

God gives vision, burdens and empowers us. He calls us to follow Him into 2011. We need His help and the help of His people



From left to right: Bill, Jan, Chris Johnson, Lisa VanHouten, Kimberly Cargill

By Bill Johnson



ADA headquarters, picture taken days before open house, July 30, 2007. Donald Wildmon gave the dedication message.

God gives visions, burdens and empowers. He has done that faithfully in this ministry. The half has not been told. Most recently (2005), God gave the vision for purchasing an old Christian Scientist Church across from the public high school. A high visibility location for a decency ministry. It seemed like an impossibility and a bit crazy, frankly. Yet, we sensed an overwhelming leading from God. We acted upon His leading and shared the burden and vision with you our supporters. We sought 250 people to give \$1,000. Since the purchasing price ended up being \$210,000, our adjusted need was 210 people to give \$1,000. As you would expect, the money didn't all come in thousands. There were gifts of \$5.00 and \$5,000 and everything in between. We ended up receiving gifts totalling over \$28,000 above the purchase price. This allowed us to purchase two new boilers and to reshingle one roof and restore the flat roof portion. All of this was paid for debt free as some of our dear friends counseled us to do! What godly friends and godly counsel. We owe no money!! We purchased the building in March 2007. By the end of the year we began to see a huge financial downturn throughout our country that really began to show its ugly face in early 2008 and throughout that year. But make no mistake, those financial woes still continue. Most of us have loved ones who can't find a job, or who have lost their home or car, etc..

Still God has been and will be faithful as He

shows His face and spreads His grace upon His church, His people, and ministries that stand on His Word! That has been true for us. We have asked ourselves a number of times "Why would God show Himself so powerfully in giving us a vision for our miracle church headquarters - debt free - and then shrink away from us within a few short years?" We have never believed that He was finished with us. He has continued to pour out His grace upon us in a number of ways.

I am not naive. Young people are needed to increasingly take up the mantle, the baton, and to lead this ministry onto new heights, addressing their generation with the Gospel. We need the next generation to be the salt and light of the world, using new media and methods that God has granted them and that can be used to communicate truth (and unfortunately also lies) into the lives of people their age: the Internet, social networking, blogs, facebook, digital video, cell phones, Youtube, etc..

Our concern was: Where would these young leaders come from?

Fifteen months ago my son Chris joined our small staff. He left for a two month internship with cnsnews.com in Washington DC but now is back and fulfilling his former responsibilities and picking up a few more in the days ahead.

In addition, as most of you are now aware, we have been seeking to raise support to bring Jeremiah Andersen (23) to our staff in the weeks ahead.

Jeremiah would bring technology and artistic skills, as well as speaking skills. Also, he is well grounded in the Bible! We have discussed getting into churches and speaking to youth and others regarding the need to "pursue holiness without which no man shall see the Lord." [Hebrews 12:14]. My hope is that Chris and Jeremiah can team together on occasion in going out and warning, exhorting, encouraging their age group and younger to "guard their hearts."

As we wrote to a core of you in early December, we are in need of 400 people to give gifts of \$250.00 in the days and weeks ahead. This totals out to \$100,000 in over and above giving. Why this amount?

Hiring and keeping good people does require a reasonable salary and insurance and gives us a base for future ministry. At the date of this writing, we have received 108 gifts totaling \$22,128.

When God gave me a vision regarding the church building, I initially wondered if I was wacky, but I felt vindicated as God brought the strong support through His people.

Is God in sustaining and strengthening this ministry for years to come? I think He is!



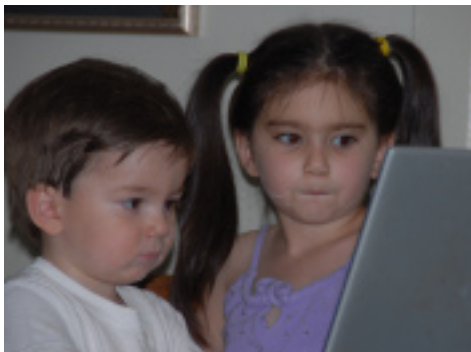
From the desk of Bill Johnson

The half has not been told

While still a teacher in the public schools, I became burdened over the impact of television upon children. I was a young parent and also a teacher of elementary aged children.

