



# **FAMILY SHIELD**

## *Express*



P.O. Box 230015, St. Louis, MO 63123 • [witnesstofamily@gmail.com](mailto:witnesstofamily@gmail.com)

Fall 2015

*"I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16).*

### THE MISSION

Family Shield Ministries educates and equips people, through the power of the Gospel, to know Christ, to grow in His Word, and to strengthen individuals and their families.

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## *Dear Friend of Family Shield,*

**I**f I had known it would be this fantastic, I would have told more people!" A Family Shield radio program featuring Nate Salah ended with these words. Nate was raised as a Muslim, but is now a Christian. He shared his journey of faith with our listeners. The Lord allowed him to hear God's Word and the Gospel through Christian radio. He shared, "My girlfriend used to borrow my car and when she returned it, the radio was always on a Christian radio station. This upset me. I told her to stop doing this." But the seeds of the saving Gospel message were sown.

"Later she challenged me to get to know Jesus." He took this challenge seriously. He was afraid of the Bible because Muslims are taught that the Bible is inaccurate and distorted. So, instead of reading the Bible and going to church to learn about Jesus, he began listening to well-known Christian radio teachers.

He did this for over two years. Through radio and the teachings of Christians, he came to understand he was a sinner in need of a Savior and that he couldn't save himself by his own good works. He heard again and again that Jesus had suffered and died for his sins. After two years he placed his faith in Christ. Then he began attending a Christian congregation. His pastor asked Nate to take a part in an Easter pageant. He said 'yes' thinking he would portray Pontius Pilate or another character, but instead he was asked to portray Jesus Christ. This experience helped him continue to grow in faith. After the play a friend said to him, "If I had known it would be this fantastic, I would have invited more people to come." Nate used these words to end our program and encourage our listeners to tell others about Jesus. Listen here: <http://www.kngn.org/fs/Muslim%20to%20Christian.mp3>



*Christian Radio truly does change lives. Above: Kay Meyer and Rev. Greg Seltz in the studio.*



*Tjaden and Kay Meyer in Bath, England.*

### **An Eye-opening Experience**

My husband and I traveled to the United Kingdom in May. We enjoyed seeing London, Stonehenge, the Georgian city of Bath, and other areas of England, Wales, Ireland, and Scotland. We even took a tour of the small town used for filming the popular TV program *Downton Abbey* in the Oxfordshire Cotswolds (Yes, we are fans of *Downton Abbey*!) The trip was educational and enjoyable, but we observed something that concerns us. In Ireland our tour guide said 85% of the people are Roman Catholic, but only 15% of them attend church. We also heard about the Church of England and the Church of Ireland (The Anglican Church.) We heard a lot of people talk about good

*Continued on page 2*

## Dear Friends....Cont'd from page 1

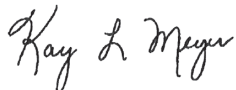
works, but almost never heard any mention of Jesus' suffering and death for our sins, forgiveness, faith, or the Bible as God's Word.

During our trip, we visited a display of monastic Bible documents at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland. After viewing this, we went upstairs to their huge library. They had Biblical documents displayed under glass with the words, "Myths of the Bible." I wish I had taken a picture of this, but I was so shocked, I didn't even think about it! Would you join me in praying for the people of the United Kingdom? Pray that the Lord will open people's hearts to the Gospel message and that more Christians will see the United Kingdom as a mission field and reach out to them with Christ's love and the Gospel.

### A Changing World Offers Opportunities to Share the Law and Gospel

Our world has changed, hasn't it? Christianity is under attack. The Bible is under attack. The family is under attack. Biblical marriage is under attack. As we live in exile culturally, opportunities to share God's love still arise. Yes, we can thrive in exile. Family Shield Ministries continues to receive requests to offer help and hope to family members with all types of challenges. Won't you join hands with us as we expand our outreach and partner with us through your prayers and financial support? We encourage you to become partners with us as we reach out with the Gospel to those who don't yet know Him and equip Christians to serve and witness.

In His Service and yours,



Kay L. Meyer, President and Host of Family Shield

## The Disconnected Conference

Family Shield Ministries is partnering with several ministries, including Gospel and Gaming, to host "The Disconnected Conference" on Friday, April 1 and Saturday, April 2, 2016. The conference will be held at Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church, 1230 Big Bend Rd., Ballwin, MO 63021. Watch our Facebook page for more information.



