

WYTN – 91.7 FM – Youngstown, OH
Issues/Program List
“COMMUNITY BRIDGE”
A 5-Minute Program Heard Saturdays
at 7:25 AM, 5:00 PM, and 7:55 PM
January – March, 2022

DATE	ISSUE	GUEST AND DESCRIPTION
January 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2022	Heroes Passage Retreat for Youngstown Veterans	<p><u>Host:</u> Virginia Beehn</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> John Ely, President and Founder, Veteran’s Outreach (Youngstown, OH). www.veteransoutreach.org</p> <p>Public Phone: 888-2-VET-NET (888-283-8638)</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Veteran’s Outreach of Youngstown was gifted a 100-acre parcel of land in Kentucky in 2003 that they are developing into a retreat for veterans to help them recover from PTSD. There will be 60 cabins for 60 veterans to come and stay for 6 months. Therapy, job assistance, and other services are planned to help the veteran return to a better state of being and return to normal society in Youngstown.</p>
February 5, 2022	Local Habitat Loss and Waste: Prevention from a Creation Care Perspective	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Tom Hennigan, Associate Professor of Ecology and Organism Biology, Truett McConnell University (Cleveland, GA). www.cornwallalliance.org</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Habitat loss is a major issue; it can be disrupted (drought, water pollution, and invading species); fragmented (tornadoes, roads, and housing developments), or destroyed (volcanic eruptions and bull dozers). The environment perspective is man-entered, believes that Earth is the only place we can call home, but can create policies that hurt the poor. While some Christians reason the Earth will all burn up anyway, the Biblical mandate to care for God’s Creation is still in place. God owns this world and He is control of it; Christians should care for it, maintain systems wisely, and help people. Tom encouraged us to enjoy God’s Creation with family and our local church body, reduce use of plastics by bringing cloth and permanent bags to shop and store, create community and church gardens, organize trash cleanups, and always give glory to Christ and His Creation gift. The Wonders of Creation Book Series helps families understand ecology and systems from a Creation Genesis perspective.</p>
February 12, 2022	Explaining Racial Diversity in a Biblical Way	<p><u>Host:</u> Charrie Slater</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Michelle Beckam Corbin, Director of Marketing and Communications for American Heritage Girls (Cincinnati, OH) www.ahg.org</p> <p><u>Description:</u> American Heritage Girls offers programs to create Christ-following servant leaders. In their podcasts, they have</p>

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		touched on talking about racial diversity and the importance of teaching the biblical perspective to our children and grandchildren. It's important not to ignore racial diversity and rather celebrate the Godly design that it is. Michelle gave parents and grandparents some advice when it comes to teaching our children that diversity is valuable at a young age. For more information, please visit their website.
February 19, 2022	Spreading Local Awareness Regarding COVID and Heart Health	<p><u>Host:</u> Charrie Slater</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Dr. Don Lloyd-Jones, President of the American Heart Association www.heart.org (Chicago, IL).</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Dr. Don explained how COVID can impact your heart health and long-lasting effects. Doctors have different ways to measure the damage on heart tissue and muscles when the virus gets in your body. He explained some of the higher risks when it comes to COVID and different risk factors for which older people especially need to watch out. When you're older, obese, or have underlying health issues, the virus can affect you greater and perhaps, in some cases, affect your heart. It's important to know your numbers so that you can keep track of how your body is doing on a regular basis. For more information, please visit www.heart.org.</p>
February 26, 2022	Suicide Prevention in Youngstown	<p><u>Host:</u> Virginia Beehn</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Dr. Joannie DeBrito, Counselor and Co-Creator, "Alive to Thrive," Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO). www.focusonthefamily.com (and) www.alivetothrive.com</p> <p>Public Phone for Help: 855-771-4357</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Suicide currently has the highest rates for persons between ages 10 and 34 years. Several reasons for suicide exist, but the main reason is hyper-critical social media. Cyberbullying is now done 24 hours a day via social media rather than just during a school day. Signs of thoughts of suicide include depression, inability to eat, significant loss or gain of weight, sleeping all day or hardly at all, mood changes, withdrawal from society and personal relationships, and isolation from COVID shutdowns. People sometimes use words like "helpless," "hopeless," "I can't," or "I won't," or "nothing good ever happens to me." Also watch for increased interest in alcohol or drug use or interacting with firearms. Get help through the above contact points.</p>

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March 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2022	American Red Cross Blood Drives in Ohio	<p><u>Host:</u> Virginia Beehn <u>Guest:</u> Christina (Christy) Peters, Communications Manager, American Red Cross of Northern Ohio (Cleveland, OH). www.redcross.org</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Many people don't realize that blood is perishable. There are three components to blood: 1) Red blood cells, 2) Platelets, and 3) Plasma. Blood donations are needed continuously. Emergency situations use blood cells. Platelets are used for cancer patients, and plasma is used for burn victims. You can save up to three lives with one donation. COVID19 caused donations to drop about 10 percent, but the need continues in Ohio.</p>

