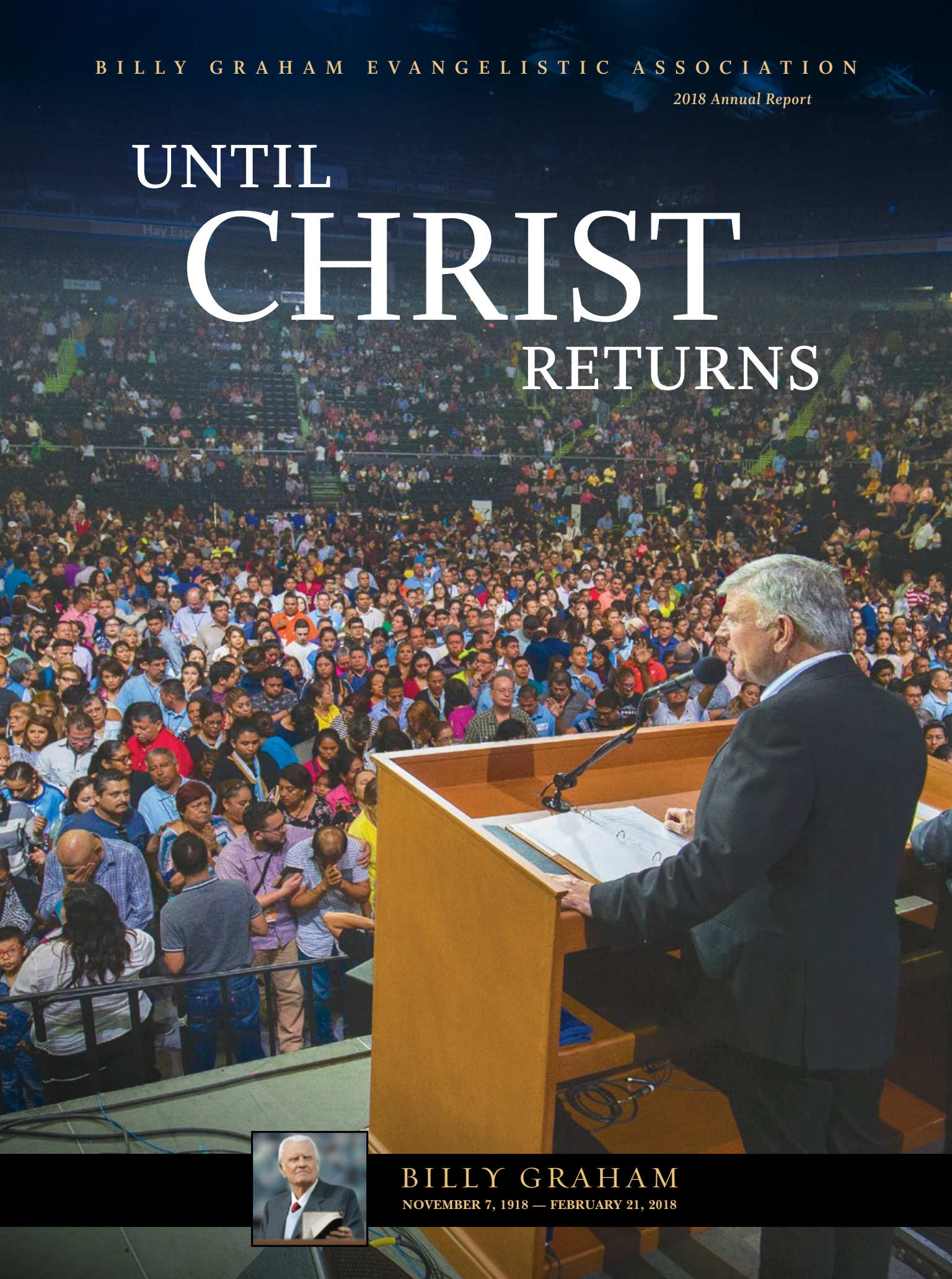


BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

2018 Annual Report

UNTIL CHRIST RETURNS



BILLY GRAHAM

NOVEMBER 7, 1918 — FEBRUARY 21, 2018



“I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you ... repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” —Acts 20:20–21

PRESIDENT’S LETTER

DEAR FRIEND,

You made it possible to bring the hope and power of the Gospel into many lost and hurting lives in 2018. We thank God for you—and so do the thousands of people who reported their life-changing commitments to Jesus Christ this past year.


