

THE CC NEWSLETTER

Volume 45 // No.1
Summer 2025

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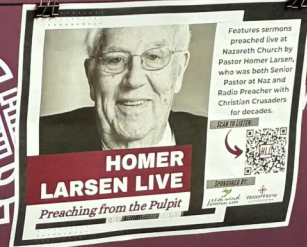
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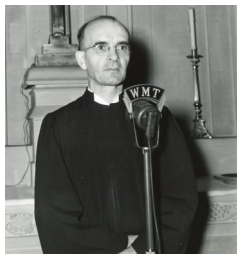


Christian Crusaders
Radio & Internet Ministry

BROADCASTING BIBLICAL TRUTH SINCE 1936
CHRISTIANCROSSADERS.ORG

FROM THE DIRECTOR

As of September 6 Christian Crusaders is 89 years old! Check out the six men who have been our radio preachers during that period of time. All of them Christ-centered, Gospel-oriented ministers of God's Word. **Praise God!** Their faithfulness, itself a gift from God, I believe, is why Christian Crusaders has stood the test of time. **Today and going forward, I remain committed to see this ministry continue with the same solid Biblical convictions. And I know you, our listeners and supporters, expect nothing less!**



G.E. Melchert



Bruno Schlachtenhaufen



Homer Larsen



Steve Kramer



Lee Laaveg



Tim Boettger

So far in 2025 we've worked hard to **cut expenses as much as possible without diminishing the Kingdom impact of Christian Crusaders.** This is in line with a goal we've been more aggressively pursuing for the past couple years: **financial sustainability with non-estate donations alone.** In decades past, Christian Crusaders was heavily dependent on larger, unpredictable, but frequent-enough estate donations. In recent years, for various reasons, those estate donations have tapered off. So we've been forced to get to a place where we're able to fund this ministry with regular, non-estate donations, without counting on larger estate gifts to pour in like they once did. If / When estate donations do come in, they'll be the frosting on top of the cake, not the cake itself. **By God's providence and because of the generosity of many of you (THANK YOU!), we're getting closer to achieving this goal...and we're doing it without diminishing our overall impact! Again, praise God!!** Stay tuned for a more detailed financial update in our year-end newsletter.

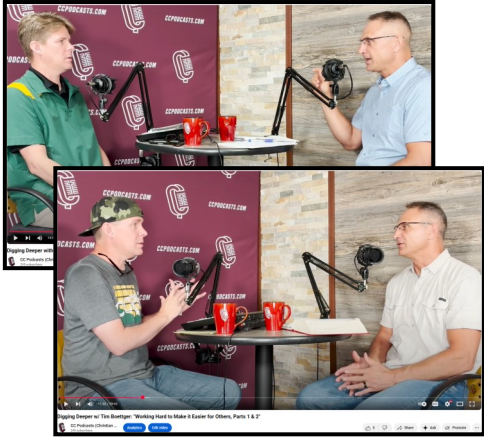
In addition to aggressively addressing our financial sustainability goal, **we've also continued to create and publish hours of tremendous new audio and video content, for which we are receiving encouraging feedback from listeners.** For example, The CC Podcast: Conversations episodes featured on the next page are being consumed at a greater rate than ever before. And a few pages over, you'll see how one platform where our content is published — Pray.com — is giving us access to thousands of new listeners each month. **If you want to significantly help us expand the reach of our content at no financial cost, please look up our podcasts on all the various platforms, subscribe to them, and leave positive comments or reviews. Or simply share our different pieces of content with a friend! Just doing those things can make a big impact!**

As I look at the photos in the left margin of this page, my mind drifts to the hundreds of hours of faithful radio preaching (**approximately 1240 hours of preaching!**) that has been recorded / broadcast by CC over 89 years. I think of the **millions of people who've heard The CC Broadcast** over the same time period. Then, I think about how **we've evolved our methods — adding to the broadcast without neglecting our radio audience or compromising our message — by expanding our online presence to reach millions more who don't tune in on the radio! All for the purpose of promoting the Gospel and God's Word! What a thrill!**