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January 1, 2022	The Need to Restore Hope and Reunite the Church in Christ-Centered Worship (25-minute program)	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Alistair Begg, Bible Teacher on Truth for Life and Senior Pastor, Parkside Church (Cleveland, OH). www.truthforlife.org</p> <p><u>Description:</u> The last several years have been a time of challenges. Pandemic fears gripped our nation, prompting social distancing, lockdowns, and remote learning and working, along with a host of other abnormalities. As America emerges, churches across America now face another unique challenge: being relevant in an ever-changing environment that seems increasingly distanced from Christianity. Alistair Begg shared his thoughts on what it means to be God's people and living it out in our daily lives to help bring revival throughout America. He talked about how the church needs revival or the inflow of the spirit of God in the lives of the people of God and to restore our commitment to the things of God, to reset the primacy of God. He expressed concern that unless God does something remarkable in His people, then the future of the church in the U.S. could fall in the footsteps of the Church in Western Europe where the churches are museums and without people.</p>
January 8, 2022	Reflecting on the God's Goodness - Best of 2021 Community Bridge Anthology (25-minute program)	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Ron Archer, Author, World-Renowned Inspirational Speaker (Cleveland, OH) shared how God helped him overcome his painful past, suffering, and childhood trauma. www.draronarcher.com</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Meg Apperson, Author, Blogger, Military Wife, and Homeschooling Mom (NC) talked about learning to surrender to God's plan despite crisis. www.fourfinelives.com</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Rita Schulte, Author, Licensed Professional Counselor, Suicide Loss Survivor (Washington, D.C.) walked listeners through the process of healing from the tragedy of losing a loved one to suicide. www.ritaschulte.com</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Karl Benzio, Christian Psychiatrist, Medical Director, Honey Lake Clinic; Founder, Director, Lighthouse Network; Member, Christian Medical and Dental Association (Greenville, FL) gave insight on how the Word of</p>

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		<p>God holds us fast (in place) through turbulent (or unpredictable) times. www.lighthouse.network.org; www.cmda.org</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Jim Daly, President and Chief Executive Officer, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO) shared his personal struggles during his youth and how even if you don't technically have a family, as a believer you are still part of a family. www.focusonthefamily.com</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> John Fuller, Vice President of the Audio Team, Focus on the Family Daily Broadcast, Focus on the Family (Colorado Springs, CO) opened his home to our listeners giving insight on finding biblical grace as your loved ones get older. www.focusonthefamily.com</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Steve Diehl, Founder, Speaker, Author, Forgiveness Ministries (Concord, CA) talked about how to mend broken relationships and build new ones, the idea is to move forward in the light of God's truth. www.forgivenessministries.org</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Dr. Gary Chapman, International Public Speaker, Best-selling Author and Senior Associate Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church (Winston-Salem, NC) explained how God restores the ability to cultivate healthy relationships.</p> <p><u>Guest and Description:</u> Alistair Begg, Bible Teacher on Truth for Life and Senior Pastor, Parkside Church (Cleveland, OH) explained the primary goal of the church and how God, through His Word, will accomplish that goal. www.truthforlife.org</p>
January 15, 2022	<p>Teaching Children in America that the Sanctity of Life Matters</p> <p>(25-minute program)</p>	<p><u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser</p> <p><u>Guest:</u> Elizabeth Johnston, Speaker, Blogger, Podcast Host and Bestselling Author (Charlotte, NC).</p> <p><u>Description:</u> Amongst the excitement a child has about going to school, parents are questioning what is being taught in the classroom and if the curriculum aligns with how they want their child to be raised. Unfortunately, there is growing threat to America's children, and the world, that is focusing on ideology normalizing abortion on demand, infanticide, gender confusion, a "woke culture," etc. that go against biblical principles. Elizabeth Johnston talked about the importance of teaching our children and grandchildren that the sanctity of all life – whether</p>