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## Stories of Those We Reach and Equip

"I have a difficult time keeping my temper under control. I learned a lot about anger and how to control it when you interviewed Dr. Gary Chapman and his book, *Anger: Taming A Powerful Emotion*. Thank you." Brandon

"I heard your program on "Who is Jesus" and learned so much. I always thought Jesus was a good man we needed to follow, but never understood His dual nature. I began listening to Christian radio because I'm interested in learning more about God. I was raised in a single parent family and never attended church. Thank you for telling me how much Jesus loves me. I continue to listen each week." Matt

Carla called after hearing a Family Shield program. She said, "I was flipping through the radio dial when I heard you talking about strengthening marriage. She wanted to submit her name to receive one of the complimentary books we were giving away. As we spoke with her we asked, "Where do you fellowship? Do you have a home congregation?" "Oh," she responded, "I haven't been to church since my mother died 15 years ago. I don't attend church anymore." We shared additional information about our ministry and talked further about the Creator of the Universe and our Savior. We explained that God's word tells us not to forsake assembling together (Hebrews 10:25) and asked if she would allow us to refer her to a congregation near her home. She said, "Yes." Carla asked numerous questions and was interested in learning more about God. As we ended the conversation, we told her that we would be praying for her and her family and encouraged her to continue to listen to the radio program. Please join us in praying for Carla.

"Being a Family Shield Ministries volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House and serving the parents who have seriously ill children in area hospitals was a great blessing for me. Thank you for inviting me to serve by preparing a meal for these parents. I continue to pray for them."



FSM volunteers working at the Ronald McDonald House.



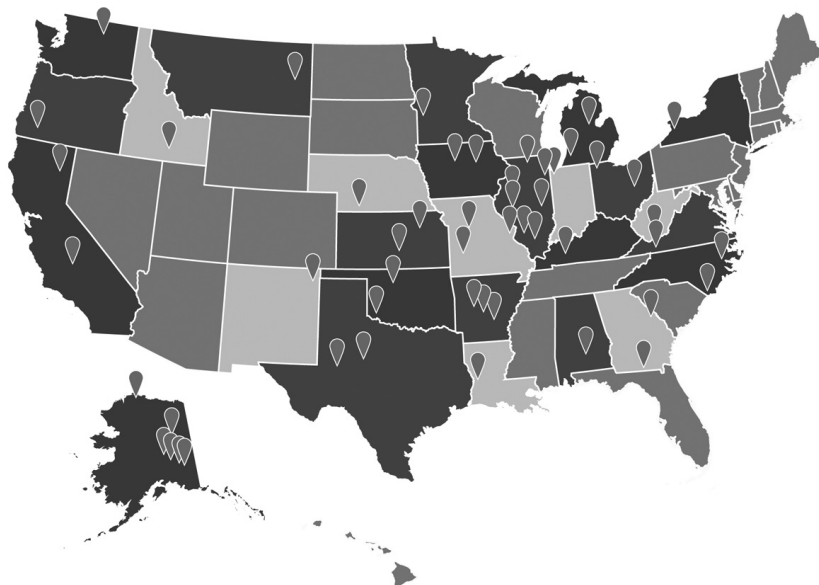


## Recent Family Shield Radio Programs

The Family Shield radio program continues to address the many and varied needs of today's families throughout the United States. Recent programs included a two-part series on "Bearing Their Burdens: Speaking the Truth in Love to People Burdened by Homosexuality" written by Rev. Tom Eckstein. We talked about what the Bible says about homosexuality and how we can respond and witness in love. We also gave away two of Eckstein's books.

Other programs helped listeners learn to "Take Up the Full Armor of God" and educated listeners about God's offensive and defensive spiritual weapons based on Eph. 6:10-20.

We also featured John Fuller, author of *First Time Dad*; and Rev. Stephen Becker on "Why I Left Mormonism and became a Lutheran Pastor."



The Family Shield radio program is heard on 52 stations in 27 states.



Rev. Stephen Becker and his family.

### Family Shield Ministries Website Redesigned

The Family Shield Ministries website was redesigned by Michele Caldwell, owner of Houston Web Design and Hosting. It now keeps up with the latest standards that Google favors, along with the new, more open look and feel, and makes it easier to manage updates. It utilizes responsive design to adapt itself to whatever device the viewer is using, so our site visitors will have a better experience when they're surfing on their smart phone or tablet. We've also made the latest radio programs easier to find and play. Check it out at [www.familyshieldministries.com](http://www.familyshieldministries.com).

