

# Heaven Come Down



For weeks now, we've all been hearing about gifts and giving. Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday, and Giving Tuesday received plenty of press and top-notch marketing. They probably filled your social media feeds and email inboxes with enticing advertisements for the latest and greatest must-have gadgets and heart-tugging sponsored posts for a variety of charities. CNN reports that this year on Black Friday, American shoppers spent a record \$5 billion in 24 hours.

Why is there so much talk about giving at Christmas? Marketers and retailers have their own reasons, but for Christians, Christmas is when we were given the ultimate gift—Emmanuel. God Himself came and put on flesh in fulfillment of hundreds of years of prophecy to show that all the promises of God find their YES in Christ! While we may know this intellectually, we often need to take time to slow down, pause, and think about all that Christmas means to and for us!

Paul instructs believers in Philippians 2 to follow Christ's humility and sacrificial spirit, which is a great reason for Christians to embrace a spirit of giving not just at Christmas time, but all year long. It is our joy and privilege here at WRGN to share the Good News of Emmanuel. The message of Christmas hope is not merely seasonal, but impacts our everyday, so we share that hope daily through music, teaching, and educational programs. We're here for our listeners to bring hope, joy, and encouragement to the mundane moments of everyday life—in the car, the kitchen, or at work.

We hope that you will partner with us. We're pressing on to reach our Share-A-Thon goal of \$170,000, a major portion of our 2018 budget, by December 31. If you would like to partner with us in bringing Christmas hope to NEPA and beyond year-round, call us at 800-245-3688 or visit [wrgn.com](http://wrgn.com). Thank you, and Merry Christmas from all of us here at WRGN!

***From us to you...***



December 2017

To the WRGN listening family,

Those who know me (Tim) well, know that I am an eternal optimist. I have a tendency to look on the bright side, even when things are dim. After all, isn't that when the bright side shows up the most? With that in mind, **you may have heard me talk about getting our sister station, WIVH, back on the air within a month after Hurricanes Irma and Maria devastated the Caribbean.** Turns out it will take a little longer than that, but I am happy to report that we are just one (ok, maybe two) steps away.

We are beginning to hear from listeners of WIVH, who are eager to be able to once again hear the Voice of Hope in the Virgin Islands. **A Frederiksted listener wrote, “I truly miss this station. I pray that God will bring it back up again. It was truly a blessing to my heart.”** This piece of mail, with a gift for WIVH, means that mail is once again getting through, and we will resume mailing a **WIVH Voice** newsletter this month to bring listeners up to date.

I am also optimistic about reaching our Share-A-Thon goal by the end of the year. **That leaves us less than a month to do it, but with only \$35,000 to go it could still happen. If you haven't made a faith promise, it's not too late!** I realize many will be busy with all the things that go along with the end of the year, but I do hope you will take the time to make your tax-deductible contribution to WRGN before the year is out.

The ministries of WRGN and WIVH have always been closely tied together, as both were the vision of founders Burl & Shirley Updyke. Many of you know that the Updykes turned over operation of WRGN to Good News for Life six years ago, and have decided to do the same with WIVH this year. **We are excited that God will allow us to continue to further the Good News of the Gospel both here and in the islands!**

With anticipation,

Tim & Heather Madeira

# YOUR SPECIAL HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

**Wednesday, December 13 at 8:00 p.m. - *Christmas Through the Eyes of Isaiah:*** The book of Isaiah is often referred to as the “fifth Gospel” because of how clearly the prophet saw the coming of our Savior. *Haven Today* host Charles Morris invites listeners into a special time of Scripture reading and music in this one hour Christmas program...through the eyes of Isaiah.

**Saturday, December 16 at 5:00 p.m. - *A Christmas Carol:*** The world has told the story many times – but none more to the point than this presentation. *Focus On The Family Radio Theatre* brings you the Charles Dickens classic!

**Tuesday, December 19 at 8:00 p.m. - *A Brand New Christmas:*** From a “Silent Night” that witnessed the birth of the Savior and a message that never grows old, Carter Conlon brings us “A Brand New Christmas.” Encouraging us from the promises of Scripture, Carter reminds us not to limit God to the past (good or bad) but to know that He wants to lay hold of us in new ways! It’s a Christmas special to set the scene for the best Christmas ever!

**Thursday, December 21 at 8:00 p.m. - *Christmas in the Beginning:*** Charles Morris presents promises and events found in the book of Genesis pointing to the coming of Jesus - the most wonderful gift of all! Interspersed with music and featuring stories from well-known Christians - the program offers listeners hope and perspective during the season that is truly all about Jesus.

**Sunday, December 24 at 6:00 p.m. - *Christmas Eve Music:*** Tune in as Dan Close brings you 3 hours of nothing but Christmas music to kick off your Christmas Eve!

**Sunday, December 24 at 9:00 p.m. - *In Your Presence:*** Join Denise Warner for a special Christmas Eve edition of *In Your Presence* as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**Monday, December 25 - *Christmas Day Music:*** WRGN will feature continuous Christmas music all day (6am to midnight) hosted by Tim Madeira, Doug Hamilton, Dan Longmore, Denise Warner, and Dan Close.

**Monday, January 1 at 8:00 p.m. - *Happy New Place:*** It's not just a "Happy New Year" for 2018. Carter Conlon is suggesting we open our minds and hearts to a "Happy New Place!" By opening ourselves to changes in the way we approach everyday life in tumultuous times, we can know, indeed it will be a happy New Year!