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		it be the unborn, the disabled or the elderly - matters. And, as Christians, we should strive to pass down values of nondiscrimination and not discriminate based on size, development, location, or ability of a person. She also shared how the Church can be a part of helping parents/grandparents build a strong foundation to help combat our culture that seems counter to the Bible.
January 22, 2022	How Biblical Women Offer Practical Insights for Navigating Challenging Times (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Marina Hofman Willard, Author of <i>Women In The Bible</i> (West Palm Beach, FL). www.womeninthebible.info <u>Description:</u> Change and fear can greatly impact a person's life physically, mentally, spiritually, and can even impact their relationships. As we hear news of the spread of a new Covid-19 variant emerging, rising costs, and other things, it heightens our concern and makes us wonder what lies ahead. Dr. Marina Hofman Willard shared stories of women in the Bible: Hagar, Hannah, the Midwives during Moses' time, Esther, Mary, and Rahab and how they can be models of faithfulness to help us navigate through challenges and make the right decisions. She also shared her own story which prompted her to write a women's Bible study.
January 29, 2022	How God reveals Himself in His Wonderous Works – Creationism vs. Evolution (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Jeff Williams, Colonel, US Army, Ret. and Astronaut (WA). <u>Description:</u> The debate between Creationism vs. Evolution has been ongoing for many years. Sadly, it was recently found that Creationism being taught in U.S. public schools has decreased and teachers are giving more credence to the theory of Evolution. Having orbited the Earth more than 2,800 times and viewed the Earth from the International Space Station, Astronaut Jeff Williams talked about how God uniquely reveals Himself in His wonderous works. When a person does not accept the truth that God has revealed Himself clearly in Creation, in His Word, and the Person of Jesus Christ, then people will come up with a reason for the existence of everything – evolution. He also noted there is no conflict between science and the Bible. Science is the

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		study of the natural and the Bible is coherent with science. The conflict is with the philosophy and a persons' presuppositions.
February 5, 2022	The Importance of Parents' Involvement in their Children's Education (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Mike Haley, Founding Director and Director of Community Engagement, Resilient Kidz (Colorado Springs, CO). www.resilientkidz.com <u>Description:</u> The family unit in America is not as strong as it used to be. Parental involvement in educational and school activities has decreased and children are suffering. One example of the negative impact is the number of fights (violence) breaking out in schools. Mike Haley informed listeners on several of the forty (40) developmental assets every child needs to be more likely to successful – combining these with character traits from the Bible. He talked about the importance of parents, grandparents, the local church, and even community members, getting involved with their children's education and activities. Mike also shared a story of dads in Louisiana who showed up at a school campus that was experiencing fights between students and how the dads were able to provide certain skills and influence which drastically reduced the incidents.
February 12, 2022	The Potential Harms of Social Media and Leveraging the Platform for Christ (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Adam Holz, Director, Plugged In (Colorado Springs, CO). www.pluggedin.com <u>Description:</u> Social-media, smartphones and various digital entertainment venues are drawing a lot of attention in America because of the negative influence and impact they reportedly have on individuals, especially teens. Adam Holz offered practical ways parents can keep their families safe online and help them navigate through the materials targeted for young audiences. They do this by equipping families to be ready for the onslaught against kids, and offers ways to teach them to think biblically and with enough maturity to choose not to view inappropriate material.

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February 19, 2022	A Biblical Response to Cultural Tsunamis and Earthquakes in America (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dr. Jim Denison, Chief Visionary Officer, The Denison Forum (Dallas, TX). www.denisonforum.org <u>Description:</u> Safe areas are designated for a number of emergency situations, but how can individuals be prepared and seek the safety of higher, safer ground – with a strong foundation – in the midst of a cultural tsunami and other turmoil? Cultural earthquakes are taking place all over in America from a “post-truth” culture, sexual revolution, critical theory, and secular religion, to name a few. Dr. Jim Denison spoke about the importance for believers to understand what is happening in the culture so they can know where the darkness/decay is and bring the salt/light, speaking the truth in love.
February 26, 2022	Sharing the Gospel and Bible Visually in Today’s Digital Age for Deep and Meaningful Engagement (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Dave Pillow, Founder, The Video Bible (Opelika, Alabama). www.videobible.com <u>Description:</u> A recent found that only 9% of respondents indicated they read their Bible on a daily basis, which was the lowest figure in the decade the research had been conducted. Many people from all walks of life struggle with making sense of biblical content or know how to apply it to daily life. Dave Pillow explained how the Word of God, the Bible, is alive and active and judges the thoughts and intents of the heart. He shared his own testimony when he was on the brink of death and gave his life to the Lord. He talked about how the Video Bible is a great way to open up conversations with your family. The Video Bible is the world’s first cover-to-cover, audio and visual representation of the entire Bible.
March 5, 2022	Equipping the Next Generation for the Signs of the Times (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> David & Sally Michael, Co-Founders, Truth:78 (Mendota Heights, MN). www.truth78.org <u>Description:</u> The Bible tells us in Matthew Chapter 24 there will be unsettling times of unrest. In today’s world, we hear about these types of events taking place throughout America which makes it difficult to distinguish what is truth and what is fiction. Jesus instructed believers to “...see that no one leads

