

COMMUNITY ISSUES PROGRAM LIST-WAKL(FM)
First Quarter 2023 (January-March)

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to by WAKL(FM), GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA, for the period of January 1 – March 31, 2023. 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 Standard/Daylight Savings Time.

1. MENTAL HEALTH
2. JOBS / ECONOMY
3. CYBER SECURITY
4. FAMILY ISSUES
5. HUNGER / POVERTY

| Issue | Program | Date | Time | Duration | Description of Program |
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| Health Chronic Illness | Closer Look | Jan 1 | 7:00 pm | 28 minutes | <p>Living With Chronic Illness? Advice For Faith And Family</p> <p>“It can be very isolating when no one really gets it,” says Susan Rodriguez at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York. As a licensed clinical social worker, she works with patients who experience emotional pain caused by their debilitating physical condition. “They feel like they’re being looked at as lazy, not wanting to work, saying ‘my family thinks I just wanna be home all day,’ she explains, “but many are licensed, they hold degrees...they have contributed to society and they want to continue doing that.” Billie Branham reports.</p> |
| Jobs Unemployment | Closer Look | Jan 8 | 7:00 pm | 29 minutes | <p>Land Your Next Great Job! Crossroads Career Services Offers Advice</p> <p>Losing your job can be emotionally draining and can even lead to questioning your faith in God. “To have some anger, some bitterness, some regret is a very natural thing,” agrees Dave Sparkman of Crossroad Career Services, who challenges jobseekers to ask themselves “...a truly curious question. <i>‘I wonder what God’s up to here?’</i>”</p> |

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| Economy Inflation and Food Prices | Closer Look | Jan 15 | 7:00 pm | 28 minutes | Food Prices, Fight Inflation From Your Fridge Food costs more these days. COVID-19 shutdowns drove up the price of labor, fertilizer and fuel needed to move crops from farms to factories to stores and eventually to your kitchen. What can you do? Should you panic buy? Comparison shop? K-LOVE's Billie Branham checks in with Assoc Prof. Joe Balagtas at Purdue University and Jordan Page, lifestyle blogger and mom of 8 for proven tips on cutting your grocery bill. |
| Cyber Security | Closer Look | Jan 22 | 7:00 pm | 29 minutes | Don't Click That Link! Be CyberSmart 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. |
| Cyber Security Children | Closer Look | Feb 26 | 7:15 pm | 15 minutes | Young Children Give Out Phone Numbers, Chat With Strangers Online An Interview with the Center for Cyber Safety and Education and Eliza McCoy with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children about their age-appropriate training program called Netsmartz . |

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| Special Needs | Closer Look | Jan 29 | 7:00 pm | 21 minutes | <p>‘Spend A Day In My Wheels’ Challenge Helps People Understand What It’s Really Like To Use A Wheelchair (+podcast)</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/positive-people/spend-a-day-in-my-wheels-challenge-helps-people-understand-what-it-s-really-like-to-use-a-wheelchair-podcast-29602?preview=true</p> |
| Home & Pets | Closer Look | Jan 29 | 7:20 pm | 15 minutes | <p>Helping People And Pets, “For The Love Of Alex” Pays Vet Bills</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/home-improvement/closer-look-helping-people-and-pets-for-the-love-of-alex-pays-vet-bills-3413</p> <p>Expensive vet bills can force a heartbreaking choice. “The tragedy is that a lot of these pets are surrendered to a shelter -- or they are euthanized - because their family cannot afford their medical care,” says Carla Isenberg, program manager at For The Love Of Alex. “We are trying to help those who are financially unable to help their pet.” Billie Branham reports. [Educational Media Foundation - All Rights Reserved]</p> |

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| Drugs | Closer Look | Feb 5 | 7:00 pm | 29 minutes | <p>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." Bob Dittman reports.</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/health-and-safety/closer-look-kids-fooled-by-fentanyl-rx-fakes-4151</p> |
| Earthquake in Turkey / Syria | Partnership Highlight | Feb 7-9 | Various 10/day | 60-90 seconds | <p>Convoy of Hope - Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief Please join us in prayer for every individual that is affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria...You may be looking for a tangible way to help! K-LOVE has partnered with Convoy of Hope to provide essential relief in the greatest areas of need. Go to KLOVE.com and give NOW... Be assured that you are directly supporting those impacted by the disasters while spreading the love of Jesus. Your giving supplies - food, bottled water, hygiene items, diapers and essential relief to those that need it most.</p> <p>Convoy of Hope has a long history of serving in the region. Since 2015, Convoy has worked across Europe, Africa, and the Middle East in response to multiple refugee crises.</p> |