The content and images on television were eroding rapidly in the late 70s and 80s. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure that out.

God gave me a heart for children. I still have that heart for kids. I feel it every day as we have two young grandchildren (and their mother) living with us.



Danny (2) and Mia (5) watching Thomas the Tank Engine on Papaw's laptop computer

God burdened me. For the last eleven years of teaching, I sensed a calling but I wasn't sure what that leading was.

I waited upon the Lord, prayed, memorized Scripture, obtained a Masters of Religious Education from the Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary in 1983, knocked on doors.

To make a long story short, He called me to fight pornography and to encourage Christians not to place wicked things before their eyes. [Psalm 101:3a]

After working with other volunteers and friends in my community to drive

pornography out of a number of stores in our county, I was appointed American Family Association's first named state director in 1987. I was given \$1,000 a month for one year to unleash this new ministry. AFA also furnished me with a mailing list for the state of Michigan.

Jan and I started doing mailings out of our house to a mailing list of over 11,000. It took us all week to get a mailing out with the assistance of our young children and a few friends and relatives.

God's anointing was clearly on the ministry as increasing numbers of people were supporting our new ministry.

By early 1988, Jan and I could see that God was clearly in what we perceived to be a calling to full-time ministry.

In June 1988, I went full time. I had an office in a very small bedroom. I had become a very busy young man. I was 41 years old when I left my teaching career of 18 years.

I began working on passing legislation that would strengthen Michigan's obscenity law. I testified at local hearings scheduled around the state along with other concerned citizens. With much opposition (much could be written about this), then Governor of Michigan, John Engler, signed the bill into law in 1993.

I had numerous opportunities to speak at churches in worship services, Sunday School classes, Wednesday night family nights, etc.. My messages primarily dealt with urging Christians (young and old) to pursue holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. [Hebrews 12:14]

During those few years, in 1991, we turned a two-stall garage into a home office (a special thanks to Dave and Joyce from New Lothrop for their weekend of construction). That office place served us so well but already by 1993 we had outgrown our office as we were having huge responses from full-page ads that we were running in newspapers all across the state: Holland Sentinel, Grand Rapids Press, Flint Journal, and on and on. The ad called for people to sign a petition to notify television network presidents to clean up their television programming. Our mailing list was growing. We moved to a

rental office space in downtown Fremont.

We successfully boycotted Meijer in the mid 90s to withdraw from the video rental business whereby at that time they were carrying a large number of sexual and sexually violent video tapes. Our newsletters document this fight very well.

In 1996, we began monitoring the Howard Stern Radio Show on our local station out of Grand Rapids between 6 am and 11 am Monday through Friday. Within a few months, Howard Stern was mentioning our ministry by name. We began to monitor in other markets ultimately monitoring upwards of 25 radio stations coast to coast. Through our long term efforts extending between 1996 through early 2003 when Stern left terrestrial radio, over 15,000 advertisers discontinued advertising on the Howard Stern Show. Twenty-three radio stations dropped Howard Stern due to declining advertising revenues.

Much more could be said: How Abercrombie & Fitch discontinued the production and sale of their pornographic catalog in 2003. We were clearly the ministry behind that battle educating, informing and urging others to oppose A&F's filth.

The half has still not been told. In recent years, we have had some temporary big victories in regard to Victoria's Secret toning down but that was very short lived. I did at least one interview with CNN on our progress in 2007.

God has blessed this ministry and kept His gracious and faithful hand upon us. We are small but Christ-centered, taking Him at His Word.

I believe God is answering our prayers in giving us just what we stand in need of graciously at each time. I remain healthy and energetic, desiring - with the help of our staff - to bring on Jeremiah and to prepare him with Chris, for, perhaps, years of vital ministry and service in times that promise only to get more concerning.