Thanks for your partnership and encouragement along the way! ~Matt

NEW ON CC PODCAST: CONVERSATIONS

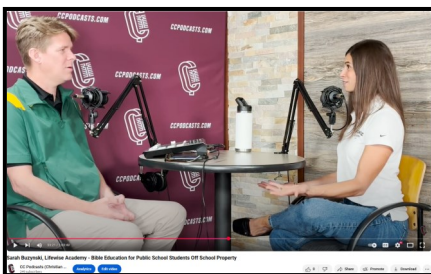
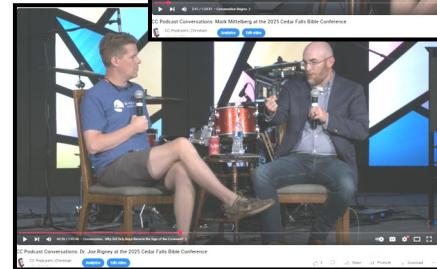
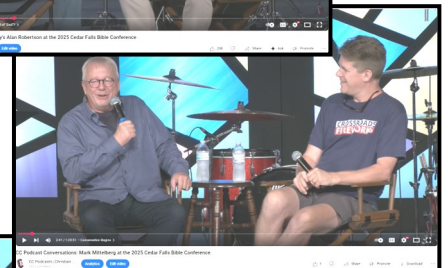
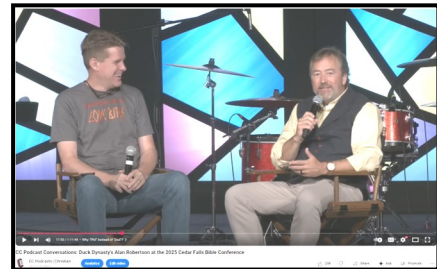
Over the past several weeks, we've added six new episodes to [The CC Podcast: Conversations](#), our long-form interview podcast which features *inspiring stories from interesting Christians*. All six of them are available in video format on [YouTube \(please click "subscribe" on our page — free!\)](#) and in audio format, like all of our other podcasts.



We've started a new series of episodes on The CC Podcast: Conversations called [Digging Deeper with Tim Boettger](#), where Matt and Tim spend some time discussing select sermons that Tim has preached. This gives listeners an opportunity to think about these messages more deeply. We trust that the Lord will use these episodes to further strengthen his followers and our listeners for more effective service in His Kingdom. Stay tuned for more as they are released!

Christian Crusaders and CC Podcasts had a visible presence and played a prominent role at the 2025 Cedar Falls Bible Conference. In particular, we conducted three live podcast Q&As, including:

- (1) [Duck Dynasty's Alan Robertson](#), who shared "The Unashamed Life," and family stories.
- (2) [Mark Mittelberg](#), trainer of evangelists and apologists, whose material is translated into 200 languages, training over 2 million people.
- (3) [Joe Rigney](#), author of "The Sin of Empathy: Compassion and Its Counterfeits" and "Leadership and Emotional Sabotage: Resisting the Anxiety that Will Destroy Your Church, Etc."



[Sarah Buzynski from LifeWise Academy](#) gave an inspiring update on their goal of giving every public school student the opportunity to learn God's Word during school hours. **NOTE:** Their documentary "Off School Property" will be in theaters for one day only: October 23, 2025. **GO SEE IT!!**

COVER PHOTO: This summer, we were invited to promote Christian Crusaders / CC Podcasts at The Family Leader's Leadership Summit — The Family Leader is the official sponsor of our Daily Dose Devotions podcast. This was our simple and effective display. **DID YOU KNOW?** It costs us no more to print our newsletter in full color compared to the cost of printing it in 2 colors, as was standard practice going back many decades?!

MEMORIAL / HONOR GIFTS

Gifts received between

Alexander, Bob
Walter Chapman

Andersen, Marcia
Joann Juhl

Angove, Geraldine
JD Angove
Blake & Daphne Bannon
James & Christina Bauch
Sid Bunger
Julie & Michael Clark
Shannon Closson
Christy Cornally
Ryan & Lisa Dietch
Paul & Nancy Dykstra
Frozen Pepper
Productions
Jeanne Hunter
Kelvin & Tomi Klein
Jolene & Tim Kneeland
Linda & Ken Lindblom
Gregory & Karol Mauk
Christopher & Allison
Pendroy
Jody & Angie Peterson
Rick & Evonne Whalen

Aperans, Agris
Joann Juhl

Becker, Kenneth
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Bickner, Earl and Velma
Duane & Barbara
Whitney

