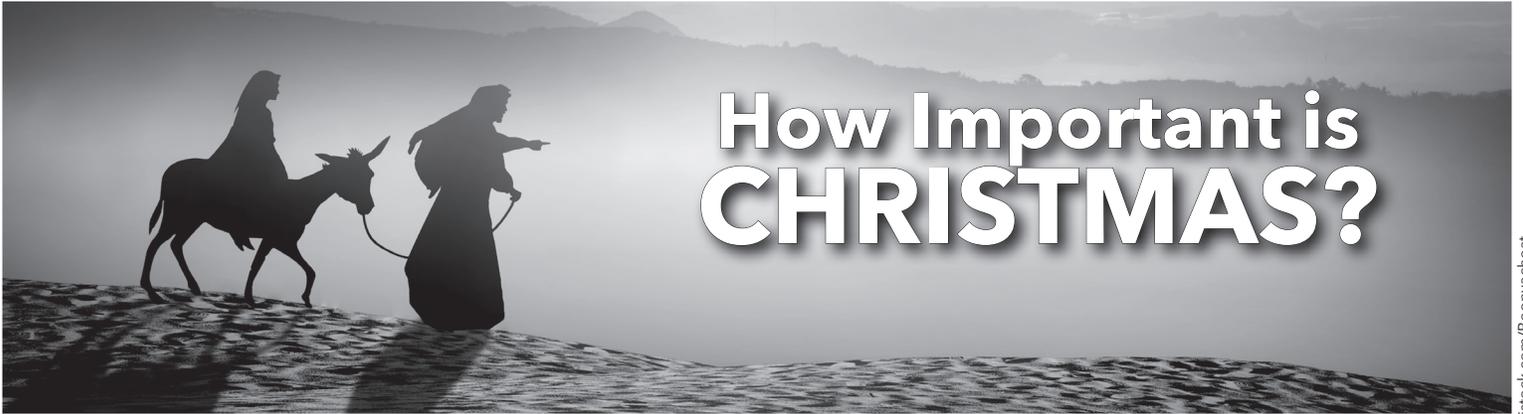


# WIHS GOOD NEWS

Winter 2019 • Your Station for Inspiration and Information • WIHSradio.org



## How Important is CHRISTMAS?

**D**ecember 1, 2019 is the first Sunday of Advent and thus begin the annual preparations in many homes and churches for the celebration of Christmas. How important is Christmas and is it necessary to give it special observance in the life of a Christian? Certainly not all Christians have celebrated Christmas. Many Protestant forefathers would have insisted that there is only one holy day to be observed and this is the Lord's Day, and all the festivals of the "Christian Year" are just relics of a less than faithful past.

Contemporary Christians who take their faith seriously also tend to recoil from the additional fanciful and often fictitious stories that have become so firmly bound up with Christmas that they remove any real understanding about what is the true significance of the Day. Even more could be said about the extravagant commercial emphasis, which so easily characterizes the Christmas Season, and also obscures what Christmas is all about and its true importance.

While December 25 is most likely not the exact date for the birth of Jesus Christ, which is a true fact and the only reason to celebrate Christmas, it is the date we use to mark the most miraculous of miracles: The coming of GOD into our world, which the theologians call *The Incarnation* – GOD taking upon Himself human flesh. If there is one single statement in the Bible that sums up what Christmas is truly all about, it's not in the familiar passages of Matthew or Luke, but it is the unbelievable declaration of John when he wrote in the prologue to his Gospel: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

While we may never cease to delight and relish in the accounts of the annunciation and nativity given by Matthew and Luke, John expresses the very heart of the greatest miracle of all, "The Word was made

flesh!" This truth is foundational for all Christian faith and practice.