The Walt Disney Company: “Cultural Polluters”



The following is from our friends with the Timothy Plan. Each month they post a particular exposé of a corporation under the heading (appropriately) “Cultural Polluters”.

This month’s cultural polluter is none other than the Walt Disney Company. As many of you know, Disney has been targeted by this ministry and many others for concerning associations and practices over the years. For individuals like myself, the exposé of Disney is timely and concerning. We have continued to boycott Disney and have encouraged others to do so when asked. This merely reinforces our long held position.

Quoting The Timothy Plan:

When you think of a company that is synonymous with family values, Walt Disney (stock symbol: DIS), known for “It’s a Small World” and Mickey Mouse, might come to mind. Employing over 144,000 full time employees across the globe, Disney is anything but a small company. They are known as a place “Where Dreams Come True” for the millions of annual visitors to their five world renown parks and resorts. Today, if he were still alive, Walt Disney himself would be appalled at how this now behemoth corporation is contributing to the pollution of our culture.

Known for philanthropy in many areas, this corporate giant has unfortunately contributed to abortion by supporting Planned Parenthood through grants and gift matching programs.

In entertainment, Disney and its subsidiaries produce “not so family friendly” content. In a 2009 survey by Parents Television Council, Disney was ranked sixth out of twenty top sponsors of entertainment containing sex, extreme violence and foul

language. For the past two years, ESPN the magazine, a sports magazine considered “safe” reading for everyone, published their annual “Body Issue”. Unsuspecting parents were greeted with pictures of famous athletes posing nude with just enough covering up to prevent full-on nudity.

Furthermore, their own productions through American Broadcasting Company (ABC) follow the all too familiar anti-family values path common in Hollywood. This includes television shows that feature openly gay and lesbian couples in “Grey’s Anatomy” and “Modern Family”, as well as sexually charged shows like “Cougar Town”, “The Bachelor/Bachelor Pad”, and “Desperate Housewives”. If you are looking for violent video games, the Touchstone produced, mature rated “Turok” provides plenty of blood and gore, as well as foul language.

The Disney parks host an event they don’t publicize in the family friendly media. Known as Gay Days, the event originated in California in 1998, and expanded to Orlando in 2001. What started out as a one-day event has expanded to an entire week during which over 135,000 members of the gay and lesbian community converge on the Disney parks. Disney does not sponsor the event, but it does nothing to inform parents and families about what they may (probably will) encounter during their Magic Kingdom vacation.

We encourage you to review the lengthy list of “pollutants” to learn in detail the things supported by Disney in the Pollutants section of this web site. (<http://timothyplan.com/>) The long and extensive list is quite shocking. You will also find a list of subsidiaries and products intended to help you when you make purchasing or investing decisions.

Companies like Disney spend millions on image building, often while “hiding” the everyday, day in and day out activities and subsidiaries that would tarnish that carefully crafted image. Unfortunately, the real truth is often very ugly and destructive to good family values. We encourage you to review this report in detail and be informed. It is our most powerful weapon!

A summary year-end report regarding A & F



On June 18, we reported that Abercrombie & Fitch had announced a return to publishing their pornographic catalog.

A&F under great pressure from many ministries in 2002-2003 discontinued the production and distribution of their pornographic catalog. So it was with great concern that we reported finding A&F back in the pornographic catalog business.

In June we wrote: “...With great sadness we once again enter into this fray. As many of you were aware, we never saw any real evidence that A&F had changed at the management level. We had kept a close watch on their wall and window displays during the interval between 2003 through June 2010. ...”

Earlier this month we saw no evidence of the catalog in the store that we visited. Also, we saw no evidence of it being marketed on their webpage today.

A young man in his early twenties, whom we have familiarity with, worked with A&F part time for several years before quitting and working at a used clothing store for teens. He stated that the used clothing store generated far more business traffic and money than A&F. Another young man in his early twenties stated that youth largely find A&F passé.