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		<i>you astray...</i> ” With everything that is going on, many wonder how the next generation will be prepared to deal with the signs of the times and not be lead astray, but to have the peace, joy and the hope the Bible promises. The Michael’s shared how families can be confident and stand strong by being anchored to the truth of God’s Word. They also talked about parents and grandparents having a wonderful opportunity to be there in the moment to help kids interpret what is going on but also give them overarching themes and theology of the Bible, to understand God is sovereign and nothing can thwart His promises.
March 12, 2022	Helping Fellow Believers Suffering in Tangible Ways – both Here in the United States and Abroad in a War Zone (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Eric Mock, Vice President of Ministry Operations, Slavic Gospel Association (SGA) (Loves Park, IL). www.sga.org <u>Description:</u> Flooding the news are reports of the overwhelming destruction and tragedy taking place in Ukraine and Russia. Pastor Eric Mock shared information on what you don’t hear in the news – how God is at work in the middle of all the rubble. He told stories of many pastors and faithful believers who are running into the disaster, in with the Gospel, in with food and the desire to care for people left behind. Eric also talked about how God will continue to build His church through His people. In a world filled with calamity and struggles, people are turning to faith – when all else is stripped away, we realize we can only turn to our Creator.
March 19, 2022	The Need for Churches and Christians to Confront Sin (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Ray Comfort, Founder and CEO, Living Waters (Bellflower, CA). www.livingwaters.com <u>Description:</u> Going to church was something most families did on a weekly basis many years ago. Parking lots were full and extra chairs had to be set up to accommodate the overflow of those attending worship services. For a number of churches in America today, however, these are just memories as they struggle to fill what was once plentiful. Ray Comfort explored reasons why the church is in decline, including its lack of confronting sin (e.g. including criminal behavior, lawbreaking, and other misdeeds) and offered ways a person can embrace the

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		Great Commission to share the Gospel, offered examples on how to do this and how to become Christ-like to others. He told his personal story on what took place in his life when he felt God wanted him to take this path to tell others about Jesus and His saving grace.
March 26, 2022	Environmental Stewardship (25-minute program)	<u>Host:</u> Jenny Burkhiser <u>Guest:</u> Tom Hennigan, Associate Professor of Ecology and Organism Biology, Truett McConnell University (Cleveland, GA). www.cornwallalliance.org <u>Description:</u> Habitat loss is a major issue; it can be disrupted (drought, water pollution, and invading species); fragmented (tornadoes, roads, and housing developments), or destroyed (volcanic eruptions and bull dozers). The environmental perspective is man-centered, believes that Earth is the only place we can call home, but can create policies that hurt the poor. While some Christians reason the Earth will all burn up anyway, the Biblical mandate to care for God's Creation is still in place. God owns this world and He is control of it; Christians should care for it, maintain systems wisely, and help people. Tom encouraged us to enjoy God's Creation with family and our local church body, reduce use of plastics by bringing cloth and permanent bags to shop and store, create community and church gardens, organize trash cleanups, and always give glory to Christ for His Creation gift. The Wonders of Creation Book Series helps families understand ecology and systems from a Creation Genesis perspective.

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January 3, 2022	Grandfather Earns College Degree	A granddaughter and grandfather duo crossed the stage at a college commencement ceremony last month, proving it’s never too late to achieve your goals. Eighty-seven-year-old Rene Neira started his educational journey over a half-century ago, when he began attending University in the 1950s. But he put his education on hold when he got married and started a family. In 2016, he and his granddaughter Melanie enrolled at University of Texas at San Antonio working toward their goal of earning a bachelor’s degree TOGETHER. Last month, on Dec. 11, 2021, Melanie pushed her terminally ill grandfather across the stage to receive his degree while she received her B.A. in Communication.
January 4, 2022	Preserving Unborn Lives	A miracle premature baby born the size of an iPhone is beginning the new year at home after his parents feared he may not survive. “Myles” weighed just 1 lb. 8 oz. when he was born 14 weeks premature on June 19, 2022. The little guy was immediately placed on a ventilator as he was unable to breathe for himself and endured a 15-week battle for life. Twenty-four-year-old mom Rebecca says she remembers asking, “Why is this happening to us?” Despite still having chronic lung disease, little Myles is settling in well at home now weighing in at 5 lb. 5 oz. Rebecca said, “He’s still tiny but we thought he was absolutely a baby giant. We’ve been blessed with a miracle.”
January 5, 2022	Utility Bill Assistance	In a touching act of generosity, a U.S. Army veteran has paid off the late utility bills of at least 677 Florida residents – all of whom were total strangers! Mike Esmond, owner of a pool business in Pensacola, Florida, managed to pay \$85,000 out of his own pocket to cover the overdue bills. His motive for helping others was rooted in his own financial struggles years ago when he had his utilities disconnected during one of the coldest winters in history. Mike said, “You know, it's not only paying these 29 accounts, it's the happiness that this brings so many other people across the United States and around the world.”
January 7, 2022	Feeding Stranded Drivers on the Highway	In a kind way of helping other stranded drivers on I-95 following Monday’s winter storm, a local bakery truck driver gave out free bread so others could some much needed food! When Casey Holihan saw a bread truck from Schmidt Baking Company stuck just ahead of her, she called the company's customer service line and asked if it was possible for the driver to open the truck and give some loaves of bread to them and others. Casey was then surprised to receive a phone call 20 minutes

