

WFTF Radio

Issues/Programs

3RD QUARTER/2022

Quarterly Issues Program List

WFTF

Third Quarter 2022 (1 July to 30 September)

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 July to 30 September. 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. ECONOMY
3. EDUCATION
4. TECHNOLOGY
5. HOUSING
6. FAMILY ISSUES
7. ANIMAL SAFETY
8. FAITH

Issue	Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description of Program
Housing – Economy	Closer Look	7/3/22	7:00pm	28min	Americans On the Move - The Great Reshuffling? Facing realities, sometimes economic, sometimes health-related, people nationwide are reassessing personal priorities. Dvera Cohn of Pew Research Center confirms “about 1 in 20 adults told us they had moved permanently or temporarily due to the coronavirus outbreak,” a marked uptick from years past. Related Links: https://www.makemymove.com/ https://www.bankrate.com/authors/jeff-ostrowski/
Faith	Closer Look	7/10/22	7:00pm	16min	GenZ Christians Surveyed On God, The Bible And Society GenZ Christians have questions about practical faith. They want Scripture-based solutions for the issues they face alongside their friends. “I can no longer avoid truths about racial injustice, about environmental destruction and I do not know if the Church cares about this.” For them it’s pastoral – not political.
Employment – Education	Closer Look	7/10/22	7:17pm	15min	Tech Careers Encouraged Among Black Youth Through ‘Hidden Genius’ The Hidden Genius Project began when five business and tech titans, all black men, partnered to mentor black boys for careers in science and technology in Oakland California. Not only do 95% of program participants graduate from high school, but many go on to head up other impactful social and educational outreaches in their communities. Spoke with founding Executive Director, Brandon Nicholson.
Special Needs	Closer Look	7/17/22	7:00pm	22min	‘Spend A Day In My Wheels’ Challenge Helps People Understand What It’s Really Like To Use A Wheelchair Nathan Johnson from Lebanon, Tennessee, wanted his son Alex who uses a wheelchair, to feel comfortable and have equal access to facilities in public places – just like others do. To help people relate, the Lebanon, Tennessee, family came up with the Spend a day in My Wheels, Wheelchair Challenge, showing people what it’s really like to use a wheelchair. “They had to go to the bathroom and go the water fountain. They had to go to the football field and back. They had to do just things that seems simple, until you’re in a wheelchair in which those things become more difficult.” Alex says, despite the difficulty, the majority of participants come up to him after the challenge and tell him how eye opening the experience was.
Pet Safety	Closer Look	7/17/22	7:22pm	16min	Helping People And Pets, “For The Love Of Alex” Pays Vet Bills 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.”

Incarceration – Ministry	Closer Look	7/24/22	7:00pm	30min	Jail to Jobs, Prison Fellowship 'Remembers Those In Prison' Christ-centered ministries like Prison Fellowship and Jail To Jobs Austin break into that hopelessness with practical and spiritual reform. Hip-hop artist Lecrae partners with Prison Fellowship, performing concerts in select prisons, speaking and encouraging inmates to embrace a second chance at life. He has several relatives who have been in prison, “even my own father was incarcerated, some of my closest uncles as well.”
International Ministry	Closer Look	7/31/22	7:00pm	26min	Ukraine Refugees Fed, Comforted By Convoy Of Hope “People need hope ultimately --and that’s what a full belly gives them – it allows them to plan for the future,” says Ethan Forhertz of Convoy of Hope. Truckloads of tuna, beans, rice, fresh water, baby food, hygiene kits even cellphone chargers distributed through European Christians have been crucial to the survival of displaced families. Lead spokesperson Sara Forhertz says this ultimately fulfills the Convoy mission. “The real hope of the world is Jesus -- to make Him famous through the local church.”
Ministry	Closer Look	8/7/22	7:00pm	30min	Pastor Burnout, Caring For Your Leader’s Soul Providing spiritual comfort to a congregation is hard enough in normal times – but add a deadly global pandemic to the job and overworked pastors suffer immeasurable stress. “Mental health is a topic we are all thinking about,” says Savannah Kimberlin of Barna Group which researches and tracks trends in Christian ministries nationwide. In fact, Barna 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. Nearly 40% rate their emotional well-being as just ‘meh’ or even poor. Kimberlin says “what we recommend as Barna is that pastors find healthy safe places -- whether it be professional counselors, spiritual mentors, even other pastors within someone’s local community -- safe places where leaders can process things like isolation, marital struggles and parenting stuff. Our research does suggest that leaders who prioritize doing that are more whole in their ministry as a result.” The Barna research also uncovered some very specific ways churchgoers can spot trouble before a leader reaches their point of no return. “Take some time to care for your pastor’s soul,” Kimberlin urges, which could include writing a kind note, taking them out to lunch just to chat about sports, babysitting their kids for free or making it possible for them to take an extended sabbatical.

