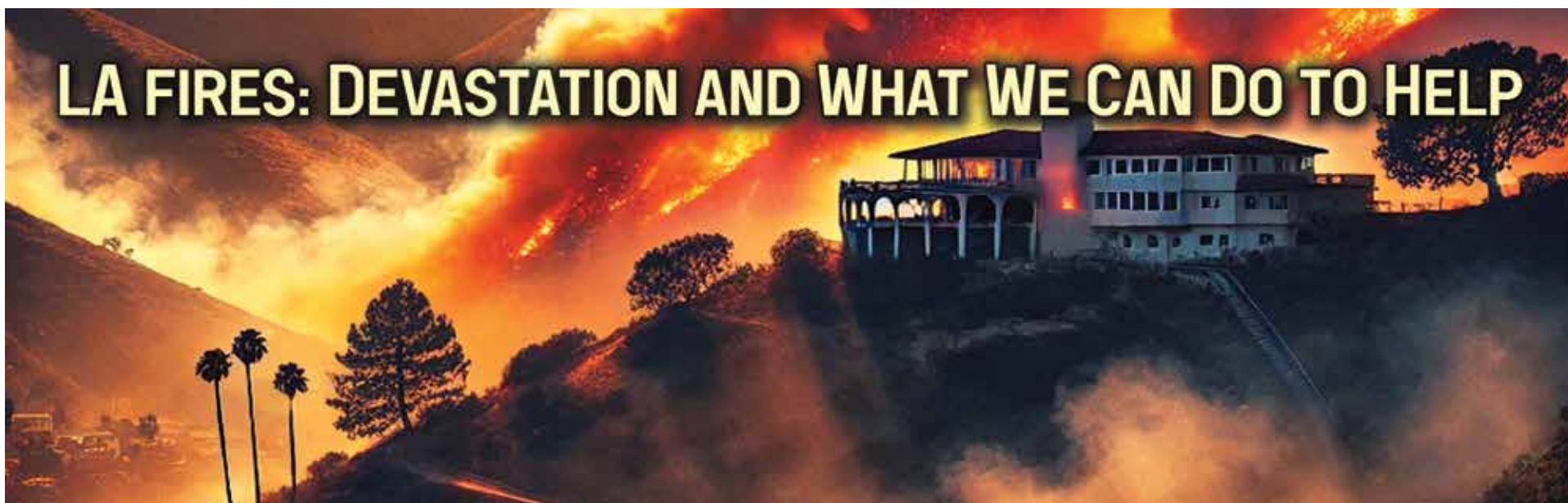


# The Ambassador

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## LA FIRES: DEVASTATION AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP

*Seth Halpern*  
Editor

On January 7, the worst fires in Los Angeles County history began. As of this writing, at least 25 people have died, 200,000 people have been evacuated, and more than 12,000 homes and structures have been either burned to the ground or left uninhabitable.

At the same time, frigid air, blizzards, and icy roads have caused death and destruction in other parts of our nation. Many of us have experienced the effects of natural disasters personally or have grieved with family and friends who have suffered losses due to floods, fires, droughts, or winds like hurricanes and tornadoes. Locally, we all know people who lost everything in the Paradise and

Loma Rica fires. The list of tragedies feels endless, as does the pain and grief they leave behind.

What struck me about the recent fires (or current ones as of this writing) is how many of the “rich and famous” lost their homes. Some were interviewed while standing amidst the rubble of where their houses once stood. While some openly wept, all expressed gratitude that their families were able to escape in time. The prevailing sentiment was, “We’re all okay; the rest is just stuff.”

For people like me—those of us who have never experienced the wealth many

of these individuals possess—it’s easy to react with sarcasm: “I feel really bad for them. They’ve got money; they’ll be fine.”

But after hearing their stories through round-the-clock updates, I realized their lives have been forever changed, too.

Mandy Moore lost her childhood home of 46 years. Dennis Quaid reflected not on the things he purchased but on the items created by his children when they were young. Yes, many of these celebrities lived in high-end areas like Malibu and Pacific Palisades, places most of us could never afford. But what about their families and the one-of-a-kind

memories tied to their homes—those irreplaceable moments we all treasure, regardless of our income?

They are hurting. They are grieving. Their loss is real and immense, and it will necessitate profound changes in their lives. LA Lakers head coach JJ shared his sadness as he watched neighbors lose their homes, feeling helpless to save them.

Disasters and tragedies force change. The same is true for each of us. We all face personal tragedies: the loss of a loved one, a job, financial security, an accident, or our health. Every family, every individual, will encounter hardship at some point in life. These moments

**For More On  
How Seniors  
Can Help-  
See Page 10**

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Senior Ambassador**

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Dave Kugelman**

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 Pastor Greg Mansur

**Agape Worship Center**  
 504 J St., Marysville  
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[www.agapewc.com](http://www.agapewc.com)

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 1321 Peach Tree Lane, YC  
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 Stacey Hanson, Pastor  
 Sundays Worship-10:00 a.m.