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| <p>Earthquake in Turkey / Syria</p> | <p>Partnership Highlight</p> | <p>Feb</p> | <p>Monthly Feature</p> | <p>60 second weekly promo</p> <p>Podcast 9:08</p> | <p>Update: Convoy of Hope Relief Efforts for Turkish Quake Survivors</p> <hr/> <p>For government agencies and faith-based disaster relief organizations, getting aid to those who survived the massive earthquake in Turkey and Syria has been a challenge. Convoy of Hope’s lead team is now in the quake zone. “It’s just mile after mile of rubble, piles of rubble, and uninhabitable buildings that are still standing...many families have truly lost everything,” shares Convoy spokesman Ethan Forhetz. The team reports, “There are tent cities everywhere they look.” There have been roughly 6,000 aftershocks since the main quake on February 6. These can range from mini-quakes to more significant magnitudes capable of bringing down even more of the damaged structures. People are fearful. Between the two countries, 46,000 people have been confirmed to have lost their lives, with many more injured. Ethan believes it will potentially take years for anything approaching normal to be possible. In our interview podcast, just below, Ethan shares what Convoy of Hope is actively doing to provide as much food and necessities as possible during this time of extraordinary need. And he also emphasizes the value of</p> |
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| | | | | | <p>continued prayer and financial contributions to keep the relief progress moving forward.</p> |
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| Foster Care | Closer Look | Feb 12 | 7:00 pm | 13 minutes | <p>Free Brand-New 'Threads' For Teens In Foster Care</p> <p>Children in foster care often arrive at a new placement with just the clothes on their backs. Cathy Hamilton founded San Antonio Threads to give brand-new clothes to older youth(12yrs-21yrs) who have no family to take them shopping. "I've had kids say things like 'old clothes have bad memories, new clothes have good memories -- thank you for the fresh start.'" Bob Dittman reports.</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/home-improvement/closer-look-free-brandnew-threads-for-teens-in-foster-care-4736</p> |
| Animal Care | Closer Look | Feb 12 | 7:14 pm | 16 minutes | <p>Retired Racehorses Cool Hooves At Old Friends Farm, Kentucky</p> <p>Nearly 200 elderly horses get free hay and healthcare at Old Friends Farm in Georgetown. Current residents include famous thoroughbreds Silver Charm and Touch Gold, but also others not-famous but whose owners could no longer care for them. "We owe it to them," says farm founder and caretaker Michael Blowen. "These horses are to Kentucky what the automobile is to Detroit." Jack Church reports.</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/health-and-safety/closer-look-retired-racehorses-cool-hooves-at-old-friends-farm-kentucky-4738</p> |

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| Mental Health Teen Suicide | Closer Look | Feb 19 | 7:00 pm | 13 minutes | <p>'Tell Me More' - 3 Words To Prevent Teen Suicide</p> <p>Crushing loneliness and lack of purpose has seized millions of young adults, causing a frightening spike in teen suicides. Mental health experts urge parents, teachers and pastors to turn the tide of dark thoughts with these three little words: "Tell me more." Monika Kelly gets advice from Maureen Underwood with the Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide who also serves as a social worker and psychotherapist.</p> <p>RELATED LINKS: Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide USA: (732) 996-0056 America's Health Rankings - Teen Suicide</p> |
| Mental Health Faith | Closer Look | Feb 19 | 7:14 pm | 15 minutes | <p>'Call-In' Bible Studies Connect To Faith And Friendship</p> <p>(K-LOVE Closer Look) - When COVID-19 forced churches to close and halted even small social gatherings, Christians continued to crave interaction with fellow believers. Soldiers For Faith Ministries launched 'call-in' bible studies back in 2012, but stay-at-home orders in 2020 crystalized the ministry purpose and mission. "When the pandemic hit," says founder Kelly McAndrew, "all of a sudden we understood what God had prepared us for."</p> |

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| Mental Health Faith | Closer Look | Mar 19 | 7:00 pm | 29 minutes | <p>Pastor Burnout, Caring For Your Leader's Soul</p> <p>Surveys in 2021 found a sharp rise in the number of church leaders who have seriously considered leaving full-time ministry, citing debilitating stress, anxiety or depression. K-LOVE's 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 <i>guilt-free</i> part of your life as a spiritual leader. [Educational Media Foundation - All Rights Reserved]</p> |
| Mental Health Gambling Addictions | Closer Look | Mar 5 | 7:00 pm | 13 minutes | <p>Gambling, Suicide Risk and Addiction Recovery</p> <p>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 outta 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.</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/dollars-and-sense/closer-look-gambling-suicide-risk-and-addiction-recovery-3518</p> |