Our take is that the catalog didn’t take off and so has quietly faded away. We welcome your perspective. Do you know of A&F’s catalog yet existing?

American Decency Frontline
Vol. XXVI, Issue I
Published monthly by
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Fox and advertisers assault upon Christmas and our youth

by Lisa VanHouten



It should come as no surprise that Seth MacFarlane, the creator of Fox TV's debased cartoons *Family Guy* and *American Dad*, is an avowed atheist. Yet that doesn't keep MacFarlane from producing "Christmas" episodes of his vulgar and profane animated shows. And while some secularists shy away from referring to the holiday as "Christmas," MacFarlane is blatant in his use of the word – not to honor it, however, but to mock it.

Knowing what we know about MacFarlane and these shows, it also comes as no surprise that he uses the theme of Christmas to bring an assault upon decency with both barrels.

Below we give a brief synopsis of recent *Family Guy* and *American Dad* episodes. These shows are extremely graphic, yet we want to give you an idea of what our youth are being exposed to and what advertisers are empowering, without being too explicit. Know that what is described below is toned down from what is shown on television.

The Christmas episode of *Family Guy* was narrated by MacFarlane's father shown in a cozy Christmas setting as a grandfather telling children a story. However, this narration was no "Night before Christmas," rather a vulgarity-ridden diatribe that revealed that the apple did not fall far from the tree in the MacFarlane family. MacFarlane's father's crudities included a comment that his son "Seth came out of my penis" and he offers to sell marijuana to viewers.

Those opening comments only set the stage for the episode which began with the *Family Guy* characters singing about what they want for Christmas. Husband and father Peter sang that his Christmas list is: "*Jessica Biel and Megan Fox wearing*

nothing but their socks, is all I really want for Christmas." While he's singing two naked women are shown coming out of giant boxes. Peter's wife wants to "*spend a week in Mexico with two black guys and some blow [cocaine].*" Stewie, the pre-school character, grabs his private parts and tells the family dog, "*I've got your Christmas right here.*" Their teenage son wants a woman in his bed and a sex-addicted friend sings, "*Japanese girls with no retrain, just to chock me 'til I faint,*" while images are shown of him in bondage surrounded by several leather-clad dominatrix women whipping him.

These are the opening scenes to this 8:00 p.m. animated show – a program that draws millions of young viewers. The episode only gets progressively crude with references to vulgar sex acts, foul language, and violence. The episode also makes a mocking statement about God, and when two of the characters travel to the North Pole to see Santa, Santa is portrayed as a Muslim and shown with a pornographic picture of a woman on his office wall.

After this hour-long *Family Guy*, *American Dad* continued with the same debased themes which included blatant references to perverse sexual acts, including bestiality as one character prepares to have sex with a dead reindeer.

One aspect of *Family Guy* and *American Dad* we haven't mentioned as much as the sexual perversity, is their regular depiction of gruesome violence. These are cartoons, but we're not talking about silly depictions of Wile E. Coyote trying to blow up the Roadrunner. These are morbid, graphic violent acts showing psychopathic forms of violence. This episode of *Family Guy* showed the explicit and bloody cutting

off of limbs, a horrific and conscienceless beating death of a husband and father in front of his wife, the terrorizing of a child, and much more.

Research has long shown a detrimental impact on young people from the depiction of violence – including animated violence from video games, and by correlation, shows such as *Family Guy*. In monitoring these truly gruesome scenes, I can't imagine the impact it has on desensitizing young, impressionable hearts and minds.

And week after week advertisers, such as those listed below, empower such horrible scenes and perverse themes and dialog.

Family Guy Advertisers:

Burger King Corporation

Bernardo Hees - CEO and Director
5505 Blue Lagoon Drive
Miami, FL 33126
(305) 378-3000
mediainquiries@whopper.com

Doctor's Associates Inc. - Subway

325 Bic Drive
Milford, CT 06461
203-877-4281
Toll Free - 800-888-4848
Frederick DeLuca - President
DeLuca_F@subway.com

Ruining Your Appetite

By Andree Su



World Magazine, December 8, 2010
Andree Su

Besides fearing an Islamic terrorist at the Motel 6 in Michigan, I was aware of being in danger of another enemy—the television in my room. I don't have a TV at home. (Or, to be more precise, we have a box that once served as a television but now plays only the infrequent DVD.) And we have never had cable. So I was curious about what you get with basic cable.