**Hope Point Church**  
 2727 Fir Street, Live Oak  
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 Sundays - 10 a.m.  
 Pastor Sean Blount  
[hpnlo.org](http://hpnlo.org)

**Household of Faith**  
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 1179 Eager Rd., Bldg.#200  
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**Legacy Baptist Church**  
 1980 S. Walton Ave., YC  
 Sundays - 11am & 6pm  
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[www.discoverlegacy.org](http://www.discoverlegacy.org)


**Loma Rica Baptist Church**  
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- The Ambassador is a free, monthly publication promoting unity and revival among the local Yuba-Sutter area Bible-believing churches
- The Ambassador has a circulation 6,000 - 7,000 and is distributed in local churches and businesses in the community.
- The purpose of The Ambassador is to pursue the great commission of Christ by making disciples and to encourage, inform, challenge and connect the local body of Christ.
- We believe in the inspiration and authority of the Bible as the written word of God. We believe that God exists as One, in three distinct persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- We believe that the atoning work of Christ (His death) on the cross and His resurrection is the ONLY means of salvation and the only way to Eternal Life in Heaven.
- We welcome editorial content from anyone wishing to promote the mission of The Ambassador. All articles and advertisement content is subject to the approval of the editor.
- Views expressed in The Ambassador do not necessarily reflect those of our sponsors or advertisers.

Editor/Publisher - Seth Halpern - Advisory - Dave Kugelmann - Layout/Design - Teresa Davis

# INSPIRATION

WWW.AMBASSADORNEWSPAPER.COM

## Looking For Your Shadow

Christy Boals

www.gracefilledpurpose.com

Every year my children eagerly anticipate Punxsutawney Phil's celebrated emergence from his den. For those who may not know, Phil is a groundhog in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania with a gift for predicting weather. Legend has it that if Phil sees his shadow when he exits his lair on February 2nd, Groundhog Day, there will be six more weeks of winter.

The funny thing is that my children then remember which way his prediction went and talk about the weather accordingly until spring! They enjoy arguing back and forth about whether Phil's prediction is accurate for the year. It is somewhat amazing the power this particular shadow has. There is also another shadow that we should pay attention to.

There are only so many hours in the day and so many days in a week. As westerners, most of us are production-oriented. Many of us try to "do it all." Reality is though, we can't. This is where that other shadow comes in. When we are focused on something, that thing is getting our attention or our "light" if you will. Other tasks, maybe even relationships, are going to be in shadow. In other words, if we are saying



"yes" to something, we are saying "no" to something else.

Followers of Christ are not exempt from this. We may be under the impression that we can do more than the average person, after all, we have Christ strengthening us. But this isn't exactly what Jesus taught. Jesus Himself often cast shadows. He stayed absolutely committed to doing only His Father's will and if you read the Gospels closely, you will find that that involved a lot of "no's."

This might make a lot of us uncomfortable. It is uncomfortable. Learning to be okay leaving some things in shadow can take a lot of work. It involves learning about our limits and learning how to set boundaries primarily with ourselves. The good news is that it also frees us up to focus on what God has called us to at the time and really let our light shine.

*"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* Matthew 5:16

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## JUST FOR FUN

THE LIGHT TURNED YELLOW, JUST IN FRONT OF HIM. HE DID THE RIGHT THING AND STOPPED AT THE CROSSWALK, EVEN THOUGH HE COULD HAVE BEATEN THE RED LIGHT BY ACCELERATING THROUGH THE INTERSECTION.

THE TAILGATING WOMAN BEHIND HIM WAS FURIOUS AND HONKED HER HORN, SCREAMING IN FRUSTRATION, AS SHE MISSED HER CHANCE TO GET THROUGH THE INTERSECTION.

AS SHE WAS STILL IN MID-RANT, SHE HEARD A TAP ON HER WINDOW AND LOOKED UP INTO THE FACE OF A VERY SERIOUS POLICE OFFICER.

THE OFFICER ORDERED HER TO EXIT HER CAR WITH HER HANDS UP.

HE TOOK HER TO THE POLICE STATION WHERE SHE WAS SEARCHED, FINGERPRINTED, PHOTOGRAPHED AND PLACED IN A HOLDING CELL.

AFTER A COUPLE OF HOURS, A POLICEMAN APPROACHED THE CELL AND OPENED THE DOOR. SHE WAS ESCORTED BACK TO THE BOOKING DESK WHERE THE ARRESTING OFFICER WAS WAITING WITH HER PERSONAL EFFECTS.

HE SAID, "I'M VERY SORRY FOR THIS MISTAKE. YOU SEE, I PULLED UP BEHIND YOUR CAR WHILE YOU WERE BLOWING YOUR HORN, GIVING THE GUY IN FRONT OF YOU THE FINGER AND CURSING AT HIM.