### Watch the Family Shield "WeRaise Crowdfunding" video

As part of Family Shield Ministries' continuing effort to expand its Gospel outreach beyond the walls of the Church, we have begun a WeRaise Crowdfunding project to help strengthen and expand our radio ministry and follow up services. The WeRaise Crowdfunding project will help us reach more people, especially young adults that use social and digital media, secure new prayer partners and supporters, and accomplish our first social media project. It will also help more people learn that our radio program is aired on 52 stations, reaching more than 800,000 people each week, and also learn of the importance of our follow-up services in connecting people to important resources. It will demonstrate how we partner with other agencies and help us get acquainted with six new agencies and their leaders.

You can watch the video, support it with a gift, and learn more about the project at <https://weraise.wheatridge.org/en/projects/22700-Offering-Hope-During-Life-s-Challenges-through-Radio--amp--Follow-Up>.

The project began October 6th and ends November 15th. Please share this on your FaceBook and Twitter page and with your family and friends.

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## ***FSM Welcomes Rev. Wayne Hamit to Board***

**F**amily Shield Ministries recently welcomed Rev. Wayne Hamit to the Board of Directors. Rev. Hamit is a graduate of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis and the CEO of Conquest Management International. He is a US Navy veteran who has served worldwide with the Navy and the US Marine Corps. He has worked for a number of technology firms in business development and management, including a fortune 100 corporation. Hamit is a credentialed consultant to the United Nations Economic and Social Council. He has developed a vast network of NGOs (non-government organizations) and business connections worldwide, with special emphasis on under-developed and unstable nations. He is married and lives in Texas. We welcome him to the Board of Directors and pray God's blessings upon him as he serves the Lord in this position.

### **FAMILY SHIELD MINISTRIES DINNER SPONSORS**

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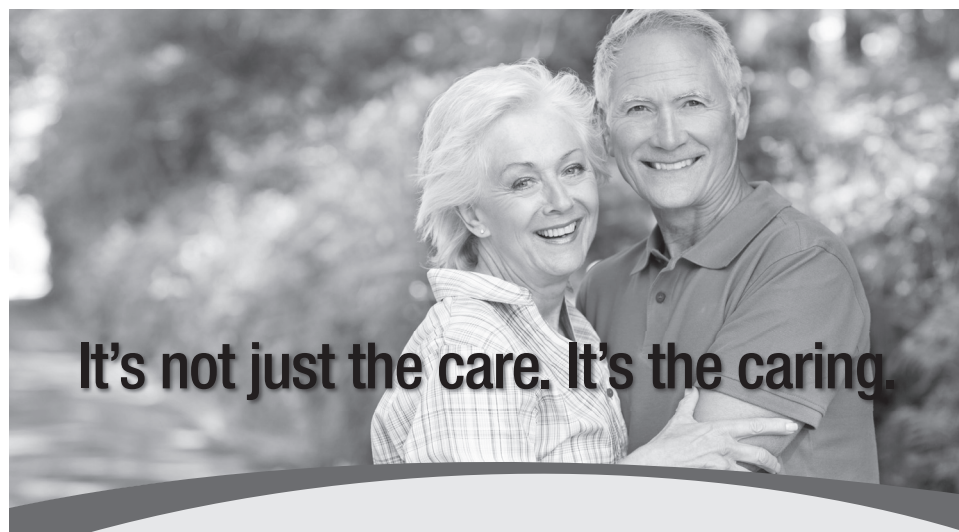
#### **BRONZE**

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Louis  
Rev. & Mrs. Ken Krueger  
Rhymes Heating & Cooling  
Ted Drewes Frozen Custard  
Lutherans For Life, Springfield, Missouri

## ***Rev. Roger Sonnenberg Receives The Family Leadership Award***

**T**he Board of Directors and friends of Family Shield Ministries awarded Rev. Roger Sonnenberg the "Family Leadership Award" at the annual benefit dinner on Saturday, October 10, 2015. The award included a beautifully engraved walnut plaque, a Family Shield Ministries shirt, plus cards and letters from former members, students, and others Roger has served over the years.