As Rev. John de Witt has written: "This truth means that the Lord of glory, who had all authority and power at His disposal, divested Himself of divine dignity and became a servant. (Philippians 2:7) The eternal Son of God, who spoke the first creative word and called the light itself into its primal existence, voiced an infant's cry, cradled helpless in a woman's arms. The One who knew all things and the end from the beginning now confined Himself to a newborn baby's tiny body and undeveloped mind. He, whose splendor was boundless and to whom by right all supernatural glory belonged, now dwelt, not in a palace chamber, but in a rude stable. The Source of goodness and beauty entered our world amid the stench of cattle and the bleating of sheep. Holy, harmless, undefiled, He became as we are, knew our sorrows, was acquainted with our griefs, faced temptations even as we do, and all this "to be wounded for our transgressions...bruised for our iniquities." (Hebrews. 7:26, 4:25; Isaiah 53:4,5)

**...John expresses the very heart of the greatest miracle of all, "The Word was made flesh!"**

**Christmas is special!** It is special for what it truly acknowledges and celebrates, GOD has come into our world in the person of Jesus Christ, the Son of GOD. Throughout the Advent season, Christmas Day and even onto Epiphany, **WIHS** will bring special programming to help all who listen to know the true meaning of Christmas and give honor, glory and praise to the greatest of miracles – the Word was made flesh – Jesus the Savior has been born! All of the events in the Gospels, all of the teachings of Jesus, all of prophecies of old and the messages of the apostles are best and most determinedly understood in the light of this miracle of miracles: GOD has entered human history in the person of Jesus!

Yes, let us celebrate this wonder of wonders – on Christmas Day and every day!

GJ Gerard, General Manager

**104.9**  
Good News Connecticut  
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# Special Projects at WIHS

**W**IHS moved from the third floor of an old downtown Middletown office building to 1933 South Main Street in the Spring of 1992 (27 years ago!). Much of the equipment from downtown was moved into the new facilities. Over the years the equipment has been repaired and repaired, but with increasing difficulty. Technology has also changed in the past 27 years – think computers, Internet and cellphones! Now there is a real need to update the broadcast studios and equipment to carry the Station into the next 25 or more years. “Easy to say,

hard to do” is a familiar saying, and it is a reality at **WIHS**. A project entitled “Studio 2020” which would refurbish and re-equip the studios is on the drawing boards. Preliminary cost estimates are \$55,000 for equipment and an additional \$15,000 for updating the facilities. Would you consider helping



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to fund this necessary project?

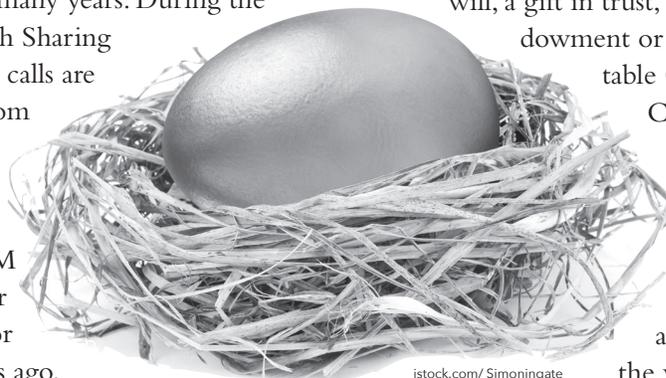
**T**here are other special projects waiting for funding as well.

These include a Solar Power Farm which would allow **WIHS** to significantly save on electrical energy costs. It is estimated that in 12 years the savings would pay for the project –

but there’s that big initial cost – some \$95,000. Wow – that’s a lot of “upfront” money but the long term savings will help **WIHS** in future years.

## Legacy Giving and You!

**W**IHS is a listener-supported, faith-based ministry which has now been broadcasting the Good News of Jesus Christ” for over 50 years. The “legacy” of **WIHS** reaches far and wide over these many years. During the annual Faith Sharing Days many calls are received from listeners who first tuned in to 104.9 FM some 30, or 35 or 40 (or more) years ago,



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and they continue to be blessed by the unique Christian Radio ministry of **WIHS**. Many testimonies have been received reflecting on the special nature of **WIHS**, frequently saying “There is no other Christian Radio station like **WIHS**!”

GOD has faithfully provided for the financial needs of **WIHS** throughout all the 50+ years. Many small donations and a number of larger donations are received annually to help “pay the bills.” It is no secret however that

increasing costs and expenses are outpacing the needed gifts to “stay in the black.”

One opportunity to help **WIHS** to stay financially solvent is to provide a Legacy Gift. This may be a bequest in a will, a gift in trust, a designated endowment or a Planned Charitable Gift. A Planned Charitable Gift is relatively new and provides individuals who have realized significant appreciation in the value of their investments and desire to offset some of the accompanying capital gains taxes.

Such Planned Gifts provides long-term stability to ministries and special benefits to the donor.