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		later from the company owner who said he was instructing the truck's driver, Ron Hill, to open the back and pass out some food. Turns out that Casey and her husband helped pass out about 300 packages of rolls and loaves of bread to people in surrounding vehicles over the course of an hour.
January 10, 2022	Cancer Survivors Help Others Battle Cancer	A Connecticut three-year-old has been a fighter ever since his cancer diagnosis, and now he's using his fighting energy to help others! Little “Naaman,” was diagnosed with Leukemia soon after birth but now helps design colorful non-slip socks that other young cancer fighters can wear while staying in the hospital. The organization behind the socks, Resilience Gives, has donated nearly 7,000 pairs of socks and a little over \$140,000 to area hospitals.
January 11, 2022	Boy with Downs Syndrome Raises Money for Veterans	Blessed with a generous heart and a love for art, an Illinois high school student born with down syndrome has found a way to communicate through brush strokes on canvas. “Emmet” has created vibrant paintings ever since he was 4 years old, and now his work has earned thousands of dollars allowing him to donate over \$17,000 to foundations supporting veterans and first responders, as well as to the National Association for Downs Syndrome. His parents, who were told their son may never hold a pencil, say they love watching Emmett paint a different ending to his life story.
January 12, 2022	Fun Activities for Hospitalized Chemo Patients	When Scott Murphy was a kid, his big sister Linda always took care of him and babysat him until he was older. So, when Linda was diagnosed with uterine cancer decades later in 2019, Scott decided it was his turn to take care of her. He sat with her during each of her hours-long chemotherapy treatments and created activities to keep her mind off her diagnosis.... mainly trivia booklets with questions about different movies she's seen and her favorite music. Well, when other patients took notice, Scott started bringing extra packets with activities that had more general appeal. He calls the work the A.C.T., or "Activities for Chemo Treatment," Project. And even after Linda's treatments stopped, Scott's project continued. He has been bringing stacks of activity sheets to Mercy Health Fairfield Hospital in Ohio every few months for the past two years.
January 13, 2022	Local Mom Creates Community Ice Rink	An abandoned neighborhood in Detroit came alive, all thanks to an empty lot, a fire truck full of water, and a local mother with a big heart. Kaytea Moreno-Elst saw the lot and thought it would be a perfect place

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		to build an ice-skating rink. Soon, a fire department got word and donated all of the water in their truck’s tank to lay the ice down. Then, skating groups from across the community donated skates and gear. Now, kids and their parents have been showing up in droves, enjoying the rink every single day.
January 17, 2022	Food Vendor Distributes Meals to the Homeless	When Robert Magiet was driving across Chicago, he spotted a shivering tamale vendor braving the frigid January temperatures. Rather than let the woman freeze, Rob bought out her entire day’s supply—close to 10 dozen tamales, gave her a big tip, and sent her on her way. After she’d gratefully gone home, Rob loaded up those tamales and distributed them to some of Chicago’s homeless population. He didn’t stop there, the next week he bought up all the tamales from vendors at three OTHER locations and shared those as well. Rob says he just feel grateful to be able to provide much-needed relief for those struggling to put food on the table.
January 18, 2022	Prison Inmates Fund a High Schooler’s Education	When a high school student needed help paying his tuition fees, an unlikely group offered a helping hand: prison inmates! When both of his parents lost their jobs due to tragic illness, Sy Green’s future education at a private Christian school was in jeopardy... the school could provide some scholarship help, but not enough to cover the \$12,000 annual tuition. That’s when the inmates at Soledad Prison stepped up. After learning about Sy’s plight, an idea was hatched at a prison book group called Exercises in Empathy, a school program now in its seventh year. The inmates decided to pool the money they earned bit by bit from doing prison jobs such as cleaning and clerking. Over the course of about 3 years, the group raised a whopping \$32,000 enough for Sy to graduate.
January 19, 2022	Building Trust with Law Enforcement	An Atlanta non-profit is using barbershops to bring police officers and community members TOGETHER! Retired investigator Tyrone Dennis wanted to encourage empathy between civilians and police, and so in 2018, he founded the nonprofit Clippers and Cops! The program aims to spark conversation between the two groups on topics like the do’s and don’ts on traffic stops, and how to interact with law enforcement. And now Clippers and Cops is happening at barbershops all over the country.
January 21, 2022	Transforming Homes for the Homeless	Imagine that you and your family are homeless due to economic reasons or something else. After long months or years of waiting, you