Do you know that there is a station where they talk about weather all day long? That was an eye-opener. I got bored after about an hour of that and switched to what I hoped was more scintillating programming while I was making my quinoa and pesto concoctions. But by the end of my stay, I realized that The Weather Channel was the best bet—everything else was the equivalent of very bad junk food. You know how you feel after you eat a doughnut? That's how I felt after watching bits of the dramas I was surfing.

The reason I bring this up is because I made a discovery at the Motel 6: If I want to keep my appetite sharp for God, I can't be imbibing in the sludge that's served up on TV. Even though it is insipid, it still somehow ruins my desire for spiritual things. I just can't do it. There is an old hymn that says: "The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets before we reach the heavenly fields." Before. But those sweets are available only to those who don't clog their arteries with worldly fare that deadens the taste buds.

The interesting thing is that I have not even needed to agonize over the "legalism" question regarding this choice to quit TV. It is not so much that I felt I had to make a

rule for myself about swearing off certain kinds of entertainment, as that I just plain lost the desire for it. This is a work of the Holy Spirit, not mine. But so as not to "grieve the Spirit," I am resolved to not dredge up from the graveyard something He has killed.

Alexandr Solzhenitsyn, the Russian historian who opened the eyes of the West to the Soviet prison camps through his books *The Gulag Archipelago* and *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, was invited to give the commencement address at Harvard in 1978. They thought he would praise the West, but they had another thing coming. Though he had nothing good to say about socialism, he surprised his audience by saying this about his host country:

"A fact which cannot be disputed is the weakening of human personality in the West while in the East it has become firmer and stronger. . . . [W]e have been through a spiritual training far in advance of Western experience. The complex and deadly crush of life has produced stronger, deeper, and more interesting personalities than those generated by standardized Western well-being. . . . After the suffering of decades of violence and oppression, the human soul longs for things higher, warmer, and purer than those offered by . . . the revolting invasion of commercial advertising, by TV stupor, and by intolerable music."

I also want "things higher, warmer, and purer." I have tasted the joy of the Lord and the powers of the age to come (Hebrews 6:5). Why should I want to go backward? <http://online.worldmag.com/2010/12/08/ruining-your-appetite/>

**"I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me."
Psalm 101:3**

A summary year-end financial report

Truly we are troubled by the financial embattlement that we are each facing. Yet, we trust God believing and knowing that He is in control. His voice is sure and His way is narrow. He is in control and He is over all.

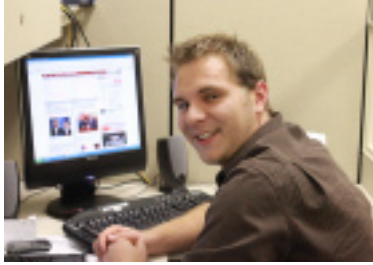
We also need to be spiritually discerning and prayerful in how we use our resources. We know that Satan loves to wreak havoc with us when we overstretch ourselves financially. We urge you to pray for God's leading as you give to your favorite ministries. We also urge you to first tithe to your local church.

That said, here are several ways in which you can stand with us financially at American Decency Association going forward into 2011.

1. As we have done since our inception, we include a pledge card to help you keep track of your giving record throughout the year. We encourage you to join our core of faithful monthly supporters.
2. EFT is a way in which a growing number of people use to most easily contribute to this ministry. If you are interested in donating via Electronic Funds Transfer, please let us know on the enclosed response card and we will send you information.
3. Contribute online. Our website is www.americandecency.org. Then click on the donate button and respond to the several questions.