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| Youth Mentoring | Closer Look | Feb 26 | 7:00 pm | 15 minutes | <p>'Dare To Dream' School Assemblies Ignite Hope In Tweens, Teens</p> <p>Air1's Dare To Dream school assemblies rely heavily on the power of personal experience, starting with the unlikely success Randy Rich enjoyed as a professional football player for the Detroit Lions, Denver Broncos, Oakland Raiders and Cleveland Browns. Various artists, musicians and pro-athletes take the mic to share their own struggles to believe and achieve.</p> |
| Family & Faith | Closer Look | Mar 5 | 7:14 pm | 16 minutes | <p>Faith Of Her Father - Baby Jessica's Dad</p> <p>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. K-LOVE's Jack Church talks to Chip.</p> <p>https://www.klove.com/news/closer-look/faith-matters/closer-look-faith-of-her-father-baby-jessica-s-dad-3520</p> |

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| Unplanned Pregnancy | Closer Look | Mar 12 | 7:00 pm | 29 minutes | <p>Young Girls Pregnant And Scared Turn To StandUpGirl.com</p> <p>Dawn-Marie Perez, executive director of StandUpGirl.com says their site stands ready to help. “Our mission is to have these girls be able to find life-affirming information through us - - and then we connect them with pregnancy centers in their neighborhood.” Quick response is essential. “If you go google the word ‘abortion’ right now there are millions of websites that are gonna come up. Our goal is to have StandUpGirl show up on that <i>first page</i> of their google search.”</p> |
| Adoption | Closer Look | Mar 26 | 7:00 pm | 28 minutes | <p>Real Talk On Adoption - Thoughts On Trauma, Dignity and Birth Parents</p> <p>Children separated from their biological mothers will inevitably grieve that loss. “That’s trauma, when we lose our first family,” says Jenn Hook co-founder of Replanted Ministry. Hook spent years counseling foster children as a mental health professional. “We’re not always looking at it from the adoptee’s side,” she warns, for example, repeatedly calling one’s adoption a ‘gift’ can unintentionally hurt your child. Vanessa Joy Walker is an author and lifecoach who was herself adopted as a baby. “The issues of identity and abandonment are interwoven into who I am, they are part of what I call my emotional DNA.” Billie Wright reports.</p> |

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| Youth Children | PSA | Jan 9-22 | Various 8x/day 112 spots | 15 seconds | Whispering Angels Youth Ranch Helping Kids from ages 8 to 18 face their challenges...Whispering Angels Youth Ranch provides a safe, nurturing environment, and offers their four pillars of Hope, Healing, Love and Acceptance. For more information, go to www.whisperingangelsyouthranch.org |
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| <p>Food Needs Hunger</p> | <p>Closer Look</p> | <p>Jan 1 Jan 29</p> | <p>7:30 pm</p> | <p>20 minutes</p> | <p>GVILLEFOOD</p> <p>Jack Church spoke with Jackie Powers, Executive Director for Good Samaritan Food Ministries in Gainesville, Georgia. Powers talked about how the organization now serves almost one hundred thousand people annually. Powers said with rising food, rent and fuel prices she is seeing a tremendous uptick in the number of people they are serving each month. Powers added that while demand has increased she is happy to report the Good Samaritan has been able to keep up thanks to strong ties with other non-profit organizations in the area.</p> |
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| Food Needs Hunger | Closer Look | Jan 22 Feb 26 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | Georgia Mountain Food Bank Jack Church spoke with Kay Blackstock, Executive Director for the Georgia Mountain Food Bank located in Gainesville, Georgia. The food bank serves a five county area helping feed over fifty thousand people each year. Blackstock talked about the growing need in the community as both working families and seniors on fixed incomes are struggling to keep up with higher food, rent and fuel prices. Blackstock said at the present time they are able to keep up with the need thanks to strong community partners throughout the region. She also talked about home delivery and mobile food bank options for those with transportation issues. |
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| Human Trafficking | Closer Look | Jan 8 Mar 19 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Sacred Roots Farm What does human trafficking look like? Who is exploited and how do they regain hope? Bob Dittman talks with Sam Haupt of Sacred Roots Farm about how they are providing long term recovery, health, help and safety to women and women with children in the Atlanta region. Haupt says human trafficking is more prevalent than you think, spreading to suburbia and beyond. He also discusses how you might spot a perpetrator and those who have been victimized by human trafficking. Haupt also mentions how it has crept into the church and other places that you may think would be safe from human trafficking. (https://scaredrootsfarm.org)</p> |
| Poverty | Closer Look | Jan 15 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Helping Place Jack Church spoke with Melissa Line, Executive Director Community Helping Place in Dahlonega, Georgia. Line talked about the various programs they offer which includes a food pantry, free medical and dental care, furniture and personal hygiene products for children and adults. Line discussed how they serve just over ten thousand people each year across Lumpkin County. Line also shared success stories of people using their services while improving their lives from being on the streets to finding permanent housing and employment.</p> |