Rev. Roger Sonnenberg has been an advocate for the Gospel and family-focused ministry during his 40-year career and has been dedicated to equipping Christians for the work of service and the building up of the body of Christ (Eph. 4:12). Join us in praying for Roger and his family.



**It's not just the care. It's the caring.**

Lutheran Senior Services is known for quality and expertise, but it's our focus on relationships that remains a key element for delivering care that inspires trust. Older Adults Living to the Fullest is our mission and we live it through options that span the full spectrum of income and need.

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1150 Hanley Industrial Ct. | St. Louis, MO 63144 | [LSSLiving.org](http://LSSLiving.org)  
Affordable Housing | Home & Community Based Services | Senior Living Communities



\*Partially funded by the United Way of Greater St. Louis

## *An Update on the FSM 2014-2018 Strategic Expansion Plan*

**T**hank you for joining hands with us as we expand our ministry to help individuals and their families know Christ and grow in His Word. Our outreach to strengthen families is needed today more than ever before. This year's operational budget for 2015-2016 is \$404,282.

The ministry work gets accomplished through the president, Board members, numerous advisors, eight employees/independent contractors, and more than 60 dedicated volunteers. We also have numerous collaborative partnerships that supply workers without us having to pay them.

The Lord continues to open doors for our outreach in many and varied ways. We love to see how He uses His people to help us expand our work in the ripe and plentiful harvest. The next goal is to hire an "Engagement Manager." Please keep our expansion in your prayers and support us as the Lord leads. If you would like to set up a meeting to learn more, email us at [witnesstofamily@gmail.com](mailto:witnesstofamily@gmail.com).

## *Ways to Support Family Shield Ministries*

### **Consider a Recurring Monthly Gift**

Please prayerfully consider how you could support Family Shield Ministries. Why not give a recurring gift each month? Your gift can be \$5, \$10, \$20, or \$50 a month. You can sign up on Pay Pal on the Family Shield website or talk to your bank. Many banks have special programs for giving to non-profit organizations.

### **Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Another way you can support Family Shield Ministries is to designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars through the Thrivent Financial program. Eligible members can designate their Thrivent Choice Dollars, based on insurance premiums, contract values, and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership. The funds you designate are then directed to the ministry you select. Family Shield Ministries is one of the approved organizations. Please consider directing your Thrivent Choice dollars to FSM by calling 1-800-847-4836. When prompted say "Thrivent Choice" and follow the instructions. You may also go to the Thrivent Choice Dollars website at [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/) and make your selection there. Remember you must re-register with Thrivent Financial each year.

### **Shopping on Amazon? Support Family Shield Ministries while shopping online!**

Just go to <http://smile.amazon.com/> and sign into your Amazon account (or create one), choosing Family Shield Ministries as your charity of choice. As you shop, Amazon gives a portion of the sales to Family Shield Ministries.

**Thank you!**



**F**amily Shield Ministries is a member of ALMA—Association of Lutheran Mission Agencies: a service organization linking and equipping Lutheran mission agencies, congregations, and individuals for sharing and demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

## **YES! I want to support Family Shield Ministries!**

Name/Org. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my \_\_\_\_ monthly \_\_\_\_ quarterly \_\_\_\_ annual gift of:  
\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_ \$500 or \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_ We have included Family Shield Ministries in our will/estate.

\_\_\_\_ We would like more information about wills or estate gifts.

If Giving By Credit Card: \_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ Master Card

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You may also donate via PayPal at [www.familyshieldministries.com](http://www.familyshieldministries.com).  
(You do not need to have a PayPal account.)

Click the Donate button on the home page.

**Family Shield Ministries is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.**

**Contributions are deductible as allowed by law.**

**FAMILY SHIELD MINISTRIES**

**P.O. Box 230015**

**St. Louis, MO 63123**

## *Memorial Gifts*

**J**esus said, "Truly, truly I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life" (John 5:24).

Memorials are another way you can support Family Shield and remember or honor a loved one. Gifts can be given in loving memory of a family member or friend; in honor of a special person who has touched your life in a significant way; or in recognition of an event or occasion that has a special meaning for you.

Rev. W. Leroy Biesenthal  
Lori Christianson  
Darrell Kratzer  
Lorene Jander

Betty Subracko  
Tjaden and Kay Meyer  
Clarence Voight  
Don and Sharon Voight

***"All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations" (Psalms 22:27).***





**Family Shield Ministries, Inc.**  
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