Bigelow, Denny
Bruce & Sue Gettman
Bill & Janet Kahler

Blanchard, Brycen (HONOR)
Shirley Warnke

Boehm, Dolores
Gage, Jean

Boettger, Andy
Tim & Kris Boettger

Chapman, Karen
Walter Chapman

**Christian Crusaders Staff
(HONOR)**
Paul & Julie Creeden

Daly, Jan
Dennis & Diana Bergeson
Tim & Kris Boettger
Paul & Julie Creeden
John & Laurie Larsen
Tom & Jan Reisetter
Barb Witzel

Debner, Helen
Kenneth Debner

Dralle, Mitchell
Carol Goettler
Brent & Dawn Janssen

Dralle, Sharon
Brent & Dawn Janssen

Farquar, Don & Cleo
Sandra Stepanek

Gehl, Robin
Sandra Lettow

Green, June
Jon & Kelly Bachman
Paul & Julie Creeden
Bob & Judy Larkin
Merle Larkin
Tom & Jan Reisetter
Doug & Marnie Stewart
Mark & Sydney Wikner

Hanson, Elizabeth
Jerry Hanson

Harvey, Shirley
John & Laurie Larsen

Hauser, Emma
Hauser, Helen B.
Hauser, Paul G.
Stephen & Janice Hauser

Heide, Don H.
Leon & Marilyn Schramm

Heller, Marv
Tom & Jan Reisetter

Hinderaker, Sharlene
Gaylord Hinderaker

Hochreiter, Curt
Tom & Jan Reisetter
Bill & Janet Kahler

Holmes, Darlene
Eugene Holmes

Hoodjer, Tracy
Carol Goettler
Brent & Dawn Janssen

**Immanuel Lutheran
(Independence) Women
Who Passed in 2024**
Immanuel Church
Women

Irvine, Willie & Burnetta
Don & Kathy Rasmusson

Juhl, Dick
Janice Aperans
Joann Juhl
Paul & Betty Klingenberg
Patricia Middleswart
Letha Petersen

Keim, Mary
James Proctor

Knopf, Paul J. and Thelma G.
Shirley Petersen

Kraklio, Ezra (HONOR)
**Kraklio, Shepherd James
(HONOR)**
John & Laurie Larsen

Lampe, Louise
Carlton Shaw

Lance, Sharon
Jon & Kelly Bachman
Bill & Jolene McCurdy
Tom & Jan Reisetter
Barb Witzel

11/23/2024 - 05/22/2025

MEMORIAL / HONOR GIFTS

Larsen, Ben (HONOR)
Larsen, Hannah Margaret
(HONOR)
Larsen, Landry (HONOR)
Larsen, Lane (HONOR)
John & Laurie Larsen

Larsen, Rev. Homer & Eunice
Jim & Judy Fogdall
Steven Parker

Lein, James
Donna Lein

Lemmon, Norm
Paul & Julie Creeden
Tom & Jan Reisetter
Doug & Marnie Stewart
Mark & Sydney Wikner

Lockway, Eva S.
Judith Drew

Mauer, Verne and Ethel
Edward & Janet McEvoy

Nazareth Church Leaders
(HONOR): Pastor Tim
Boettger, Pastor Mike
Brost, Wayne Jacobson
(Council President), and
Kristin Swenson (Interim
Administrator)
Paul & Julie Creeden

Nevermann, Janelle (wife)
and Stuart (son)
LeAllen Nevermann

Nielsen, Arnold & Zetta
Diane Hinke

Olson, Lynn
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Pender, Zorah
Gloria Dayton
Cyril & Kathy Klein
Maxine Welcher

Pleggenkuhle, Joe
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Pliester, Ralph & Henrietta
Donald Pliester

Prochaska, William and
Shirley (HONOR)
Tamara Nesselhauf

Prostine, Herluf
Doug & Marnie Stewart

Riess, William & Frances
Dexter & Sandra Hyde

Ross, Ken and Roxanne
Myrna Ross

Sandlin, Jeff
Sharon Hemmen

Schminke, Ilma
Dan Schminke

Schwake, Cheryl
Doug & Marnie Stewart

Sievers, Larry
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Smith, Charlotte
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Sprague, Dick
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Stark, Everett
Joyce Camerer

Taylor, Jimmy
Paul & Marolyn Nuzum

Van Hove, Sylvester
Tom & Paula Damgaard
Al & Sharon Divis
Wesley & Marlys Foster
Corey & Cheryl Herrick
Scott Mallinger
Ruth & Drake
Rosenwinkel
Bill & Kathy Scharnhorst
Debi Spear
Gary & Pat Stenzel
Allan & Teresa Van Hove
Donald & Catherine
Van Hove
Wanda Van Hove
Jann Warnke
Eldean & Bonnie Wendt
Mark & Sydney Wikner
Floyd & Sheryll Winter