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		finally get a home. On your first day, you turn the key, open the door ... and realize you don't have so much as a bed to sleep in or a couch to sit on. Well, this is where Digs with Dignity steps in. Co-founder Kim Hannay says their mission is to help people transitioning out of homelessness following a job loss or any other cause. “And we get things done super-fast,” one volunteer said. “We interview the family. We do floor plans. We find out what they need and then choose things from our warehouse.” In just a few hours, Digs with Dignity can transform a barren space into a family home.
January 25, 2022	High Schoolers Shovel Driveways in Their Community	As much of the country was slammed by snow from a winter storm, a Pennsylvania football coach decided to cancel his team's weightlifting session... and instead, he suggested different kind of workout: shoveling snow in the community.
January 28, 2022	A Father and Son Give Back to Their Community	After years of doing volunteer yard work in their neighborhood, a New York father and son turned a passion for giving back to others into a thriving business. It began about five years ago when Thor Hendrickson, Jr., wanted to help an elderly neighbor who had a cast on her arm. Ever since then, Thor has helped her with various jobs, from shoveling snow to moving large appliances. And he never asked for money.... he just wanted to help those that couldn't do it for themselves! Thor Sr. says if it wasn't for his son, he would have never thought to open a landscaping business. Through word of mouth and the people in the community, the two started T & Son's Property Management north of Albany, NY.
February 1, 2022	Celebrity Chef Feeds the Homeless	Ever since the start of the pandemic, an Atlanta-based pastry chef and his family have been making lunch to help feed the homeless. Bill Lipscomb, a former Food Network competition finalist, said giving back just felt like the right thing to do. Using his own money, Bill said he started out making 15 lunch bags per week, but that quickly grew into more with the help of his coworkers and friends. Since then, it's been an ongoing thing! He's been feeding the homeless once a week since March 2020. Lunches come complete with a sandwich, water, fruit, and chips.
February 4, 2022	Humanitarian Projects for American Youth	Instead of staying trapped indoors, American Youth Are Answering the Call to Serve! Over 2,000 young people are venturing cross country this year alongside AmeriCorps, a humanitarian effort with an emphasis on teamwork, leadership development, and communication.

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		One AmeriCorps group in Stockton, California, is helping with food distribution... another team in Sacramento, California, is wielding hammers to build affordable homes, and other groups are supporting coronavirus testing sites. After completing about 5 long term service projects over the next 10 months, these young people will receive over \$6,000 to help pay for college or pay back existing student loans.
February 7, 2022	Disability Assistance	“Raymond” was born with spina bifida and relies on a wheelchair as his main source of mobility. That’s why his friends and entire community couldn’t have been more shocked when they learned his wheelchair has been stolen back in 2017. But thankfully a few weeks after the incident, the public responded, pooling their resources to buy Raymond not one, but two, wheelchairs! Grateful for their generosity, Raymond has decided to pay it forward by starting his very own non-profit that repairs old wheelchairs.
February 9, 2022	Free Snowplow Service	For years, Colorado resident John Holtz used to only clear the snow in front of his home. But one day, he decided to go an extra block with his snowblower, and that decision made a big impact in this neighborhood. “The first blizzard I had that thing, I did my corner and it still had gas,” John said, “so.... I just kept on going!” Years later, he’s kept the tradition, leaving no sidewalk in his neighborhood untouched. It’s helped him to get to know most of his neighbors too!
February 14, 2022	Free Meals for Community Heroes	He’s an office administrator by day, but during his lunch breaks, Patrick Rhodes is a hero who helps other heroes! Patrick created the Lunch for Healthcare Heroes campaign in April 2020, and personally paid for and delivered more than 600 pizzas and sandwiches to hospitals in the Tampa, Florida, area. In 2021, Pat partnered with the Inspire Foundation, breaking his own goal of delivering 2,021 more free meals to community heroes. He's even expanded his operation to include free school supplies for teachers. And yes, he has plans to top it all in 2022 with more free meals!
February 15, 2022	Contagious Generosity	Generous giving is contagious, and a Texas third grader is helping us understand why! On her 9th birthday, “Jada” and her mother were walking out of the mall when a homeless woman sitting on the ground outside noticed Jada’s birthday crown. The lady gave her \$20, saying that SHE had just received \$100 from a stranger and wanted to pay it forward. Jada was struck that this woman didn’t have much, but she still gave something. This small gift inspired her and her mom to begin

