

WFTF Radio

Issues/Programs

4TH QUARTER/2023

Quarterly Issues Program List

WFTF

Fourth Quarter 2023 (1 October to 31 December)

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to WFTF, RUTLAND, VT, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 1 October to 31 December. The listing is by no means exhaustive. The order in which the issues appear does not reflect any priority or significance. All times are Pacific.

1. MINISTRY
2. BUSINESS
3. VETERANS
4. MENTAL HEALTH
5. ADDICTION
6. FAMILY ISSUES
7. TECHNOLOGY
8. ENTERTAINMENT
9. HEALTHCARE

| Issue | Program | Date | Time | Duration | Description of Program |
|--------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|----------|---|
| Ministry – Mental Health | Closer Look | 10/1/23 | 7:00pm | 30min | Pastor Burnout, Caring for Your Leader’s Soul Surveys found a sharp rise in the number of church leaders who have seriously considered leaving full-time ministry, citing debilitating stress, anxiety, or depression. Rafael Sierra talks with Savannah Kimberlin of Barna Group and K-LOVE’s Pastor Randy who says rest and other self-care should be a guilt-free part of your life as a spiritual leader. |
| Addiction | Closer Look | 10/8/23 | 7:00pm | 30min | Kids Fooled by Fentanyl, Rx Fakes Kids are getting pills that look like Xanax or Percocet online or in the locker room. Often laced with fentanyl, these deadly drugs can be 100x stronger than morphine. “It’s terrifying,” says Pat Aussem of the Partnership to End Addiction. Ed Ternan, co-founder of Song for Charlie lost his college-aged son to one pill and now helps other parents warn their children. “We still say ‘just say no’ but we spell it K. N. O. W. because many of these young victims are dying from taking a substance they didn’t ask for.” |
| Business | Closer Look | 10/15/23 | 7:00pm | 29min | Small-Business Mentors Offer Free Advice Through SCORE Your idea for a great small business needs a good plan. If you already opened your shop, you may be stumped on how to grow. SCORE mentors offer free, one-on-one advice for turning a profit. “What we have seen is that when someone meets with a mentor for 3 hours or more, they are 5x more likely to increase their revenue and stay in business.” |
| Addiction | Closer Look | 10/22/23 | 7:00pm | 13min | Gambling, Suicide Risk and Addiction Recovery Gambling addiction is a leading cause of suicide in the United States. The thrill of the bet buries vulnerable gamblers deep in debts matched only by their secret shame. But stats prove you can win recovery, as 2 out of 3 people who seek treatment are able to stop. Rafael Sierra talks with Derek Longmeier of Problem Gambling Network of Ohio and Keith Whyte of the National Council on Problem Gambling. Need to talk? Call the National Problem Gambling Helpline: (800) 522-4700. |
| Faith | Closer Look | 10/22/23 | 7:13pm | 17min | Faith Of Her Father - Baby Jessica’s Dad The unlikely rescue of Baby Jessica from a well back in 1987 remains one of the world’s most watched news stories of all time. There were “multiple miracles,” says her father Chip McClure, “more than you can count...God’s hand was evident.” In the days and months after, the family received thousands of calls and truckloads of mail from all over the world, people in personal distress who were encouraged by the McClure’s faith and the good news of Jessica’s rescue. |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|----------|--------|-------|---|
| Veterans | Closer Look | 10/29/23 | 7:00pm | 18min | Disabled Vets Skydive, Drive Racecars with Ranger Road No arms? No legs? No problem! “Whether you’re an amputee, double amputee, triple amputee, you’re paralyzed, our skydiving, our scuba, our car races -- they are all adaptive capable.” In fact, the leaders and trainers at RR events are themselves disabled vets. “Our skydiving program manager, he’s an 82nd airborne guy, double amputee.” Participation in these events can bring a soldier camaraderie and a renewed sense of purpose towards mental health and healing. |
| Special Needs | Closer Look | 10/29/23 | 7:18pm | 12min | Can Play: Iowa Mom Helps Kids with Special Needs Play Sports, Have Fun Jack suffered six strokes when he was just 8 years old, which left his left him with cognitive delays, partial paralysis and ‘limited ability to play.’ Can Play gives kids like Jack “a place that they can come, be themselves, learn about their bodies and what their bodies can do.” |