I NOTICED THE "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO" BUMPER STICKER, THE "CHOOSE LIFE" LICENSE PLATE HOLDER, THE "FOLLOW ME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL" BUMPER STICKER, AND THE CHROME-PLACED CHRISTIAN FISH EMBLEM ON THE TRUNK, SO NATURALLY I ASSUMED YOU HAD STOLEN THE CAR.

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# INSPIRATION

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## Beyond Romance

by Paula McBride

The red and green merchandise of Christmas was barely off the shelves before the red and pink of Valentine's Day occupied the space: party decorations, paper goods, and tons of candy. Perhaps you were in that aisle looking for the perfect heart-shaped box of chocolates or the treats for your child's Valentine's Day exchange. The greeting card aisle has its own story to tell. Artificial intelligence reports that around 145 million Valentine cards are exchanged each year, a number which may jump to one billion if classroom cards are included. The economic benefit of romantic love is huge!

The economic benefit of romantic love is also validated by the success of the romcom (romantic comedy) film industry. Our souls crave romantic love and are drawn to the irresistible notion that a perfect soulmate exists. But should we be looking for love in a box of chocolates or by viewing a fictitious movie? Isn't there a love that is more compelling, more satisfying than what can be expressed in a card or received



as a bouquet of flowers?

The answer is YES! And it is not that God is against romantic love. He created it, after all! It's just that God wants to get us beyond temporal satisfaction to eternal devotion. God wants to lavish His love on us. What does His love look like?

While romantic love often looks for attractive qualities in a relationship, God loved us when we were slime-covered sinners. In fact, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8). God's love is unconditional.

Romantic love often operates on the "you do for me, and I'll do for you" model, and if that doesn't work out, partners go their separate ways. Not so with God. His love is infinite and we can never use up all the love He has to give. Nothing will separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39).

Romantic love can break down when physical beauty fades or life's pressures weigh heavily, but God's love is unchangeable, immutable. His lovingkindness and tender mercies

toward the believer are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). Even when our beauty fades or we buckle under pressure, God's love is unfailing.

All these are beautiful sentiments about the love of God, but it is imperative that we never take them for granted. This God that loves us so much is also holy and will not tolerate sin. God's love is not weak, unfair, soft or wrong. Hebrew 12:6 tells us that the Lord disciplines the one He loves. When we seek forgiveness and restoration when we sin, God is faithful and just to forgive our sin (1 John 1:9).

In a romantic relationship, it seems we are often working to be approved by another. Again, this is not so with God. His love is gracious, unmerited favor. God's love caused Him to send His only Son to be the Savior, and one day He is coming again. His love graciously invites us into His kingdom and forever into eternity.

God's love transcends romance and it's a free gift! All we do is reach out and take it.

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. -- John 3:16*



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# CALENDAR

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## ONGOING EVENTS

### SUNDAY

**ROAD TO RECOVERY** - Sundays, 7:00pm  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
Christian 12 Step support group

### MONDAY

**GRIEF SHARE** - Mondays at 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Praise Chapel Church 398 Aylor Ave.  
A grief support program that meets weekly to help give encouragement after the death of loved one. Anyone can attend on any week because each class is "self-contained." For more information about GriefShare you can go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org) or contact the church at 530-870-0511.

### TUESDAY

**PRAYER FOR THE NATION** - Every Tuesday Night 7PM - 8:30PM  
Church of Glad Tidings  
1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak, CA 95953  
(530) 671-3160 - [info@churchofgladtidings.com](mailto:info@churchofgladtidings.com)

### WEDNESDAY

**GRIEF SHARE; GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - Wednesdays, 6:00pm,  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
For those dealing with the loss of a loved one.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - Wednesdays, 6:00 pm (Starting January 8th)  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
Gideon! Your Weakness Is God's Strength!

### THURSDAY

**EMBASSY HOUSE OF PRAYER** - Every Thursday Night 7PM - 8:30PM  
Church of Glad Tidings  
1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak, CA 95953  
(530) 671-3160 - [info@churchofgladtidings.com](mailto:info@churchofgladtidings.com)  
"My house shall be called a house of prayer." (Matt. 21:13). The church today is in an all-out war against the evils of darkness. The body of Christ is called to step up and be aggressive in their prayer life.