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		a fundraiser with the goal of passing out pizza and drinks to the homeless. They used the \$150 to buy pizza, apples, and water to pass out to the homeless at an event called “Pizza My Heart.”
February 18, 2022	Treating the Homeless with Dignity	A Palm Beach, Florida, man is using his life experience to help break the stigma connected to living on the street. When Franky Pierre-Paul was kicked out of his home at only 16 years old, he spent a lot of time couch-surfing and sleeping on park benches, but TODAY, he’s the CEO and founder of A Different Shade of Love – a nonprofit supporting the homeless. Frank talks about the need for compassion and empathy in everyday life. A Different Shade of Love believes that every person, regardless of their economic situation, deserves to be treated with dignity, shown respect, and given a second chance at living a meaningful life.
February 23, 2022	Mentoring Incarcerated Youth	A man in North Carolina is using his trade skills to give back to the community by helping people turn mistakes into opportunities. For the last 15 years, David Moore has been mentoring the incarcerated and at-risk youth in his auto body shop. He founded Southside Rides Foundation to help people, who because of their past, have few other options. Moore said ‘growth starts with being brave enough to try on your own. Just go out there and see what you can do!’ Local dealerships have hired over 200 people who went through his program and around 30 have opened their own businesses.
February 25, 2022	Police Blood Drive	In a competition between a Maryland city’s police and fire crews, the real winner was the American Red Cross, as the departments tried to see who could get the most blood donors during a drive last Thursday. Frederick Police Chief Jason Lando said they were asked to do the competition by the American Red Cross, who recently declared its first national blood crisis after seeing its worst shortage of it in over a decade. They dubbed the event the Battle of the Badges blood drive. The drive will benefit 159 people, most of whom are cancer patients, mothers experiencing complicated childbirth, and trauma victims.
February 28, 2022	Mobile Laundry Truck for the Homeless	A group of “angels” are taking their fight to help the South Carolina homeless to the streets via a mobile trailer. Today, the non-profit "Jean’s Angels” unveiled their new laundry truck. It has four washer and dryer units and will be brought to spots where the area’s homeless are known to gather, giving folks in need a chance to clean their clothes.

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March 1, 2022	Police Honor Young Cancer Survivor	A little boy's dream came true yesterday when he was sworn into his 100th law enforcement agency as an honorary officer to bring awareness to childhood cancer! You see, 10-year-old "D.J." of Texas is in the fight for his life against terminal brain cancer and spinal cancer. And yesterday, the Montgomery County Judge formally recognized D.J. in a proclamation recognizing D.J.'s formal swearing-in at 25 agencies.
March 3, 2022	Adopting Homeless Pets	Ohio State trooper has shown the “ulti-mutt” example of protect and serve after crossing paths with a stray pit bull in the middle of the highway. Patrol Trooper Rick Gable was working his usual shift when he noticed the homeless dog on the road. After activating his overhead lights, he stopped his car and opened his driver side door to get out... just then the dog jumped right into the car, alongside Officer Gable. He took Zoey to the county animal shelter, where she was held for three days waiting for her owners to claim her. But no one ever did! Trooper Gable had kept tabs on the pooch, and after the third day, he went to the shelter and adopted her!
March 4, 2022	Christian Aid for Ukraine	As the war rages on in Ukraine, U.S.-based Christian groups are leading efforts to support churches in in the embattled nation. One Pastor with the Slavic Gospel Association (SGA) said, “While others are fleeing, local churches are engaging! We are providing food and medicines for thousands of at-risk people, including orphans, abandoned children and the elderly.” Illinois-based SGA said it has prepared 175,000 meals through its partnering with a network of more than 2,300 Ukrainian and Russian pastors.
March 7, 2022	Assistance for Struggling Neighbors	An initiative in Atlanta is turning trash cans into mobile hygiene closets for the city’s most vulnerable children. Johari Dozier began the Clean Cargo Project in 2018 when he found out how many students needed essential products. Johari’s vision led him to begin filling trash cans, or mobile cargo units, with donated items that Atlanta elementary students could use to better their hygiene. Just one mobile cargo unit can hold around 500 items and is filled with essential products like toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, and shampoo before being delivered to schools across the city.
March 9, 2022	Community Peace Vigils for Ukraine	Prayer vigils and rallies for peace are being held by people across the U.S. and around the globe as Ukraine battles the Russian invasion. Youth groups and schools throughout the country are doing their part