Lastly, according to the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA), for an organization that receipts its gifts on a daily basis as we do, it is not necessary to send a year end giving summary to each donor. As you know, we do receipt gifts as they are received. Nonetheless, we realize that some of you will desire to have a summary of your giving for the last year. We stand by ready to assist you. Please call us at 1-888-733-2326 and we will send you your giving record for 2010. Or, you can email us with your question at: kimberly@americandecency.org

**Back in the saddle:
Chris Johnson returns
from his DC internship**



By Chris Johnson

“There is nothing like looking, if you want to find something. You certainly usually find something, if you look, but it is not always quite the something you were after.”

– J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Lord of the Rings*

The last two months has certainly been such an experience for me.

There is no doubt that I will look back on my time in Alexandria, VA with some fondness, but it will not be primarily because of the lessons I learned in the course of my internship.

It will be more so because I can now say that I survived two months on my own in what one of our ministry’s friends called, “the belly of the beast,” Washington, D.C. With God’s help, I also faced some pretty big fears, such as ambush interviewing some of the more powerful people in our country and asking them questions that they wouldn’t necessarily like.

If nothing else, this two month experience proved once again that God is faithful. I needed his strength and determination to get through some of the times when I was doing exactly the things that have scared me the most.

Undoubtedly, the best times that I will look back to in this experience were the weekends that I was able to spend with my sister and her family in Pennsylvania. Their home was a two hour drive from where I was staying, and I made the trek every weekend that I could.

It was invaluable in the loneliness of the big city to have a place to go every week to stay with people that I love and that I know love me back. I thank God for giving me

such an oasis.

The internship itself did teach me some valuable lessons. Writing news stories is completely different from sharing your opinion with the readers. And digging through government budgets and reports is always an eye opening experience.

As valuable as this experience was, one of the biggest things I learned during this internship was that I don’t want to be a journalist.

According to an old Prussian prime-minister, Otto von Bismarck, “A journalist is a person who has mistaken their calling.”

I would say that describes my internship as a news correspondent in Alexandria, VA pretty well. For any who were worried, I do not foresee myself giving up my work at ADA to take a job at a news organization any time soon.

And what an exciting home coming! I got back just in time to spend Christmas with all four of us siblings under the same roof, a rare occurrence, and celebrate Christ’s birth with everyone I love.

The New Year brings great promise as well. We have a Congress that will hopefully start to move our nation back towards the right direction.

Also, I look forward with hope to my best friend joining our work. Jeremiah has been my good friend for about as long as I can remember. In fact, on the Friday that I drove home from D.C., Jeremiah flew up after work to drive back with me. I picked him up at the airport and we drove back through the night so I could surprise my wife. His many diverse skills will be a huge asset to ADA.

It is good to be back at my desk at ADA HQ. I look forward to getting back to work. Thank you for all your prayers over the past few months. I needed them! And I truly appreciate them.

**American Decency Association’s
summer dinner/conference set
for Friday, July 29, 2011**



Wallbuilder’s Tim Barton is the featured speaker for next summer’s dinner/conference in Fremont, Michigan.

[We hope that you will mark your calendar for this important date, Friday, July 29!](#)

If you read our newsletter attentively, you will have noted a recent burden being emphasized: a burden to earnestly and prayerfully pass along a deepened realization that America has been a blessed land not by chance but due to our Godly heritage! It isn’t by chance or the brilliance of man or by luck.

We can’t stress enough the significance of understanding our founding. If we don’t cherish it, we won’t defend it and pass it along to our children and grandchildren. We must fight for the truth and protect and defend it by our voting practices, eternal vigilance, and prayer.

Tim Barton is a national speaker for WallBuilders, a pro-family organization that presents America’s forgotten history and heroes, with an emphasis on our religious, moral, and constitutional heritage.

WallBuilders has been nationally recognized for its work in education, history, law, and public policy, integrating the elements of Biblical faith and morality throughout all aspects of American life and culture.

Tim excels in his various presentations on worldview and on the truth of America’s Godly heritage. While he engages and challenges the mind, his dynamic messages speak straight to the heart.