**WIHS** has a small group of committed Christian financial advisors who can provide beneficial information in preparing a legacy gift to

continue to ministry of the Station until our Lord returns. Please contact the Station by phone or E-Mail to receive friendly and helpful guidance. ♦

**...increasing costs and expenses are outpacing the needed gifts to “stay in the black.”**

**A** smaller special project is to upgrade and update the signage and lighting of the Station. This has an estimate of \$7,000.



**I**n 1986 **WIHS**

received its first office computer at a cost of \$2,500 (part of the cost was donated by the supplier). Today there are over 30 computers, some over 20 years old, operating 24 hours a day at **WIHS**. The cost to maintain, repair and replace old parts has a budget of nearly \$19,000 a year. New computers and 2020 software would cost \$15,000 but repair and maintenance costs would decrease to less than \$4,000 per year. This is another special project for you to consider.

**E**veryone likes to have clean carpets and flooring in their homes and it’s the same at **WIHS**. The current carpeting and flooring was installed back in 1992 and is definitely showing its age. The studios require copper ground planes to protect the equipment, and the office needs “easy to clean” material. All of the flooring replacement costs amount to \$17,000.

**P**lease be in prayer for GOD to provide the necessary funding for these special projects and consider your part to answer your prayers. ♦

# WIHS Media News



**B**e sure to subscribe to the new **WIHS** YouTube Channel. This is a new global resource where you can listen to past *Bread of Life* and *WIHS Journal* programs as well as special audio and video files. One new video file available is *The History of WIHS*. All of these resources are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Nearly 200 unique files have been posted to date. You can locate them by using keyword searches based on type of program, topic, speaker, host or date posted. You may easily view, listen, share, save and comment on the content. To subscribe, go to [www.YouTube.com](http://www.YouTube.com), type in **WIHS 1049** on the YouTube search bar and click the “subscribe” button.

**WIHS** will soon be establishing a Facebook presence where you will be able to sign up as a “friend” and then receive ongoing posts containing news and special concerns about **WIHS**.

The **WIHS** website ([www.wihsradio.org](http://www.wihsradio.org)) is updated weekly. Be sure to use it to stay informed about “Your Station for Inspiration and Information.” You can also sign up for the e-newsletter on this site.

Drew Crandall, the **WIHS** media coordinator, would appreciate feedback from you regarding your use of the **WIHS** website, the **WIHS** e-newsletter, the **WIHS** YouTube Channel, and soon to be launched Facebook page. You can E-Mail Drew at: [drew@wihsradio.org](mailto:drew@wihsradio.org) or [wihs@snet.net](mailto:wihs@snet.net) ♦

## Letters From Listeners

**ANSONIA:** *Thank you everyone at WIHS. I'm truly blessed by all of you . . . I've been unemployed and unable to pay my faith promise, but God is BEYOND faithful and I'm sending you this faith promise because of our amazing God. I know I will be able to catch up and give you more than I promised. Hallelujah. May God continue to use this ministry and bless you all in abundance. Amen. Amen. Amen.*

**AN INMATE AT SOMERS:** *. . . To all who work at WIHS and all volunteers – stay encouraged in the Lord as you are truly in His service – reaching the lost and encouraging and strengthening the brothers and sisters in the Lord Jesus . . . Even though we are not physically together we can enjoy fellowship with one another and fellowship in the Lord, Who joins us all together in Him. Please send me more Invitation to Listen Cards, people in here need to be able to get the Word any time they need it and that's always!*

**A FORMER WIHS STAFF MEMBER WHO CURRENTLY RESIDES IN ARIZONA:** *What wonderful memories come to mind when I remember my years at the Station! It was such a joy and honor to work alongside Al & Elaine Thyberg, Jim & Eleanor Pelley and all the crew serving the Lord at WIHS-FM during the mid-1970s. As the night-time host of the program “Reflections”, I had the opportunity to creatively minister to many loyal listeners during some of my best years in broadcasting. Congratulations as you celebrate 50 years of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to Southern New England, and may the Lord prosper and expand your ministry even more until He returns!*

**A COUPLE FROM WATERFORD:** *We were, once again, reminded of the role WIHS plays in our lives this past weekend. We listen to the station online because we can't get the radio signal. I tried to connect Friday evening, and couldn't. I didn't panic right away . . . but after having no success on Saturday in connecting, I was becoming anxious. NO WIHS Sunday afternoon caused uneasiness – we always have the Station on, and we missed you terribly! . . . When I finally could get you on Monday evening – I cried tears of joy! . . . We are VERY thankful for WIHS and all of you involved in this ministry (now more than ever!!) . . . Enclosed find our quarterly Faith Promise plus extra to put where most needed!*

# WIHS Staff Notes

It was a time of sadness to say “goodbye and GOD Bless!” but there was also rejoicing in new opportunities as a fond farewell was given to Jen Wesselock, **WIHS** Office Assistant, who relocated to Mount Pleasant, S.C. in late September. Susan Skaanning, who was serving part time, has accepted the full-time position that Jen had filled.