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| Poverty | PSA | Feb 20- Mar 5 | Various 8x/day 112 spots | 15 seconds | <p>Straight Street Ministries</p> <p>Straight Street Ministry is putting love into action by helping create opportunities for those suffering in poverty. Their faith-based programs are serving those who need it most - and transforming lives through the Gospel of Christ.</p> <p>Learn more at straight street ministry dot org</p> |
| Poverty Hunger | Closer Look | Feb 5 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Straight Street Ministries</p> <p>Jack Church spoke with Joel Rose, Director for Straight Street Ministry in Gainesville, Georgia. Straight Street Ministry has several programs aimed at helping those suffering in poverty. Rose talked about the Back Pack Love program where Straight Street provides bags of food to school children each Friday that they can take home to their family. Rose said families often face weekends with little or no food and the Back Pack Love program is designed to provide enough food for five meals over the weekend. The program is estimated to benefit as many as 900 families each week.</p> |

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| Mental Health Childhood Trauma | Closer Look | Feb 19 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Atlanta Draw Change Jack Church spoke with Jennie Lobato, founder of Draw Change in Atlanta, Georgia. Lobato talked about how she started DrawChange back in 2009 to provide therapy and healing for children thru the use of art. Lobato shared that in her childhood there were some traumatic events where she found a safe and healing environment thru art. Later as an adult while working for an Atlanta ad agency she decided to leave the corporate world and follow her passion by starting Draw Change. The program has now served over 10 thousand children and has expanded into other cities around the United States as well as internationally.</p> |
| City Growth | Closer Look | Feb 12 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Hall County Chamber of Commerce Jack Church spoke with Tim Evans, Vice President for Economic Development with the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce locate in Gainesville, Georgia. Evans talked about the growth of Hall County which now exceeds 215 thousand people due in part to people relocating to the region for job opportunities combined with excellent outdoor amenities offered by the region. Evans discussed several areas impacting job growth including plans for a shipping center being built connecting Gainesville and Hall County with the port of Savannah. The project is expected to be completed sometime in 2024.</p> |

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| Jobs Unemployment | Closer Look | Mar 5 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Atlanta Center for Self-Sufficiency Jack Church spoke with Dana Inman, President and CEO for the Atlanta Center for Self Sufficiency in Atlanta, Georgia. Inman talked about how the center was established to help provide workforce readiness, job placement, and life stabilization services to homeless and financially vulnerable men and women. The center also focuses on veterans who may be living on the streets or couch surfing and need assistance in re- entering the work force using skills obtained in the military or helping them develop new skills thru a wide array of training partnerships the center has with other agencies in the region.</p> |
| Animal Control | Closer Look | Mar 12 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Gainesville/Hall County Animal Shelter Jack Church spoke with Trey Garcia, Animal Services Director the Hall County Animal Shelter in Gainesville, Georgia. Garcia talked about how the shelter offers adoption as well as foster care options for individuals and families looking to bring a pet into their life. Right now the shelter is operating at near capacity but continues to see a strong demand for pets. Garcia also talked about the Community Cat Program which addresses the issue of undomesticated-feral cats living on their own in the area. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of undomesticated/feral cats entering the Hall County shelter system while, in turn, increasing the live release numbers for undomesticated/feral cats through free/low-cost spay/neuter.</p> |

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| Special Needs | Closer Look | Mar 26 | 7:30 pm | 20 minutes | <p>Aim to Be3 Jack Church spoke with Marianne Thomas, founder of Aim to be3. Aim to be3 was formed in Gainesville, Georgia to help those with special needs become more engaged and empowered in their lives thru work, community service and faith. Thomas talked about how there are a number of programs for school age children and teens but once they reach adulthood, services are few and far between. Thomas who has a special needs sister saw this first hand and started Aim to be3. The program has served over 200 individuals and continues to grow thru several initiatives including micro businesses and community service.</p> |
| Public Safety Tornado | Local News Break | Mar 26 | 8:30 am | 30 seconds | <p>A tornado touched down in Troup County this morning damaging trees, homes and causing injuries. Wireless cell service has also been interrupted. Debris from the storm caused all lanes of I-85 north and south to be closed near Kia Boulevard. I-185 is also closed near mile marker 38. Emergency crews are working on searching for people trapped in their homes and cleaning up downed trees and power lines. If you do not have to go onto the roads in troup county, please do not travel. Storm warnings and a Tornado watch are in place until 1pm today but may be extended.</p> |

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| Public Safety Flooding | Local News Break | Mar 27 | 9:45 am | 30 seconds | If you live near the Heads Creek Reservoir, the Spalding County Sheriff's Office has asked that you evacuate. Heavy rains, up to 7 inches more, are coming. The reservoir water levels are rising and the dam could fail and flood the area. If you're driving avoid Line Creek Road, Wani Road, Akin Road, Buck Creek Road between Rehoboth Road, Chapel Mill and Chuli Rd. Flood warnings are in effect throughout the area as well. Stay safe out there! |
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