

WIHS GOOD NEWS

Winter/Spring 2024 · Your Live & Local Station for Daily Hope and Encouragement · WIHSradio.org

Matt Harper promoted to General Manager



Matt Harper was recently promoted to General Manager of WIHS.

A resident of East Hartford, Matt has been with the station since 2019, serving as an on-air announcer, show producer, and Community Outreach Coordinator. He is an ordained minister with an extensive educational background, including a B.A. in Pastoral Communication and an M.A. in Biblical Studies from Northland International University in Dunbar, Wisconsin; a Master of Divinity from Faith Baptist Theological Seminary in Ankeny, Iowa; and a Master of Public Administration from Walden University in Minneapolis. He's off to a great start. Please pray for him!

Steve Tuzeneu, our previous General Manager, is now serving as Chief Engineer at four radio stations in Lakeland, Florida operated by Hall Communications. We thank God for Steve, who led our extensive three-year studio renovation project and improved the station's on-air presence in many ways. *(More staff news on page two)*

Faith Sharing 2024 moved to April 4-5



Our two-day 2024 Faith Sharing "Telethon" will take place **THIS SPRING on Thursday, April 4 and Friday, April 5 from 6 am to 8 pm** and will be a continuation from this past October. Traditionally, Faith Sharing was held in the 4th quarter. However, in 2019, we added a new fundraising component to our annual fall Celebrate Jesus Gala & Expo at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. Holding both of our major fundraisers within a few weeks of each other was a bit awkward, so we're shifting Faith Sharing to late winter/early spring. To participate in Faith Sharing 2024, use the clip-off form below, call 860.346.1049 during our telethon OR use the online form at WIHSradio.org.



SAVE THESE BANQUET DATES:

- Saturday, October 19, 2024
- Saturday, October 18, 2025
- Saturday, October 17, 2026

WIHS 2024 Faith Sharing (please cut, complete and mail in an envelope)



YOUR NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION (if applicable): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please count me as a **WIHS** Faith Sharing Partner this year! I hereby promise to support the station by:

☐ Praying regularly for the needs of **WIHS**.

☐ Please contact me about volunteering.

☐ Telling my friends and neighbors about **WIHS**.

☐ Giving \$_____ per month (or) \$_____ single gift as a faith promise in dependence on God.

Please make checks payable to **WIHS**. You may also give by credit card by phone, by text or online via our website.

Encouraging WIHS Staff News

Did you know that WIHS is one of the largest Christian employers in Connecticut, with over 20 full- and part-time employees? All of our staff members live and worship in Connecticut. We are blessed with many employees who have been with us for decades, and by several new employees who are playing vital roles in the operation of this unique 24/7 media ministry.



Ron Gangwer is our Program Director and a weekday on-air host. Ron grew up in Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Vermont. After graduating from Pensacola Christian College with a Bachelor's degree in the Bible and Education, he was a 6th grade teacher and then school administrator at a Christian academy in Massachusetts. Ron joined WIHS in 2001. He resides in Enfield and worships at New Day Church in Enfield. Ron, your steady, reliable, diligent and pleasant presence is appreciated!



Neil Knudsen has been promoted to Broadcast Director. He also serves as a weekday on-air host, show producer and music director. Born in Middletown, Neil grew up in Haddam Neck and graduated from Haddam-Killingworth High School, where he was heavily involved in television production. He then graduated from the Connecticut School of Broadcasting and attended Middlesex Community College, focusing on Audio Production. Throughout his early career, radio was a common thread, which resulted in his employment at WIHS in 1997. He lives in Middletown and worships at Wethersfield Evangelical Free Church, where he serves as the main sound technician. Keep it up, Neil!



Robin Hansen was recently promoted to Office Manager. She has been serving in that capacity for many years, but now it's "official!" Robin is a graduate of Cromwell High School and a resident of Middletown. She joined the WIHS staff in 2002, and is known and appreciated for her consistently high level of energy and enthusiasm. Northeast Christians At Work honored her with a Northeast Marketplace Ministry Award in the "Most On-fire Employee" category in 2012. She worships at Wellspring Church in Kensington. Go Robin!



Jessica Chenery is our new Executive Assistant to the General Manager. Jessica previously served as Superintendent of Chapel Operations at Connecticut Air National Guard and holds a Master's of Divinity degree from Liberty University. She grew up and lives in Glastonbury, and worships at Crossroads Community Cathedral in East Hartford, where she volunteers as Stage Manager and Director's Assistant for their popular Passion production coming up this Easter season. Jessica joined WIHS in 2023 and quickly became a valuable helper to Matt Harper. Keep smiling, Jessica!



Lorna Diane Blackwell is the newest member of our on-air staff.

Born in Bridgeport, Lorna's radio career began as a volunteer at WYBC at Yale University, then at WNHC in New Haven. After a full-time on-air position in Cleveland, she returned to Connecticut where she is an on-air host on WBOM in Bloomfield, WRTC in Hartford, and Jazz Beats Radio online. Lorna is a long-time resident of Hartford and worships at Shiloh Baptist Church in New London. Welcome, Lorna, we know you're going to jazz things up!



Ryan Krupa is our new Broadcast Engineer on a contract consulting basis. Ryan holds a B.S. in Television, Radio and Film from Syracuse University and has extensive broadcast engineering experience in Connecticut at DMED Technology, Connoisseur Media and Quinnipiac University. He resides in Bristol. Ryan has big shoes to fill with Steve Tuzeneu's departure, but he's ready and willing!