On the morning of Feb. 21, 2018, my father’s greatest desire was fulfilled. He entered Heaven and found himself at the feet of his Savior. Our family remains deeply grateful for the outpouring of love we received from all over the world. But we are most thankful to God for using his death and funeral to amplify the eternal truth of the Good News. We praise God for the thousands of people in over 200 countries who indicated they made a decision for Christ in response to the repeated proclamations of the Gospel.

God gave my father the privilege of preaching the Gospel to more people face to face than any other person in history. But the job isn’t finished. There are more people than ever who need forgiveness—and it’s offered only because “*the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin*” (1 John 1:7). Our mission to proclaim the truth of His salvation is unchanged. We’re pushing forward to reach another generation who needs to hear this wonderful message.

Thank you for all you do to tell them who Jesus is and what He’s done for them. Together, we worked hard in 2018 to “*go into all the world and preach the gospel*” (Mark 16:15), using every effective means available to us. As we reflect on all that the Lord did, I want to thank you for your prayers and your financial support. You personally help fill hearts with real and lasting hope. Let’s continue this urgent work together.

May God richly bless you.

Sincerely,


Franklin Graham
President

MONTERREY, MEXICO:
Franklin Graham leads
repentant hearts in
prayer during the
Festival de Esperanza.

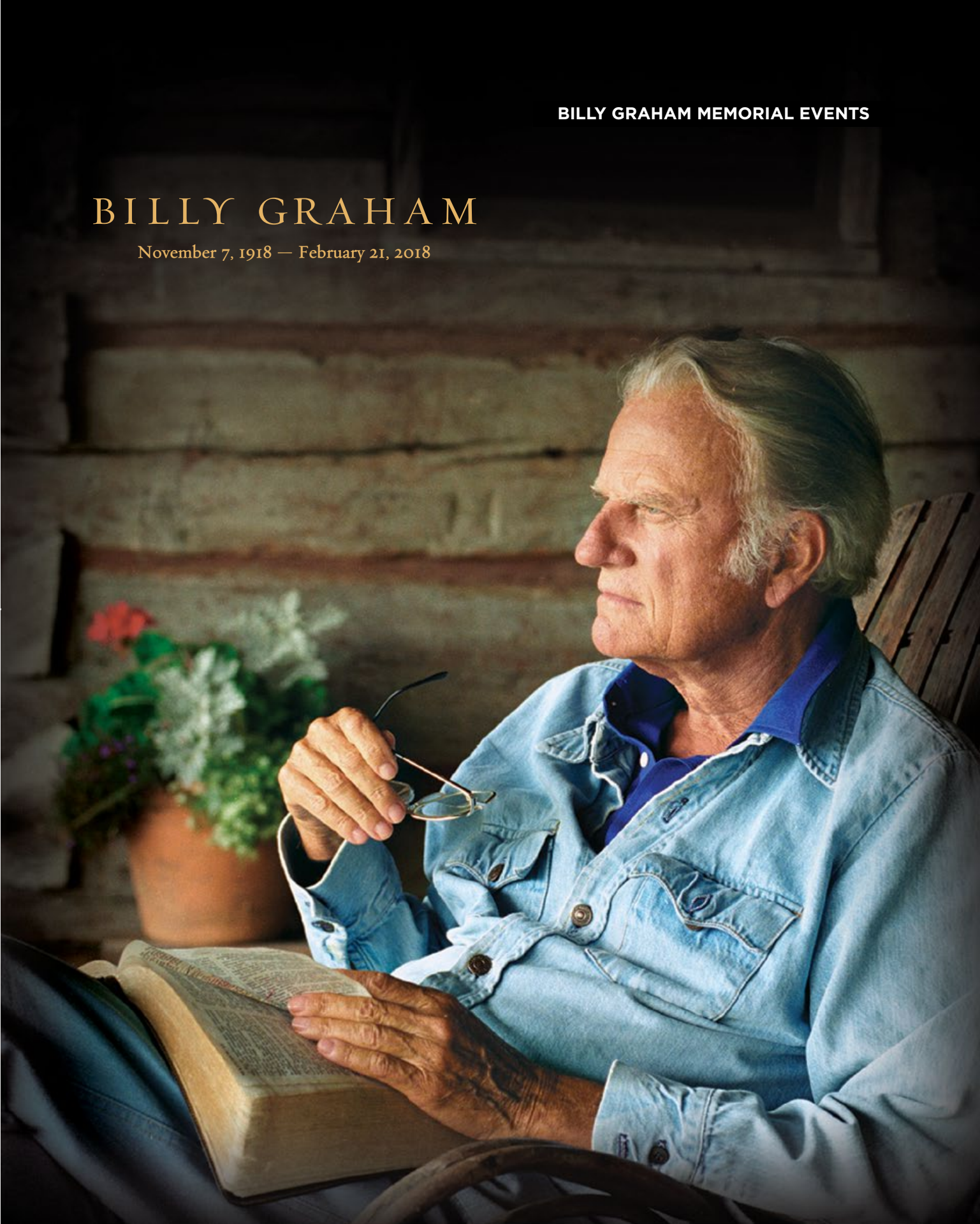
ONE ORDINARY MAN; ONE EXTRAORDINARY GOD

"So now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death."
—Philippians 1:20

WASHINGTON, D.C.:
Billy Graham became the fourth private citizen—and first religious leader—to lie in honor inside the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C.

BILLY GRAHAM

November 7, 1918 — February 21, 2018



Early in the morning on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018, God called His servant Billy Graham home. Like his wife, Ruth's, before him, Mr. Graham's casket was built by carpenters incarcerated at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola.

Billy Graham's casket was placed in a hearse at The Cove in Asheville, N.C., to make the 130-mile trip to Charlotte. Thousands of men, women, and children from all walks of life lined streets and highways from Asheville and Black Mountain to Charlotte to pay their respects as the motorcade passed.