Healthcare – Ministry	Closer Look	8/14/22	7:00pm	29min	<p>Living With Chronic Illness? Advice For Faith And Family “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.” To ease that loneliness and distress, Rodriguez recommends involving loved ones in as many doctor visits and conference calls about therapies and treatments as possible. But having family or friends understand isn’t the ultimate goal, says Pamela Piquette of Chronic Joy Ministry. Her cure for that gap is to lean into God and His promises of comfort. Her ministry supports people with tools like bible-based studies specific to your circumstances and offering alternate serving ideas for building community.</p>
Employment	Closer Look	8/21/22	7:00pm	30min	<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 wonder what God’s up to here?’ CCS is a collaboration of career coaches founded more than 20-years ago on the principle that no one should struggle alone to find meaningful work. Their professionals help Christians examine their lives and skills and help them prayerfully consider a vast array of vocational opportunities.</p>
Addiction	Closer Look	8/28/22	7:00pm	13min	<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>

Faith	Closer Look	8/28/22	7:14pm	17min	<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.</p>
Family Issues	Closer Look	9/4/22	7:00pm	29min	<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 and 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."</p>
Finances	Closer Look	9/11/22	7:00pm	29min	<p>Food Prices, Fight Inflation From Your Fridge</p> <p>Inflation, simply defined, is a rise in the cost of things we need to live – like food. When COVID-19 forced shutdowns, foodstuffs no longer flowed easily and inexpensively from farms to factories and stores to your kitchen. This global disruption, combined with federal fiscal policies to fight economic slowdown, nearly guaranteed that Americans would feel checkout sticker shock. What can you do? Should you panic buy? Comparison shop? Assoc Prof. Joe Balagtas at Purdue University and Jordan Page, lifestyle blogger and mom of 8 for proven tips on cutting your grocery bill.</p>

Education	Closer Look	9/18/22	7:00pm	15min	<p>'Dare To Dream' School Assemblies Ignite Hope In Tweens, Teens</p> <p>If you're committed to helping kids grab their God-given potential, Randy Rich says first you have to find them. "And where do kids meet in the largest numbers in a mandatory setting? School!" Randy is a former NFL defensive back and vice president of Air1's Dare To Dream. "And guess what? Schools are required to have a certain amount of assemblies during the course of a year to encourage their students!" The D2D motivational program does visit high schools but sees greatest success among kids slightly younger. "By the time a student reaches 8th grade a little over 80% of their value system in place – meaning the way they look at morality, sexuality, integrity – so where are we focusing our intention with Dare to Dream? Middle School." Various artists, musicians and pro-athletes take the mic to share their own struggles to believe and achieve. Kids hear Christian music artists like Lauren Daigle and Toby Mac on videos to kick off each session. The assemblies are not evangelistic, but principals and teachers are fully aware that Dare To Dream is sponsored by Christian radio network Air1. Air1 - Worship Now is owned by Educational Media Foundation (EMF) and is a sister to the K-LOVE Radio Network.</p>
Technology – Childhood Safety	Closer Look	9/18/22	7:15pm	15min	<p>Young Children Give Out Phone Numbers, Chat With Strangers Online</p> <p>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. The realities of internet missteps by younger and younger children exposes an urgent need to teach kids how to spot and report suspicious activity. "A child gets a phone now on average by 10-yrs-old. We can't wait till they're in middle school or high school." The shift to distance-learning during the COVID-19 pandemic added a new dimension to the risk, as kids were mandated to spend even more unsupervised time online. Increased cyber connection with your child's school also increased family exposure to ID thieves and potential financial ruin as emails that appear to be from teachers could actually be phishing scams "There's been lots of cases where children have had bankruptcy because where loans were taken out in their name." Protective apps, strong passwords, discretion on social media posts and direct parental supervision remain crucial to preventing such events, but Craven says there is no substitute talking to kids about how to protect themselves from digital threats.</p>

Mental Health	Closer Look	9/25/22	7:00pm	13min	<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:</p> <p>Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide USA: (732) 996-0056</p> <p>America's Health Rankings - Teen Suicide</p>
Ministry	Closer Look	9/25/22	7:14pm	16min	<p>'Call-In' Bible Studies Connect To Faith And Friendship</p> <p>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." Headquartered in Texas, with facilitators in New Jersey, Florida and Colorado, all Soldiers For Faith bible studies are by-phone only. They deliberately avoid video. "There's something about just picking up the telephone, not having that judgement," explains McAndrew. "It's just absolutely pure to be on the phone, to hear people's voices, to hear their hearts."</p>