**"Ongoing Events"  
Continued....Keep Reading.**

## ONGOING EVENTS

### FRIDAY

**FREEDOM NIGHT** - 2nd Friday of each month  
Church of Glad Tidings  
1179 Eager Rd., Live Oak  
[www.churchofgladtidings.com](http://www.churchofgladtidings.com)  
Join us for a night of worship, prayer, and freedom

**PRAISE CHAPEL COMMUNITY SINGLES GROUP**  
Starting January 10th - Every 2nd and 4th Friday  
Praise Chapel - 398 Aylor Ave., Yuba City  
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**PRAISE CHAPEL COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT**  
Starting January 17th - Every 1st and 3rd Friday  
Praise Chapel - 398 Aylor Ave., Yuba City  
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### SATURDAY

**BETHESDA HEALING WELL** - 3rd Saturday of the Month 10AM - 12PM  
Church of Glad Tidings  
1179 Eager Rd (Building 200) - Live Oak, CA 95953  
(530) 671-3160 - [info@churchofgladtidings.com](mailto:info@churchofgladtidings.com)  
Come to receive prayer and be refreshed while soaking in an atmosphere of worship and praise. Sorry, No Childcare.

**PRIME TIMERS** - First Friday every month at 12:00 (Noon)  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
Potluck luncheon for 55+, bring your favorite dish and enjoy an afternoon of fellowship

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST** -  
Every 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 am.  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
Food, Faith and Fellowship.

**NIGHT OF PRAYER**  
Every Last Saturday of the month from 6:00-7:30pm  
Crossroads Community Church - 445 B. St. Yuba City  
Worship Music, Testimonials and Prayer

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!**

• Prayer List for February 2025 •

- 1-Feb **Pastors** - That God would give them strength, courage and wisdom to speak the truth from the pulpit.
- 2-Feb **The Ambassador Newspaper** - Increased readership and Impact.
- 3-Feb **Homeless** - Safety, health and provision. Bless the Twin Cities Rescue Mission and other local homeless ministries.
- 4-Feb **World Affairs** - Pray about international activities that point to the Last Days.
- 5-Feb **Veterans** - Pray for all those who served our country and their families to get the assistance they need.
- 6-Feb **Unity** - Pray for division in this world and that everyone to see they need Jesus and come together in peace.
- 7-Feb **Local Ministries** - Pray for continued financial support and volunteers to meet needs (see page 3)
- 8-Feb **California** - pray for our Godly representatives (including James Gallagher and Doug LaMalfa) to fight against liberal and harmful state policies.
- 9-Feb **Discipleship**- Pray that believers would seek to follow Jesus and become more like Him every day!
- 10-Feb **Mental Health** - Pray for all the millions of people who are dealing with depression. Pray they feel loved.
- 11-Feb **A Woman's Friend** - Unborn children/Pregnant Women.
- 12-Feb **Israel** - Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem in all conflicts with other countries.
- 13-Feb **Human Trafficking** - Pray for the freedom, healing and restoration of survivors and for traffickers to repent.
- 14-Feb **Valentine's Day** - Pray that relationship would grow and families would seek the Lord together.
- 15-Feb **Addicted** - pray for those under the control of substances that they would surrender to the Lord, pursue and receive the treatment they need.
- 16-Feb **The Persecuted Church** around the world. Pray that believers would stand strong in the midst of brutal persecution.
- 17-Feb **Presidents Day** - Pray that President Trump is protected and lead by the Holy Spirit.
- 18-Feb **Race Relations** - Pray for Race relations in our nation. Pray for understanding and collaboration between races and an ease of rational tension.
- 19-Feb **Pray for your neighbor** - for opportunities to serve them, pray with them and share the Gospel with them!
- 20-Feb **Pray for President Trump** for positive leadership, resolve of conflict with other countries and for his physical protection from harm.
- 21-Feb **Youth** - Pray that they will wake up and become aware that "woke" thinking is a tool of Satan.
- 22-Feb **Pray that fathers** would give Godly wisdom and have a positive impact and influence on the lives of their children.
- 23-Feb **Unity of Churches/Global impact** - Pray for churches to unite & influence the world!
- 24-Feb **Pray for each of us** to be bold by the Holy Spirit to speak and act in accordance with God's Word and His Way!
- 25-Feb **Seniors and Elderly** - Pray for renewed physical and mental strength.
- 26-Feb **Global Revival** - Pray that our global chaos would lead multitudes to repent and follow the Lord!!
- 27-Feb **Pray for China, Sudan, North Korea and other nations** that God would intervene and the leadership would restore civil rights.
- 28-Feb **Revival** - Pray for a revival in the hearts of His children to spread the world to all nations!