Jolene White

Returning to the **WIHS** airwaves will be the friendly and familiar voice of Jolene White. Jolene will be serving as a part-time Board Operator with assigned duties for a monthly Saturday into Sunday overnight shift. Be sure to stay up late to hear Jolene

and give her a “welcome back” to bringing cheer and compassion to those listening during the weekend overnight shifts.

**Matt Harper** is a new part-time **WIHS** Board Operator who will



Matt Harper

initially be sharing the Saturday into Sunday overnight shifts with Jolene White and Tirrell Watson. Matt hails from Minnesota, but moved to Connecticut in 2004. He has a strong appreciation for Christian Radio ministry which he sees “as a tremendous opportunity for proclaiming the message of Christ so that the spiritually lost are reached, and so that the saved are strengthened and encouraged in Christ through word and music.” ♦

## Upcoming Area Events

Add your events to the next **WIHS** Good News Letter and have them read by thousands of **WIHS** listeners! Events are also posted on the **WIHS** Community Web Calendar to be seen by thousands more at no cost to the sponsoring group!

### Springfield Rescue Mission - Springfield

<http://springfieldrescuemission.org>  
(413) 732-0808

Feb 1 @ 10am: Coldest Day 5K Walk/Run for the homeless!

### First Church Torrington - Torrington

<http://firstcong.com/events>  
(860) 482-4705

Dec 1, 8, 13 & 20 @ 9am: Arise & Shine Advent Series

Dec 8 @ 3pm: “Have You Heard?”  
– A Celtic Christmas Cantata

### Ekklesia Contemporary Ballet - The Morgan School (Clinton)

<http://living-rock.org/events>  
(860) 663-2069

Ahavah – The Story of Christmas.

Dec 7 @ 1pm & 6pm: and Dec. 8 @ 4pm  
purchase tickets @ [theahavahstory.com](http://theahavahstory.com)

**WIHS** looks forward to meeting faithful listeners and to introducing ourselves to potential new listeners! Invite **WIHS** to host a ministry display table your next church or ministry event! If a ministry display table isn't an option, **WIHS** can possibly provide larger quantities of promotional/witnessing materials for your upcoming event. **WIHS** wants to partner with you to help make your next event a success!

Visit the “Out and About” page on the **WIHS** website to view some events we've recently attended!

## Faith Sharing 2019



The 48th edition of **WIHS** Faith Sharing took place on Thursday, October 24th through Saturday, October 26th (there was no special Faith Sharing programs for the first two years at

**WIHS**). Some 100 volunteers, special on-air guests, plus **WIHS** Staff and Board members participated in this year's event. Normal programming was interrupted for 42 hours over the three days. In its place was continuous “live” action in the studios and over the air with music, talk,

testimonies, announcements and special features. The results are impressive. Over 650 Faith Promises have been received with more than \$180,000 “Faith-Promised” to support **WIHS** in 2020.

Additional Faith Promises continue to arrive via E-Mail to: [wihs@snet.net](mailto:wihs@snet.net), or by the Faith Promise link on the website: [wihsradio.org](http://wihsradio.org). Some are even being hand-delivered as people or the



Drew Crandall interviews Pastor Rick McNiss of Wellspring Church (Berlin).

U. S. Mail bring them to 1933 S. Main Street, Middletown, CT, 06457. Faith Promises will continue to be received and added to the totals through December 31st, so if you have not made your 2019 Faith Promise, there's still time to do so. There's lots more information and

details, with some great photos, on the **WIHS** website. Log on and give Praise to GOD for His blessings upon Faith Sharing 2019. ♦

## WIHS 104.9 FM

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Visit our Web Site, and listen On-Line at [wihsradio.org](http://wihsradio.org)