Van Langen, Alvin
Jerry & Patricia Ober

Walker, Miriam
Bill & Jolene McCurdy

Wallukait, Lorna
Jane Wallukait

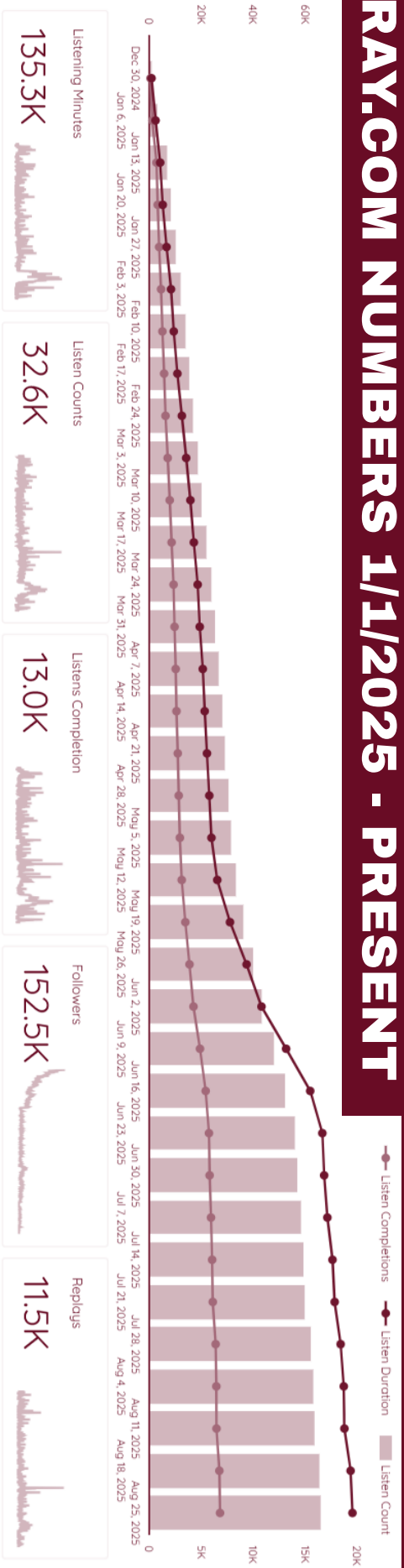
Walther, Hans and Opal
Joe Ann Ennenga

Whitney, Roger and Alice
Duane & Barbara
Whitney

Winter, Stacey
Tom & Jan Reisetter

MEMORIAL OR "HONOR" GIFTS are a great way to recognize a loved one, while also helping us promote the Gospel and the Truth of God's Word to our growing audiences online and on the air! ALSO, please reach out with questions or for assistance in setting up a legacy or estate gift in support of CC.

PRAY.COM NUMBERS 1/1/2025 - PRESENT



Country	Listen Count	Series Title	Content Title	Listen Count	Listen Minutes	Completed Listens
United States	27,552	The CC Podcast: Conversations	Don Wilton - Billy Graham's Pastor	613	1,687:07	27
Philippines	1,700	The CC Podcast: Conversations	Phil and Priscilla Fretwell - Marital ...	397	1,481:86	57
South Africa	1,280	The CC Podcast: Conversations	Mark and Deb Colflesh - Pastor, Po...	85	7:55:25	8
Canada	313	The CC Broadcast	6/8/25 Boettger: The Nature of Ou...	60	7:51:16	24
United Kingdom	246	The CC Broadcast	5/25/25 Boettger: Evidence of God' ...	67	6:82:69	25
Nigeria	162	The CC Broadcast	6/1/25 Boettger: The Best Advice E...	58	6:71:06	22
India	152	The CC Podcast: Daily Dose Devotl...	Bible Overview - Job 9 - Matt Reise...	267	6:54:76	81

Pray.com is the world's number one app for daily prayer and faith-based content. We were recruited by them at a National Religious Broadcasters convention 2+ years ago and we have been publishing all of our content on their app since then.

