life Issues (and speaker for “Life Issues” and “Straight Talk on Life Issues”), **Brad Mattes**.



March 6: Don't miss this one! Station partners airing **Joni Eareckson Tada** features will enjoy a Zoom chat with Joni herself, hearing ministry updates, meeting the radio team and a greeting from Ken Tada too!



March 8-10: Sharing more than a word 😊, **Ron Hutchcraft** will be back at The Cove (Asheville NC) for a three-day seminar on “Beyond the Status Quo: Discovering God's Bold Next Chapter for You”!



March 15-16: Can't wait to welcome our friend **Dannah Gresh** (“Revive Our Hearts Weekend” and Grounded speaker) to nearby San Clemente (CA) for a “Shatter the Lies” seminar for women at Calvary South Orange County.



March 16: With much appreciation for all that NRB does under his dedicated leadership (including the Convention we just enjoyed), blessings to **Troy Miller** celebrating a birthday today!



March 22: It's a full month for **Brad Mattes** (see March 3!) ... today we're sending a Happy Anniversary greeting to Brad and wife, Ellen, as they mark another year!



March 25: No question about it ... we're delighted to say Happy Birthday to someone who's always at the ready with an answer for listeners—best wishes to **Adriel Sanchez** (“Core Christianity”).

Worth Considering

No scene in sacred history ever gladdens the soul like the scene on Calvary. Nowhere does the soul find such consolation as on that very spot where misery reigned, where woe triumphed, where agony reached its climax.
— Charles Spurgeon