

WMRK Radio

Issues/Programs

1ST QUARTER/2023

Quarterly Issues Program List

WMRK

First Quarter 2023 (1 January to 31 March)

The following is a listing of some of the significant issues responded to WMRK, SHORTER, AL, along with the most significant programming treatment of those issues for the period of 1 January to 31 March. 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. EMPLOYMENT
3. EDUCATION
4. ADDICTION
5. ANIMAL SAFETY
6. FAMILY ISSUES
7. TECHNOLOGY
8. FAITH
9. HEALTHCARE

Issue	Program	Date	Time	Duration	Description of Program
Healthcare - Faith	Closer Look	1/1/23	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.”</p>
Employment	Closer Look	1/8/23	7:00pm	30min	<p>Land Your Next Great Job! Crossroads Career Services Offers Advice 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>

Economy	Closer Look	1/15/23	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. Food prices are especially vulnerable to pressures of the pandemic, says Joe Balagtas, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. “Higher farming costs, like fertilizer, fuel,” make basic ingredients more expensive. Even the Russian invasion of Ukraine in early-2022 “created uncertainty” as both nations had previously been major exporters of global wheat. The tight labor market in the U.S. also affects your total at the register. “Labor along the food supply chain accounts for something like half of the cost of our food,” he says, so “while good for individual worker, rising wages increase the price of food we purchase -- because the cost of delivering those goods to us in the grocery stores and restaurants is rising.” While our grocery bills are undeniably afflicted by global factors, lifestyle blogger Jordan Page challenges us to focus less on prices and more on waste. Page, herself a mother of 8 hungry children, recommends Shelf Cooking, defined as planning your meals around what you already have in the fridge, freezer and pantry. “Do you have a little bit mustard lingering in a bottle? Do you have half a thing of spinach kind of wilting in the back of the fridge?” she asks. Plan around what you have! Grocery runs would then just supplement your existing stock.</p>
Technology	Closer Look	1/22/23	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>

Special Needs	Closer Look	1/29/23	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.
Animal Healthcare	Closer Look	1/29/23	7:22pm	16min	Helping People and Pets, "For the Love of Alex" Pays Vet Bills A beloved dog or cat is part of your family – and for the elderly or disabled, a pet may be their closest companion. What if that animal becomes sick or injured? 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."
Sports	KLOVE's Positive People News Podcast with on-air 60sec promo for podcast	January 2023	4 per week, 16 total	60sec Podcast 18.55min	Kevin Drake Oversees Upward Sports as It Launches Baseball & Softball Kevin Drake wants more people to know Jesus. As head of Upward Sports, Kevin is overseeing the launch of baseball and softball opportunities. That's in addition to their well-known basketball programs for churches. "Every child has an opportunity when their playing Upward Sports to hear about Christ." Drake says Upward Sports provides the equipment, programming, and everything that a church needs to be able to run a sports experience with the sole purpose of sharing the Gospel in their community. "The reality is, is that fewer people are coming to church, says Drake." He believes many kids and their parents might never go to church on a traditional Sunday morning, until they encounter Christ through a Saturday experience with sports. "When we hear about people that have come to their church, people that have come to Christ through Upward, that's who we are, it's why we exist," says Drake. He says it's the fuel that keeps him going — motivation that touches his heart.

Faith – Entertainment	KLOVE's Positive People News Podcast with on-air 60sec promo for podcast	January 2023	4 per week, 16 total	60sec Podcast 16.43min	<p>Geek Devotions: We Speak 'Geek' And Share Jesus with Isolated People</p> <p>First off, let's define the word: "A geek is merely a person who is very much – I won't say obsessed – but very much in tune with what we call 'Geek Culture' – things involving comic books, video games, anime, and movies and fantasy books," explains Dallas Mora, who along with his wife, Celeste, lead the Christian outreach Geek Devotions. These days the term geek is not necessarily viewed as a put-down says Celeste. "Geeks are beginning to own the word geek and they're going, 'Yeah. I'm a geek. I like this, this, and this.'" If you don't 'speak geek' – and don't understand what is so important in their lives and socializing, trying to tell them about Jesus can be like speaking a foreign language. Celeste explains there are "multiple geek sub-languages" depending on personal areas of interest. And "we speak many forms of geek," adding "we're called to love people, so that's what we do." Besides conventions, the Moras are also active on YouTube. For anyone who believes in Christ, Dallas believes there's always a local mission field: your circle of associates and friends. "Speak to the culture that you're in. People everywhere need to know about Christ. There are people everywhere who are hurting, who feel abandoned," and Dallas reminds us, "You have this precious thing called Christ, salvation...and they just need somebody to speak their own (cultural) language – presented in a way that they understand – and allow the Holy Spirit to draw them to salvation."</p>
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Faith – Healthcare	KLOVE's Positive People News Podcast with on-air 60sec promo for podcast	January 2023	4 per week, 16 total	60sec Podcast 6.23min	<p>For 10 Years Hody Childress Secretly Paid Peoples' Pharmacy Bills</p> <p>On a couple of occasions, Tania Nix helped her father, Hody, do what she thought was a small kindness project. He shared with her, "I've been carrying a hundred-dollar bill to the drug store at the first of the month and giving it to the pharmacist, Brooke there, and just telling her to use it how she felt it was needed." Hody Childress knew that some families in Geraldine, Alabama, struggled to afford medicine and he wanted to bless them, but made it clear he also wanted to remain anonymous. He asked the pharmacist to just tell the person that was helped, "It was a blessing from the Lord." Sadly, Hody passed away recently at age 80, and only then did the extent of his personal blessing project become known. Pharmacist Brooke explained she had been sworn to secrecy, but "she had felt like the door was open (now) and that she could share what had been going on." What Tania learned about her father was pleasantly surprising. "I had no clue until I read Brooke's story that this had been happening...for almost ten years!" Thousands and thousands of dollars given secretly to help others. "It was not for recognition," shares Tania, "it was freely from his heart wanting to help people." Tania recalls her dad once told her, "The bible says don't let your right hand know what your left hand is doing." [Matthew 6:3-4]</p>
Addiction	Closer Look	2/5/23	7:00pm	30min	<p>Kids Fooled by Fentanyl, Rx Fakes</p> <p>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."</p>
Natural Disaster	PSA	2/7/23 – 2/9/23	10 times per day	60-90 sec	<p>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. 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>