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		to send well wishes to the people directly impacted by the war. The Ukrainian American Youth Association, a patriotic and faith-based nonprofit scouting organization, has been spreading awareness and leading prayer efforts throughout the country. The organization’s Ohio youth chapter was one of the first to hold a "Cleveland Pray for Ukraine" event before Russia’s attack. Outside of prayer, the organization has been keeping the public in the loop with social media posts about war reports and peace events that are happening in the U.S.
March 10, 2022	Helping Military Families	For kids, having a parent in the military who’s deployed can be hard. One project, called “Hearts and Heroes,” is aiming to make things a little easier on them. Hearts and Heroes creates dolls that resemble children’s loved ones so kids can spend time with them, even if they’re not physically together. Founder Samantha Vargas said, “These kids are having tea parties with their dad.... when their dad is on the line of duty, they’re taking him on trips. They’re even watching TV with him and napping with him.” Along with military members, Hearts and Heroes creates dolls for police officers, firemen, doctors, and others whose professions involve long nights and time away from families. Whenever a child loses a parent in the line of duty, Hearts and Heroes sends the family a custom doll with the name and badge or rank that resembles the person who died.
March 14, 2022	Comfort for Chemo Patients	A thoughtful 10-year-old girl is dedicating her time to crafting "chemo comfort bags" for hospital patients after seeing her grandfather battle pancreatic cancer. “Sophie” of Buffalo, NY, decided she wanted to brighten the days of chemotherapy patients shortly after her grandfather – Terry – explained what the treatment is and why it’s challenging for people. Sophie learned of Terry’s diagnosis in October 2021 and set out to make comfort bags for chemo patients over the holiday season. With help from her family, Sophie put together crocheted bags and fill each with items that are meant to enhance comfort, including blankets, small pillows, cozy socks, and mitts.
March 16, 2022	The Perfect Dress for Prom Night	A Texas church has made it easier for hundreds of girls to participate in their high school's prom night by allowing them to choose a gown from among thousands on offer for free. St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Plano held its 13th annual “Prom Closet” event last month, where nearly 800 girls were able to choose a gown among 4,000 dresses that were available, along with accessories, including jewelry,

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		shoes, and purses. Founder Devra Helffrich said that “it felt great to be back this year,” as they'd had to cancel last year’s event due to the pandemic. “When I say that one of our favorite things is watching the girls react when those doors open to a room filled with a rainbow of colors of dresses in every size.” Devra said. “It is pure joy to see their faces light up when they find that perfect dress is priceless.”
March 18, 2022	Connecting Ukraine Children with Families	A global nonprofit working with children in the foster care system is on a new mission to transport children and their families out of the hardest-hit areas of Ukraine in the wake of the Russian invasion. For over two decades, Kidsafe has been connecting children who are close to aging out of the foster program with permanent families or corporate mentors around the globe. The group of volunteers, which has seen tremendous growth in the past few days, started driving them to the bordering countries, such as Poland and Slovakia, as fast as they could.
March 22, 2022	High-Quality Meals for Ukraine Refugees	High-quality hot meals are on their way to feeding thousands of famished Ukrainian refugees thanks to the US non-profit, Mercy Chefs! The Virginia-based group has always been there to feed natural disasters survivors here in the U.S., but now they’ve deployed to Romania to assist famished Ukrainian refugees crossing the border. The organization is already preparing to send out three large passenger vans filled with groceries to sites near a border crossing between Romania and Ukraine. Their team is also working to supply the families that are hosting Ukrainians in Romania, as well.
March 24, 2022	Caring for Premature Babies in Ukraine	As the shelling continues in Ukraine, there is growing concern for how to evacuate the medically vulnerable from hospitals, especially premature babies! Well, that’s where Project DYNAMO steps in... an American civilian and ally rescue nonprofit based in Tampa, Florida. On Monday, they launched a mission that successfully evacuated twin premature baby boys and one baby girl from Kyiv to Poland. The rescue mission, which the organization is calling, "GEMINI," was accomplished with help from two doctors, two neonatal specialists, and a Ukrainian ambulance crew. Co-founder Bryan Stern said, "The Project DYNAMO team, in concert with others, all worked together to deliver these bundles of joy to two happy families." The rescue vans traveled more than 700 miles west to a hospital in Poland, where the babies were reunited with their families.

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March 31, 2022	Encouragement for Ukrainian-Americans	A custodian from Ukraine was overwhelmed by support from students when she walked into her Georgia elementary school last week! When Oak Hill Elementary school first opened its doors in 2001, Ukrainian-born Lana Gazhenko became the head custodian. And twenty-one years later, "Mrs. Lana," as she's known, is still in the same job. As the Ukraine crisis developed, everyone at Oak Hill wanted to show their support for Mrs. Lana and her extended family. So, students put their art skills to work, drawing and painting sunflowers, which is Ukraine's national flower and represents hope. Teachers stayed late to decorate the school, and when Mrs. Lana arrived early one morning, she was stunned to find pictures of sunflowers lining the halls. She said that she's found a second family at Oak Hill and is grateful to be loved by the staff and students alike.