## Bible Search Word

### HEAVENLY HYMNS

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M	S	V	F	Q	J	H	L	A	H	D	D	P	D	U	H	A	S
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#### FIND WORDS

- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| ALLELUIA | GRATITUDE | PRAISE    |
| CHOIR    | HARMONY   | REVERENCE |
| CHORUS   | HYMN      | SERENADE  |
| DEVOTION | LYRICS    | SONG      |
| DIVINE   | MELODY    | SPIRIT    |
| FAITH    | MUSIC     | WORSHIP   |

ANSWERS ON PAGE 13

## SPECIAL EVENTS

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**Feb 11- Larry Geweke**  
**Feb 18- Larry Todd**  
**Feb 25- Prayer**

\*Schedule subject to change

We hope you can join us!  
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# SENIOR AMBASSADORS

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## • How Older Christians Can Help in Times of Natural Disaster •

Natural disasters—whether hurricanes, wildfires, floods, or earthquakes—strike without warning, leaving behind devastation and despair. In the wake of such crises, people often wonder how they can help. For older Christians, physical limitations may seem like a barrier to involvement, but their role in disaster relief is both significant and essential. With a lifetime of experience, spiritual maturity, and compassionate hearts, seniors can make a profound impact in times of natural disaster.

### 1. Providing Spiritual Support and Comfort

In the chaos and heartbreak that follow disasters, emotional and spiritual support are just as important as physical aid. Older Christians can serve as spiritual anchors during these times.

- **Prayer Ministry:** Organizing prayer groups dedicated to interceding for victims, first responders, and relief workers can offer powerful spiritual support.
  - **Biblical Encouragement:** Sharing comforting Scripture and personal testimonies of God's faithfulness can bring peace to those experiencing fear and loss.
  - **Leading Devotionals:** Hosting or facilitating devotionals, either in person or online, creates a space for healing, reflection, and encouragement.
- ### 2. Organizing and Coordinating Relief Efforts
- Many seniors have years of experience in leadership, organization, and problem-solving—skills that are invaluable during disaster recovery.
- **Volunteer Coordination:** Older adults can organize volunteer teams, manage donation drives, and schedule

shifts for relief efforts.

- **Resource Distribution:** Seniors can help oversee the collection and fair distribution of supplies like food, clothing, and hygiene items.
  - **Church Leadership:** Seniors involved in church leadership can guide their congregations in how to effectively respond and serve the community during a crisis.
- ### 3. Providing Emotional Support to Victims and Volunteers
- Natural disasters take a toll not only physically but also emotionally. Older Christians can provide compassion and comfort to both victims and volunteers.
- **Active Listening:** Simply being present and listening to those who are hurting can bring immense relief and comfort.
  - **Hospitality:** Seniors can open their homes to displaced families or prepare meals for volunteers and first responders.
  - **Writing Notes of Encouragement:** Handwritten cards, letters, or emails can uplift the spirits of those working tirelessly in relief efforts or those grieving their losses.
- ### 4. Sharing Financial and Material Resources
- Many seniors are in a position to give generously and intentionally during times of crisis.
- **Monetary Donations:** Contributing to trusted relief organizations or church-led disaster funds can provide immediate assistance to affected communities.
  - **Donating Goods:** Organizing or participating in donation drives for clothing, non-perishable food, and other essentials can address practical needs.



- **Legacy Giving:** Seniors can include disaster relief funds or charitable organizations in their estate plans, ensuring their commitment to helping others continues beyond their lifetime.
- ### 5. Offering Practical Help Within Physical Limits
- Even without the physical strength for strenuous tasks, seniors can still engage in hands-on ways to help.
- **Packing Relief Supplies:** Assembling care kits, hygiene packs, or food boxes is a simple but impactful way to support relief efforts.
  - **Crafting for Comfort:** Knitting blankets, sewing clothes, or creating comfort items for children can offer both practical help and emotional

comfort.

- **Transportation Assistance:** For seniors who are able, providing rides to shelters, medical appointments, or donation centers can be a significant service.
- ### 6. Advocating and Raising Awareness
- Older Christians can use their voices and networks to amplify the needs of those affected by disasters.
- **Spreading Awareness:** Sharing information through church bulletins, social media, or personal networks can help mobilize volunteers and donations.
  - **Advocating for the Vulnerable:** Seniors understand the challenges

**CONTINUE ON PAGE 13**




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# SENIOR AMBASSADORS

## Senior Ambassador in Ministry - Meet Bill Lindholm

Seth Halpern (Editor)

Bill Lindholm, 87 yrs old.

Lives in Yuba City

**AMB:** Do you do any volunteer work locally?

**BL:** Yes. I do. There are several things I have been involved in in the past and still currently participate.

**AMB:** What are you involved in now?

**BL:** I'm a greeter at our church (Cornerstone Church, Yuba City). Many of us share the responsibility each month. It feels good to be a part of a team that does a little something for the congregation.