Childhood Issues	Closer Look	2/12/23	7:00pm	16min	Free Brand-New 'Threads' for Teens in Foster Care 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. And for the teens who have stopped growing, Threads provides clothes they need for their job. Scrubs, slip-resistant shoes, even construction boots can be picked up there free. Hamilton once bought a \$100 chef apron for a former foster youth required by her culinary school. The stores have also been called upon to clothe youth who fled fires, human trafficking or domestic abuse. "I've had kids say things like 'old clothes have bad memories; new clothes have good memories -- thank you for the fresh start."
Animal Safety	Closer Look	2/12/23	7:17pm	13min	Retired Racehorses Cool Hooves at Old Friends Farm, Kentucky 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. "They're great athletes" with no 401k or Social Security for hay after earning millions of tourist dollars for the state. These horses are to Kentucky what the automobile is to Detroit."
Mental Health	Closer Look	2/19/23	7:00pm	13min	'Tell Me More' - 3 Words to Prevent Teen Suicide 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. RELATED LINKS: Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide USA: (732) 996-0056 America's Health Rankings - Teen Suicide
Ministry	Closer Look	2/19/23	7:13pm	15min	'Call-In' Bible Studies Connect to Faith and Friendship 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."

Education	Closer Look	2/26/23	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! 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. Recurring themes for the presentation include tips for making positive life choices like "who's in your Circle of Trust," explains Randy, and asking kids "what labels are you putting on yourself -- or allowing other people to put on you -- that prevent you from being all that you were truly created to be?" The D2D team also supplies a 3-week Development Guide as a follow-up to the assembly which has become so popular that many teachers stretch it into a whole semester of instruction. More proof of the impact of a Dare to Dream school assembly? Responses written by students on comment cards at the end. The program has helped hundreds of middle and high schoolers confess to teachers or other trusted adults their suicidal tendencies, or report abuse at home and often infused them with courage to ask deep questions about morality. Randy is quick to give credit to God for any self-discovery that comes through Air1's Dare to Dream. "That's not us or any speaker's ability to pull that out. We believe that's the Holy Spirit working in and through the hearts of those kids when you speak truth. The truth will set you free."</p>
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Technology – Education	Closer Look	2/26/23	7:15pm	15min	<p>Young Children Give Out Phone Numbers, Chat with Strangers Online</p> <p>“Technology scares us most of the time,” admits Patrick Craven, director of the Center for Cyber Safety and Education, “and our kids are involved in it.” The Center focuses on building awareness of ever-present threats like identity theft and online predators. Surveys of youth and their online habits are alarming. “I gotta tell you”, says Craven. “It was pretty shocking – just frightening.”</p> <p>“We found that 40% of elementary school children have already chatted with a stranger online -- and half of them of have given out their phone number.” 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.” Craven warns parents to rabidly guard their child’s identity. Savvy criminals have turned to setting up fake credit card accounts using a child’s social security number because they know it will be literally years before the theft is even discovered. “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>
International Aid	PSA	February 2023	Weekly 60sec promos	Podcast 9.08min	<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 Forhertz. 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 continued prayer and financial contributions to keep the relief progress moving forward.</p>

Ministry – International War	KLOVE’s Positive People News Podcast with on-air 60sec promo for podcast	February 2023	4 per week, 16 total	60sec Podcast 16.01min	<p>‘We Can’t Forget Ukrainians’ – CityServe Brings 3M Meals, Generators, Hope</p> <p>“It’s really light or death for many of these churches and families right now,” as the harsh Ukrainian winter makes living conditions even harder for families whose homes have no power to stay warm or even cook. “Many of these families are shivering in the dark,” shares Dave Donaldson, the co-founder of CityServe International. The ministry is actively bringing in generators and food to keep people alive as Russian forces continue to shell power facilities and cut-off supply routes. Working with 1,800 Ukrainian churches, “These churches have become literal lighthouses,” empowered with electricity to help residents, and of course, the powerful life-giving light of Jesus. As daily life feels “very dark and desperate...at the same time, Jesus has been building his church and these churches are thriving. These pastors are brave – they refuse to give up their church. They refuse to leave. And a result, you are seeing thousands of people that are convening in these churches, worshipping, they have hope. They’re believing that this war will end, but ultimately that God is in control. He has not left them. It is his church. They are his people, and he is going to protect them. So, there’s a lot of optimism and hope in the midst of so much darkness!”</p>
Addiction – Mental Health	Closer Look	3/5/23	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	3/5/23	7:13pm	17min	<p>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	3/12/23	7:00pm	30min	Young Girls Pregnant and Scared Turn to StandUpGirl.com 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 first page of their google search."
Faith – Mental Health	Closer Look	3/19/23	7:00pm	30min	Pastor Burnout, Caring for Your Leader's Soul 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 guilt-free part of your life as a spiritual leader.
Family Issues	Closer Look	3/26/23	7:00pm	30min	Real Talk on Adoption - Thoughts on Trauma, Dignity and Birth Parents 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."