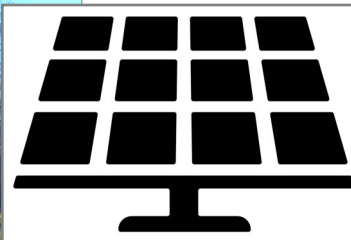
Exciting WIHS Facility News

After several months of renovation, we're putting the finishing touches on our new conference room!

In 55 years, we've never had an in-house space like this to meet with staff, Board members, pastors, tour groups and other guests. This room will be very beneficial as we continue to build relationships with Christians and various organizations across the state. We may be high-tech, but we're also high-touch! Many thanks to those who helped through donations of funds, furniture, expertise and time.



Powered by the Son and the sun? WIHS is currently conducting a feasibility study on converting our complete electrical, cooling and heating systems to solar power. As you can imagine, between our station and our transmitter, we use a lot of juice!



Instead of installing solar panels on our roof, or converting our field into a solar panel "farm," we're concentrating our study on a solar panel sun tracker where our satellite dishes are currently located. The 54-panel array would "follow" the sun as it moves across the sky to capture the optimal amount of solar power year-round.

It looks like we could operate "off the grid," including air conditioning and heat! If you are interested in helping to provide seed money for this project, please contact the station today!



Saving our field so we can use it to save souls!

We are blessed with property that includes a gently sloped field that could be transformed into a natural "amphitheater," along with flatter land near the road and building that could be used for parking, exhibitor tents, food trucks and porta-potties. What if we did some minor grading work, rented a stage and AV system, and held "live" Christian concerts, festivals and evangelistic outreaches? These events would help to unite and expand the statewide Body of Christ and introduce attendees to WIHS. Later this year, we'll be exploring the feasibility of hosting future events. If you are interested in helping to fund site prep and events, please contact the station today.



"Welcome! We're glad you're here!"

is the message on our sign as people park their vehicles and walk in our main entrance. Now that most of our interior renovations are complete, we are eager to open the doors of hospitality and conduct group tours of this remarkable Lighthouse for the Lord. There's no facility like it anywhere in Connecticut!

Not only will a tour make you feel more "connected" to WIHS, its staff and ministry, but you never know how the Lord can use a tour to ignite the imagination and motivation of believers to pursue a God-given calling in media! Schedule your group tour by calling the station today.

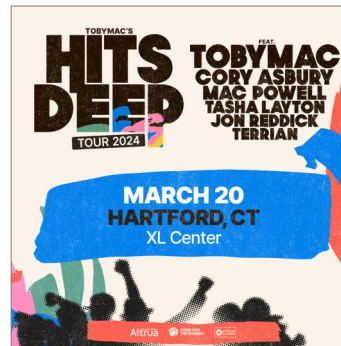
Enthusiastic WIHS Outreach News

Our outreach schedule slowed down in January and February, but it's picking up in March, April and into the summer!

As of presstime, we'll have displays at these upcoming events:


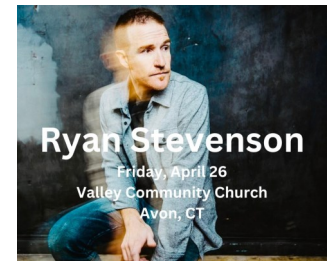
- March 8-9: **"Positioned" Men's Conference** at Destiny Church in Bloomfield.
- March 20: **March for Life** in downtown Hartford.
- March 20: **Toby Mac HITS DEEP** concert at the XL Center in downtown Hartford.
- March 23: **"Iron Sharpens Iron" Men's Conference** at Rehoboth Church of God in Bloomfield.
- March 24: **"March for Jesus"** at Hubbard Park in Meriden.
- April 26: **Ryan Stevenson** at Valley Community Church in Avon.

Check our website, WIHSradio.org, for information on these events and others. You can also use the "Invite Us To Your Event" online form on our website if you're interested in having us speak and/or showcase WIHS at your future event.




 **MARCH FOR LIFE**

IRON SHARPENS IRON



BEST OF ISRAEL
9 Day Inspirational Tour | September 17 – 25, 2024

Information & Reservations
WIHS Radio
Jessica Chenery | 860-346-1049 | jessica@WIHSradio.org
www.pilgrimgroups.com/groups/wihsradio2024.htm

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We announced our first-ever WIHS trip to Israel during last fall's Celebrate Jesus Gala & Expo, and it was an immediate hit! As of presstime, all spots are filled, but if you'd like to be added to our waiting list for the September 17-25, 2024 trip OR future trips, contact the station office today. (We're monitoring the situation in Israel; if the trip is cancelled, we'll reschedule to 2025.)

Now open: the new online WIHS Merch Shop!

Show your passion for Jesus and WIHS Christian radio! Various branded apparel items are now available in multiple sizes and colors. Coffee mugs, glasses and tumblers are also available!



A portion of every purchase goes to support the media ministry of WIHS. Please visit the link on our homepage at WIHSradio.org today!

WIHS 104.9 FM
1933 South Main Street
Middletown, CT 06457
Phone: 860.346.1049
Email: office@WIHSradio.org

Web: WIHSradio.org
Our mobile-friendly website contains many interactive features and links to live streaming, a playlist, online giving, Facebook and YouTube.

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