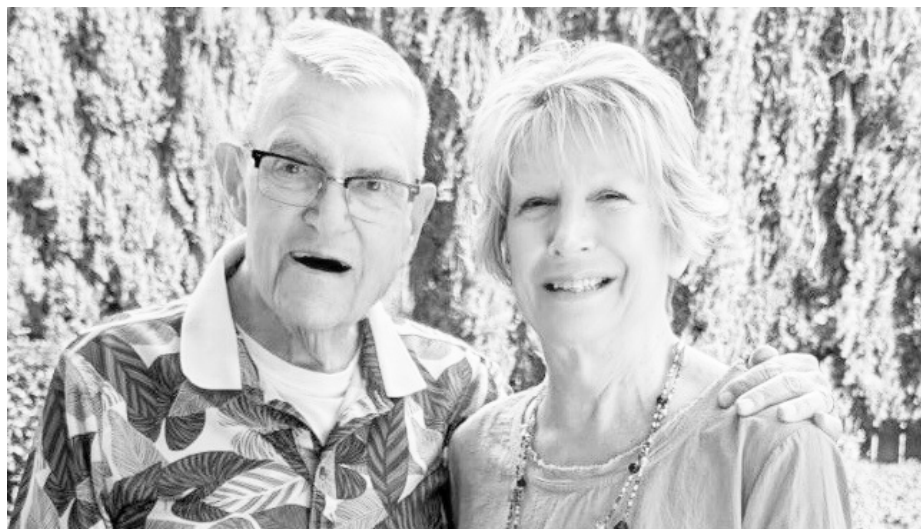
I'm also currently a board member for the (TCRM) Twin Cities Rescue Mission.

**AMB:** What is that?

**BL:** TCRM is an outreach program for men in need of physical help with housing, food and other essentials. They help with day to day needs. They also offer the men help with addiction issues. It is a non-profit, privately funded ministry to help bring men off the street and help them make a better life for themselves and their loved ones.

**AMB:** How did you get started in that?

**BL:** Several years ago, I was told that the mission needed some people to be a part of their board. The board oversees the finances, activities, needs, and director of the mission. Part of being a board member includes helping community awareness of the mission's service and needs. We



Bill & Paula Lindholm

work with churches and other local organizations who may want to help.

**AMB:** How Can local community organizations help?

**BL:** Help can look like assisting the mission staff by providing and serving a meal at the mission. It could be food or monetary donations to the mission. They are also looking for people willing to give short testimonies of what God has done in their life. I really like feeling that I'm a part (even a small part) of helping men get back on their feet.

**AMB:** You mentioned that you had done other things. Tell me about that.

**BL:** A few short years ago, I was part of (TIP) Trauma Intervention Program. This is a program where people are trained to come alongside someone who has suffered a sudden traumatic or tragic event. Volunteers sit, pray, listen, and wait with them until family or other support comes to

take over.

Also, my late wife, Sonja, and I volunteered with the Yuba City Police Dept. There were many ways to assist local officers. This includes directing traffic or setting up barricades for events. Sometimes preparing paperwork can save law enforcement a lot of time.

**AMB:** Why do you volunteer at your age when you can enjoy relaxing at home?

**BL:** I believe it is important to be involved in those things that are around you. There is a lot of need

globally, but right here there are people that just need to know that the community is looking out for them even in small ways. You've heard these words: Matthew 25:40 "Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did it for me".

We need to get "outside" ourselves and give where we can. That's different for everyone. One small act might make a difference for that one person. I like to tell people that being present for a person lifts your own spirits and keeps you wanting to go on and do more. We were meant to serve each other.

1 Cor 15:58 "So my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, nothing you do for the Lord is useless".



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# LIFE MATTERS

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## LIFE MATTERS presented by Yuba-Sutter Right To Life

### “Kill and Harvest.”

### Patients are Being Euthanized to Harvest Their Organs

Wesley Smith  
LifeNews.com

In the Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, and Canada, people who want euthanasia can become organ donors. (A recent report in Spain showed that 13 percent of those euthanized donated organs.) Let's call it "kill and harvest," a policy heartily approved by our ever more crassly utilitarian medical establishment.

Indeed, a recent study in JAMA Surgery applauds procuring the kidneys of the euthanized because, after five years, the organs of those killed by doctors and then transplanted have worked well — even better than kidneys donated by people after brain death. From the conclusion of the study, which discusses donation after circulatory death from euthanasia (DCD-V):

This study found that DCD-V kidney transplantation yielded a lower incidence of DGF [delayed graft function] compared with DCD-III kidney transplantation [controlled circulatory death after removing life support] and yielded long-term results similar to those of DCD-III and DBD [donation after brain death]



kidney transplantation. The findings suggest that DCD-V is a safe and valuable way to increase the kidney donor pool.

Yes, DCD-V, or kill and harvest, is now its own category in organ-transplant medicine.

This is so disheartening.

Allowing kill and harvest represents to me a collapse in organ-transplant ethics. The dead-donor rule is supposed to prevent people from being killed for their organs. Letting suicidal people who qualify for euthanasia know that they can become organ donors comes perilously

close to doing precisely that, and in some cases, donating has been a factor in choosing when to be euthanized. Among the serious problems of this approach:

- People who ask for euthanasia almost never receive suicide-prevention services, and instead, may be contacted by organ-donation organizations asking for their organs. This is a profound failure of true compassion and a form of abandonment, particularly since the ability to donate could become the tipping point on wanting to become dead.
- Perceiving the suicidal who

want euthanasia as organ donors can lead to their objectification because obtaining or donating the organs can become the paramount consideration rather than their personal well-being.