Pray.com was started by a handful of young Silicon Valley entrepreneurs who were massively successful with other tech-based businesses, but who **wanted to do something that would have Kingdom impact**. Thus their platform is very good from a tech standpoint, and they're constantly innovating to make it even better. They give us **access to millions of listeners worldwide**, some of whom pay a monthly subscription fee to Pray.com for an enhanced user experience. Starting in February, 2025 Pray.com decided they could fully operate their app on just 30% of the revenue that comes in from their paying users, so **ministries who provide content are given 70% of the revenue that comes in** based on which paying users listen to which content. Since February, this has meant **over \$5000 of income for CC**, which significantly offsets our \$1300/month cost to be on their platform. And the rate is increasing at which our support is growing because new listeners are finding us and our metrics are expanding. At some point, it is plausible to imagine that our cost for Pray.com - already worth the impact we're having - will be more than paid for by our revenue that comes in from Pray.com ... which moves us toward overall sustainability. Praise God!!!

SUNDAYS ON THE RADIO!

FLORIDA - MIAMI

WRMI Short Wave 11:00 am

IOWA - CEDAR RAPIDS

WMT/AM 600 7:30am / 9:00pm

IOWA - DES MOINES

WHO/AM 1040 7:05am

IOWA - FORT DODGE

KWMT/AM 540 8:30am

IOWA - MASON CITY

KGLO/AM 1300 8:00am

IOWA - WATERLOO

KXEL/AM 1540 10:30am

WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE

WTMJ/AM 620 6:00am

KITALE, KENYA

IMANI/FM 88.8 7:10pm

ONLINE ANYTIME!

PRAY.COM



ChristianCrusaders.org

OR

CCPodcasts.com

OR SUBSCRIBE FOR FREE



CC Mobile App



Apple Podcasts



Spotify



YouTube

LISTENER NOTES (continued)

What a lovely interview (Alan Robertson at CF Bible Conf) about the amazing Robertson family. The Angola story made me tear up. Jesus remains the center of it all. Amen.

@kowros-pippa on YouTube

Are you hurting? This sermon from Pastor Larsen from 1985 sums it up. No matter your struggle, don't walk it alone.

Kara's Facebook Post Linking a Homer Larsen Live Sermon

Listened to the Mark and Deb Colflesh podcast today! Wow!!!

Jill via Text Message

LISTENER NOTES

Memorials for [my mother in law] will be directed to Christian Crusaders. She was a devout Christian and listened every week. Thanks for the ministry helping so many around the world, especially shut in's like her, who love the words of God. Bless you.

Vicki via Social Media

I enjoy listening to your broadcast every week. I don't do the podcasts though. I started listening when Homer was preacher.

Donna from Iowa

We enjoyed your Digging Deeper with Tim Boettger "Making it Easier..." episode. The part about "what is OK or not OK for Christians to engage in" generated lots of great discussion for us.

Chad and Tracy from Iowa

Can you send me some information about how I can listen to your programs regularly? We were driving through Iowa and picked up your program and really enjoyed it, so we'd like to listen again!

Sam from Missouri

Thanks for publishing the Homer Larsen Live sermons! They remind me of being in church and hearing his preaching as a kid.

Joshua from Colorado

Wonderful podcast (Digging Deeper with Tim Boettger: "Making it Easier...")! Thank you for sharing your faith and love for the Gospel.

George on YouTube

I'm enclosing my offering for your ministry for the year. I appreciate you very much having your broadcasts online. I know other people utilize it like I have. Please pray for me as I've been diagnosed with a mass on my liver.

Kyle from Texas

I started listening to Christian Crusaders many years ago when Pastor Larsen had the service. Pastor and Mrs. Larsen were students at Dana College in Blair, NE when I was there. I'm still in Blair and just turned 100!

Betty from Nebraska

THE CC NEWSLETTER



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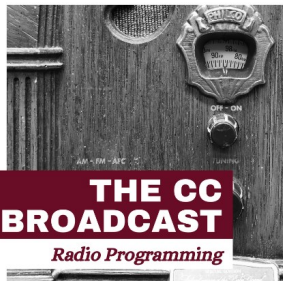
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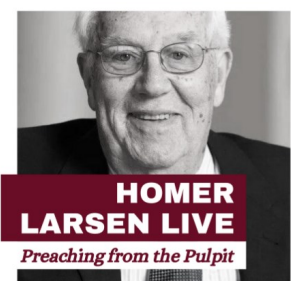
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**THE CC
PODCAST**
Daily Dose Devotions



**THE CC
PODCAST**
Conversations



**HOMER
LARSEN LIVE**
Preaching from the Pulpit

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