# HERE AT THE STUDIOS



It's the most wonderful time of the year! At least that's what the lyrics say! And it IS the most wonderful time as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ! It can also be the busiest time of the year, but we hope you will carve out some family time and take advantage of the special Christmas programming WRGN has this December. A complete list of Christmas specials can be found on page 3!

The staff of WRGN kicked off the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band at Bethany Wesleyan Church in Cherryville. What a wonderful evening as we listened to outstanding singing and music and spent time visiting with many of our WRGN listeners! Another event we're looking forward to is the Gaither Christmas Homecoming concert at Santander Arena, Reading. Congratulations to Gail, Plymouth; Scott, Hunlock Creek; Karla, Shickshinny; Tina, Berwick; and John, Fern Glen; who won tickets during our giveaway!

Our fall reading contest for children concluded in November and Garrett Shingler from Shickshinny was our winner! A new winter contest will be held from December until

the end of February. For every book a child reads, they get to add their name to a snowflake and help decorate the Good News Library.

We've already begun to receive book donations for our Good News Library Book Sale held annually in May. If you're house cleaning after the holidays, remember to set aside your gently-used Christian books that you no longer want and then call the station (800-245-3688) to set up a time to drop them off at the WRGN studios!

Also remember, WRGN's More Than a Yard Sale is scheduled for the first Saturday of June, June 2, 2018. As you're putting away your holiday decorations, if there are some that you would like to pass on to a new household, save them for our More Than a Yard Sale. Donations will be accepted in May.

As we approach the end of the year, we want to thank you, our listeners, for supporting the ministry of WRGN over the past twelve months and also to our volunteers who help make our events throughout the year a success! We appreciate each of you and wish you all a very blessed Christmas season!

# Annie Moses Concert Sold Out



WRGN's staff with Gretchen and Annie, two of the members of the Annie Moses Band at Bethany Wesleyan Church in Cherryville. It is the second time WRGN has helped promote the Annie Moses Band and they once again played to a packed house!

OUR CHRISTMAS GIFT TO YOU

*Christmas*  
Music

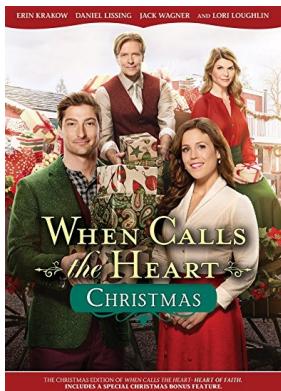
CHRISTMAS EVE | 6 PM - 12 AM  
CHRISTMAS DAY | 6 AM - 12 AM

# New at the Library



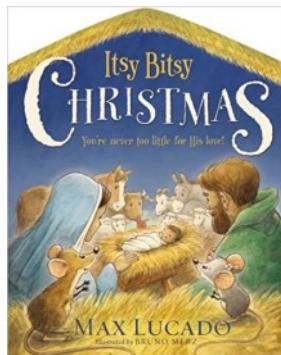
December's author of the month at the Good News Library is Lori Wick. Lori is the bestselling author of 39 books (more than 6.3 million copies sold), including the popular Rocky Mountain Memories and Californians series, the Tucker Mills Trilogy, and stand-alone novels such as *Sophie's Heart*, *Pretense*, and *Bamboo and Lace*.

Our theme for December is "Angels We Have Heard on High," and we have a display of various Christmas titles for you to borrow! There are nonfiction and fiction titles, DVDs for both adults and children, and a full display of children's books to help you read through the month of December.



**When Calls the Heart Christmas** is a beautiful story where Christmas is coming to Hope Valley and everyone's in a festive mood. Rosemary and Lee have returned from their honeymoon to reside in their new row house next to Elizabeth, who's busy helping her students mount a nativity play. A traveling peddler, Sam, is mistaken for Santa by the kids...and then mistaken for a thief by Jack! Elizabeth is stunned when word arrives that the supply train has derailed. Without costumes for the play, food for the feast and presents for the kids, Christmas will be ruined! It takes a lot of faith, spirit, and the cooperation of friends and family to show Hope Valley what Christmas is all about.

**Itsy Bitsy Christmas: You're Never Too Little for His Love** - When these two charming little mice hear that a King is coming to Bethlehem, they run to find Him. But they can't find the King, and other animals discourage them. "Don't even try," they say. "The King doesn't care about little ones like us." Itsy and Bitsy are just about to give up when something amazing happens. Crafted by master storyteller Max Lucado, **Itsy Bitsy Christmas** helps children understand God's great love and know that He sent His Son, the King of kings, for all of us—little or big, young or old.



Visit the Good News Library and check out our display of Christmas books to read and DVDs to watch! Remember, a membership to the Good News Library makes a wonderful stocking stuffer for your favorite bibliophile. Memberships are just a \$5 donation. Books may be borrowed for one month and audio books and DVDs may be checked out for 2 weeks.

*Merry Christmas!*



## The Power of Healthy Conflict



**Pastor Kevin Fetterhoff** shares with Tim Madeira about a Marriage Strengthening Conference at Bethany Wesleyan Church in Cherryville on Saturday, February 10 at 1:00 pm. Plans are being made for a group of WRGN listeners to attend. For details on joining the group, call 800-245-3688.

*Fighting Your Way  
to a Better Marriage  
with Greg & Erin Smalley  
from Focus on the Family*

- 3 sessions with the Smalleys featuring Biblical strategies that show how healthy conflict can take you to deeper levels of intimacy
- Evening meal
- Comedy of Daren Streblov

*for more information  
on this LIVE event:  
[bethanywes.org](http://bethanywes.org)*



*Merry Christmas*  
FROM ALL OF US AT WRGN

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