• Many, perhaps most, of those killed and harvested are not terminally ill. Some of the mentally ill euthanized in the Netherlands and Belgium (and soon, in Canada) are mentally ill but physically healthy. In other words, the only reason they are dead is they were subjected to voluntary homicide.

• Hospitals are turned into killing centers because the euthanasia followed by harvesting must usually take place in a hospital adjacent to the surgical suite where the organs will be procured.

Where will this go next? Well, why not live harvesting as the means of euthanasia? After all, the patient wants to die and this could lead to even more viable organs! And don't call me an alarmist. Killing by organ harvesting is already being discussed in organ-transplant medicine and bioethics journals.

If we ever sink to that level of crassness and patient abandonment, I have no doubt

**CONTINUE ON PAGE 13**

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**CONT'D FROM PAGE 1: "LA FIRES: DEVASTATION..."**



shift our journeys. But in these times, we all need support—whether financial, emotional, relational, or prayerful.

Like everyone else, I've faced critical, life-changing trials. Some of you know from past editorials or personal conversations that I've battled significant health issues. I was diagnosed with non-alcoholic cirrhosis and liver disease. Initially, it didn't dramatically affect my life or health, but it's a progressive illness. Add to that ongoing heart complications since my coronary bypass over a decade ago, and my life has become very challenging. Without going into too much detail, I am often tired, have low energy, poor sleep, and some cognitive impairment. I know many others are in far worse situations than mine, but I would be lying if I said these trials haven't been difficult for me.

I ask for your support. I've required—and am so grateful for—help with The Ambassador. Prayer support is my greatest need, along with patience as I'm not always available for phone calls or visits. Encouraging emails are always appreciated. While there's much more I could share, this article isn't about me. It's a plea for patience, grace, and compassion for all of us because, as the saying goes, we all have our own "cross to bear."

As followers of Jesus, we are called, like Simon of Cyrene, to help carry each other's burdens, not because we are compelled but because we are moved by love. Paul reminds us to "bear one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2).

In today's fast-paced world, we often feel like we're racing just to make it through the day. My wife and I occasionally watch documentaries about life in "the olden days," and we marvel at how people managed daily tasks without the modern conveniences we enjoy. Yet, we often conclude that many of these "time-saving" devices complicate our lives rather than simplify them. Perhaps it's because we've lost the mindset of a simpler life, or maybe it's because we now face a multitude of worries: health, the environment, natural disasters, and personal crises.

Ultimately, our hope is in a big and great God who walks with us through life's storms. But that hope is also meant to extend through His people—His family—who are called to care for, encourage, and pray for one another. Christians, this is one of our most significant roles in the world: to be ready and willing to serve with grace and compassion. Sometimes, you may need me, and other times, like now, I need you. Be ready.

**CONT'D FROM PAGE 10: "HOW OLDER CHRISTIANS..."**

that vulnerable populations face and can advocate for their needs in disaster relief plans.

- **Fundraising:** Organizing or participating in church fundraisers, charity events, or online campaigns can generate financial support for relief efforts.

**7. Mentoring and Encouraging Younger Volunteers**

Older Christians can provide guidance and encouragement to younger volunteers who may be new to serving in disaster situations.

- **Mentorship:** Offering advice and spiritual support helps younger volunteers stay motivated and grounded in their service.
- **Leading by Example:** Seniors can inspire others by demonstrating patience, compassion, and resilience during difficult circumstances.

**8. Supporting Long-Term Recovery**

Disaster relief doesn't end when the news coverage fades. Older Christians can help sustain recovery efforts over the long term.

- **Community Rebuilding:** Seniors can assist in planning and organizing community rebuilding projects,

- offering their wisdom and leadership.
- **Ongoing Prayer and Support:** Committing to long-term prayer and financial support helps families and communities rebuild their lives.
- **Consistent Check-Ins:** Regularly reaching out to victims and volunteers shows continued care and support.

In times of natural disaster, the wisdom, compassion, and faith of older Christians are invaluable. Whether through prayer, leadership, financial giving, or offering emotional support, seniors can be a source of God's love and hope to communities in crisis. Scripture reminds us that God uses every stage of life for His glory:

*"They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, 'The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.'" (Psalm 92:14-15)*

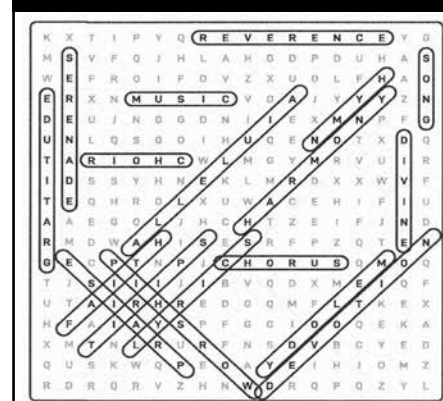
No one is ever too old to make a difference. In disaster situations, older Christians can serve as the hands and feet of Christ, spreading His love, comfort, and provision to those in need.