After arriving in Charlotte, the casket was placed in Billy Graham's childhood home. That house is now on the grounds of the Billy Graham Library, just four miles from its original location on what was once the Graham family farm. For two days, thousands of people visited the Graham family homeplace and filed past his casket. Many were believers and longtime prayer supporters who simply wanted a moment to say goodbye. But God brought some there for other reasons.

Billy Graham Rapid Response Team chaplains and first responders were stationed in the homeplace as individuals walked by and paused to reverently honor the evangelist's ministry. One police officer engaged a chaplain in a conversation about Mr. Graham's work, and the topic turned to salvation. Asked if he knew he would be in heaven, the policeman responded that he hoped so because he was "a good person." The chaplain explained the Gospel and how all have fallen short and need the grace of Jesus Christ. The officer responded by praying with the chaplain in repentance and belief. We praise God that even in Mr. Graham's passing, people were discovering they can only be saved "by grace ... through faith" (Ephesians 2:8).

One guest asked the woman in line behind her how God had used Billy Graham in her life. She replied that she'd never heard him speak, nor did she know much about him—but after watching the television coverage following his death and hearing people whose lives were changed through his ministry, she realized something was missing in her life. "I want what those people have," she said through tears. Right there near the casket, one guest shared with the other about God's love and the simple truths of the Gospel that Mr. Graham preached his whole life.

Another of the guests, a young woman from San Antonio, was in Charlotte with her husband on business. She had never even heard of Billy Graham, and she wasn't a Christian. Media coverage of his death led her to visit, and she was open to talking with a chaplain, who eventually shared the Gospel with her. She eagerly embraced the Good News and accepted Jesus Christ in repentance and faith—and the chaplain was even able to connect her with other believers in her hometown.

Former President George W. Bush and his wife, Laura, flew to Charlotte on Monday, Feb. 26, for the

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord ... that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."
—Revelation 14:13



THE CASKET:

Mr. Graham's casket was built by carpenters incarcerated at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola.