| Healthcare | Closer Look | 11/5/23 | 7:00pm | 15min | Tackle Childhood Obesity at Home, Church and School Millions of American kids suffer words like chubby or chunky – or fat – to describe their young bodies. The COVID-19 lockdowns only worsened already alarming levels of childhood obesity, as the CDC found the BMI (body mass index) in children ages 2-19 years old increase nearly doubled during the pandemic. Excess weight weakens growing muscles and joints and can lead to juvenile diabetes or even trigger life-threatening asthma “Prevention is what we really want, right?” says Geri Henchy, Director of Nutrition Policy at the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC). “We want kids to be in environments that are not obesogenic; where they’re gonna get healthy meals, where there isn’t a lot of junk food, where they have activities -- that’s really gonna make a difference for kids.” |
| Family Issues | Closer Look | 11/5/23 | 7:15pm | 15min | Teens Aged Out of Foster Care Get Help From ‘Dream Makers’ Without family and often lacking life skills, former foster kids become homeless adults by the thousands, turning to drugs and crime on the streets just to survive. “Every statistic you hear that is going bad in the United States, a lot of them link back to the foster care system and those kids just not being taken care of.” Dream Makers steps in to link aged-out foster kids with practical assistance by connecting them with the generosity of strangers. “It totally up to the community to fulfill the dream.” The young adult with a need fills out an application to ask for things that teens with families could easily get from a mom or dad: like money for work clothes, or a laptop for school, or maybe a used car – but Melton says the most common dream request from these youth by far is – food. |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|-----------------|--|
| Veterans | Closer Look | 11/12/23 | 7:00pm | 16min | <p>Fishing For Combat Vets, Outdoor Adventures Rebuild Trust</p> <p>Fishing poles and fresh air can do a heart good, especially if that heart saw war. Heroes on the Water takes soldiers up a creek with paddles or pedals. “Kayak fishing really helps veterans who are struggling with PTSD,” notes Zack Clift. H.O.W. surveys show 88% of participants say the free expedition gave them confidence to develop new relationships and a whopping 98% say it helped them relax.</p> |
| Veterans | Closer Look | 11/12/23 | 7:16pm | 14min | <p>WildOps invites combat vets on free epic outdoor adventures to the mountains or the wilderness. “We seek the isolated veteran – a big chunk of them that don’t wanna be found,” says founder Jeff Morris. “We work hard to give them the experience if a lifetime -- and they come to life out in the wild.”</p> |
| Natural Disaster – War | Closer Look | 11/19/23 | 7:00pm | 16min and 14min | <p>Convoy Of Hope Brings Relief to Maui, Middle East</p> <p>Disasters happen – but Convoy of Hope meets trouble quickly with tangible comfort and care. In August, they rushed to aid 7,000 people displaced in West Maui. “We had team members on the ground there within a couple of days of that horrific wildfire,” confirms Ethan Forhertz, VP of Public Engagement for the Christ-centered relief ministry. Famous for its band of 18-wheelers, the vast ocean between the mainland U.S. and Hawaii was no barrier. “We shipped many things over by boat, we also shipped some things over by airplane,” he explains, thanks to Convoy’s established international partnerships. Convoy provided basics like food, water and hygiene kits but also two-way radios and solar-powered battery boxes to charge fans and cellphones. The ministry is also working to fund a community of tiny houses for Lahaina residents who lost everything in the 5th deadliest wildfire in the country. “The tiny houses are free to them, there’s no charge for people to live in those houses, so we found that’s a good way to give people a sense of normalcy again.” Meanwhile, recovery remains slow for other areas of the world where Convoy continues to partner with local churches to meet basic needs. Tornadoes and hurricanes struck Mississippi and Florida in 2023, and work continues in Turkey and Syria after twin earthquakes left millions of homes in rubble. Years of drought in the Horn of Africa causes millions of people to suffer hunger. War in Ukraine rages on, and Convoy continues to provide basic food and water to refugees. More recently, the Hamas attack on Israel triggered an immediate response from Convoy, about which Ethan says they ‘can’t say much,’ in order to protect their local partners; but a 40-thousand pounds of food was quickly delivered to the area by cargo plane.</p> |

| | | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|----------|--------|-------|---|
| Addiction | Closer Look | 11/26/23 | 7:00pm | 29min | <p>Parents of Addicted Loved Ones Turn to PAL Groups for Support</p> <p>One of your kids is on drugs. Getting in trouble. Calling you over and over bail them out. You don't know what to do. PAL Groups bring people together to swap stories and share strategies -- online or in-person. "When we found PAL we're like okay, we're not alone, there's other people who've been down this road."</p> |
| Entertainment | Closer Look | 12/3/23 | 7:00pm | 17min | <p>Young Storytellers Outreach Brings Kid-Scripts to Stage</p> <p>Children feel the thrill of seeing their scripts come to life with the help of creative-writing mentors and local actors who volunteer to perform. Though based primarily in Los Angeles, the arts program Young Storytellers works to scale its success to other cities by providing free online videos educators can use to help students shape stories.</p> |
| Family Issues | Closer Look | 12/3/23 | 7:17pm | 25min | <p>South Carolina Dad Helps Reconnect Non-Custodial Fathers with Their Kids</p> <p>Vincent Mercer from Moncks Corner, South Carolina, knows how important it is for dads to be there for their children. He helps lead Father to Father, a program that helps low-income non-custodial fathers (and some moms) overcome life barriers that keep them from being involved with their children. As a father himself, Vincent understands the importance of a dad being there for his children. By doing so, Vincent says, "that child is less likely to be incarcerated, more likely to finish high school, more likely to be successful in the job market," and have better interactions with their peers.</p> |
| Technology | Closer Look | 12/10/23 | 7:00pm | 29min | <p>Don't Click That Link! Be CyberSmart</p> <p>Spam on social media. Emails that shout, 'click here!' from an inbox full of tricks. Modern cybercriminals commit considerable time and talent to hacking your life. "If you have a gut feeling, if you have an instinct that something isn't right here – please listen to that." Don't click! Monika Kelly talks with Gavina Avila of the Better Business Bureau and Darren Mott, retired FBI agent and expert on cybersecurity.</p> |
| Healthcare | Closer Look | 12/17/23 | 7:00pm | 14min | <p>Like CPR, Get Trained in Youth 'Mental First Aid'</p> <p>How do you approach a teen without getting a door slammed in your face? "A trusted adult is what a youth needs more than anything," says Lori Butterworth of AIM, which strongly recommends all adults get certified in Youth Mental Health First Aid. She compares it to CPR. "What if we worked really hard to raise the probability that when a child or teen has a mental health crisis that there is someone there to help them and save their life?"</p> |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|-------|---|
| Technology – Human Trafficking | Closer Look | 12/17/23 | 7:14pm | 16min | <p>Teens Chatting on Social Media Vulnerable to Human Traffickers</p> <p>“Just so you know, some kids that are trafficked actually aren’t taken from their home – they still live at their house.” How does this happen? Social media chats. Expert tricksters spend months -- or even years -- lying to build friendship. Your good and smart kid may believe their online friend is their age “by the time they went to meet this person, it wasn’t who they thought they were.” Once the youth is tricked into sexually explicit activities, they may be too afraid to tell you.</p> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|--------|-------|---|