**CONT'D FROM PAGE 12**

**"PATIENTS ARE BEING EUTHANIZED TO HARVEST THEIR ORGANS"**

a study will one day appear in JAMA Surgery applauding the approach as "a valuable way to increase" the organ pool. *LifeNews.com Note: Wesley J. Smith, J.D., is a special consultant to the Center for Bioethics and Culture and a bioethics attorney who blogs at Human Exceptionalism.*

**Continued from Page 7 Bible Word Search Answers**



# OP/ED

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## Kug's Kolumn

### - Easy Believism -

Can someone truly accept Christ without actually following Christ? (ponder that for a moment)

I believe there are many people who have been led to believe that by saying a simple prayer (most know this as the "sinner's prayer") that they are now saved and guaranteed eternal life with Christ. But are they? When the Gospel message is presented without a clear explanation for the need to repent and turn from a life of sin, the result "can" become a false conversion.

Genuine, sincere repentance is essential in surrendering our lives to Jesus Christ. John the Baptist, Jesus, along with Peter (and others) started their ministry as follows:

- From John the Baptist: "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."
- From Jesus: "Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."
- From Peter: "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God...."



This is a consistent theme in the New Testament, yet it is often not emphasized as it should be in a Gospel presentation.

Some may view this article as controversial and say, only God knows the sincerity of someone's prayer for salvation. Agreed. But my purpose is to challenge those who have prayed a prayer (sometime in the past), but nothing changed in their lives. Evidence of being born again will result in a changed life or at a minimum, a life that is changing. I state again what I opened with...Can someone truly accept Christ without actually following (obeying) Christ?

Something to consider, yes?

**David Kugelman is the president of the Christian Community Network which meets each Tuesday at noon at various locations. Dave welcomes your questions or comments on this article at [drkug@comcast.net](mailto:drkug@comcast.net)**



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*The deadline for submission is the 15th of the month for the next issue.*

## INTRODUCING THE NEW SENIOR AMBASSADOR SECTION

### Encouragement, Inspiration, and Information for Senior Followers of Jesus

If you read our last issue, you know that we are beginning a new section focused on our senior community. Although we initiated it in January's issue, I want to continue our spotlight on it in this editorial. We are thrilled to unveil the new Senior Ambassador section, a dedicated space designed to offer encouragement, inspiration, and valuable information for and about senior followers of Jesus. This section is crafted to celebrate the profound wisdom, experience, and contributions of our senior community members.

### Helping Seniors in Times of Disaster

This month, our focus is on the impactful ways seniors can assist during times of disaster. While health issues may impede certain tasks, there are still many ways that we can help. Whether through volunteering, providing emotional support, or leveraging their extensive life skills, seniors have unique capabilities to offer when crises arise. We share practical tips that highlight the significance of their involvement during such challenging times.



**Seth Halpern, Editor**

### Senior Ambassador Profiles

We are excited to introduce our first Senior Ambassador profile, featuring Bill Lindholm. Bill's story is a testament to a life dedicated to serving the Lord and our community. Read about continued ministry (even at the age of 87!), the remarkable work he is doing, and how his faith continues to be a guiding light in his efforts to make a difference.

Stay tuned for more uplifting stories and insightful guidance in our Senior Ambassador section. If you would like to participate in our Senior Profiles, (or know someone who would be willing to share their involvement with ministry) please contact me at [editor@ambassadornewspaper.com](mailto:editor@ambassadornewspaper.com). Together, let us honor and support our senior followers of Jesus as they continue to lead lives of service and devotion.

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Three white stars are positioned above the main title.

# PRESIDENT'S DAY

HONORING ALL PRESIDENTS

**February 17, 2025**

**FIND  FREEDOM  
IN GOD'S PERFECT PEACE**

If you would like to experience the peace and transformed life that God can provide through Jesus Christ and you are willing to commit your life to the only one who can truly set you free from your sin, you can pray to the Lord right now and ask Him to forgive you of your sins. Because of what His Son, Jesus, did by dying on the cross, your sins will not be held against you by God anymore. You can experience freedom for the rest of your life on earth and then have a life in Heaven with God for eternity. God's part of the deal is already done. Your part is to confess your sins, repent (or change your ways) and believe that He is Lord. If your life is out of control, let Him take over control.

For help, questions, or more information, contact us at  
The Ambassador or any of the churches listed on page 3.