BILLY GRAHAM MEMORIAL EVENTS

THE GOSPEL REACHED MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN OVER 225 COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES DURING THE FUNERAL'S BROADCAST, WHICH STREAMED ONLINE AND AIRED ON NATIONAL TV AND RADIO—including the BILLY GRAHAM CHANNEL ON SIRIUSXM®.



“The righteous man walks in his integrity; his children are blessed after him.” —Proverbs 20:7

lying in repose. The Bushes spoke with Franklin and his wife, Jane Austin, before President Bush addressed the public. The following day, former President Bill Clinton visited, and he shared part of his Billy Graham story—from a Crusade in 1959 in Little Rock, Ark.

At the invitation of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, Billy Graham became the fourth private citizen—and first religious leader—to lie in honor inside the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C. We praise God for the focus on Jesus Christ and the life-changing grace of the Gospel that permeated the event in the heart of our nation's government.

President Donald Trump, first lady Melania Trump, Vice President Mike Pence, second lady Karen Pence, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, and Speaker of the House Paul Ryan were among those who stood in the Rotunda as his casket was placed on the catafalque. President Trump, in his remarks, said, “Reverend Billy Graham—an ambassador for Christ who reminded the world of the power of prayer and the gift of God's grace.” Thousands stood in line to pay their respects during the two days.

Billy Graham's funeral was held outside the Billy Graham Library on Friday, March 2. The President and first lady, along with the Vice President and second lady, and 2,300 invited guests gathered in a 28,000-square-foot tent—reminiscent of the Canvas Cathedral, where Mr. Graham held his first historic Crusade in Los Angeles in 1949. The funeral was called his final Crusade, as every aspect of the service from opening music to closing prayer pointed to Jesus Christ.

Those in attendance sang hymns chosen by Billy Graham and heard Scripture he had asked for, including Ephesians 2:8–9: “*By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*” There were representatives of over 50 countries in attendance.

Each of the five Graham children shared memories of their father, as did Mr. Graham's only living sibling, Jean Graham Ford. Franklin Graham gave a clear presentation of the Gospel to the crowd—and to the millions of people watching on television and online. The simple field stone marking Billy Graham's burial place next to his wife, Ruth, in the Memorial Prayer Garden at the Library is inscribed as he wanted it:

*Preacher of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ
John 14:6*

Since Billy Graham's homegoing, people have asked if the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA) will redefine our mission, or update our message. “No, not at all,” says Franklin Graham. “Why would we? There are more people alive in the world today who need Jesus Christ than ever in history. The mission God has given us is clear—to take the life-changing Gospel everywhere we can to as many as possible. God continues to bring a fruitful harvest, and we won't stop until Christ returns.”

PRAYER REQUEST:

Praise God for the remarkable ways that He used Billy Graham's life for Christ and His kingdom. Pray that God would continue to expand and extend the ministry of BGEA as we proclaim the Gospel to all we can by every effective means available to us and equip the church and others to do the same.



NORTH CAROLINA:

Thousands lined the streets and highways between Asheville and Charlotte to pay their respects as Billy Graham's motorcade passed.

SATURATING ENTIRE REGIONS OF THE U.S. WITH THE GOSPEL

DECISION AMERICA TOUR

*“Therefore, since we have such hope,
we use great boldness of speech.”
—2 Corinthians 3:12*



WASHINGTON:
Franklin Graham shares the message of
eternal hope in Spokane in August 2018.

Eternity is at stake for those in our nation who don't know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. God calls the lost to repent and the church to prayer. During every Decision America Tour stop, Franklin Graham urges nonbelievers to respond in repentance and faith to the transforming message of God's grace. He also challenges believers to take a bold stand for Biblical truth and leads the crowd in prayer for their community, their state, and our nation.

The Decision America Tour continued to use "saturation evangelism" to spread the Good News in 2018. Franklin preached one night each in a series of 17 strategic cities across California and the Pacific Northwest. As a result, BGEA reached far more people than a multi-day Crusade in a single metro area would have. Franklin partnered with nearly 2,600 churches in California, 850 in Oregon, and more than 1,300 in Washington as congregations invited lost friends and loved ones to hear the Gospel. In response, more than 127,800 people turned out for these outreaches. God did a great work as over 5,500 individuals—including many who watched online—indicated that they repented and submitted to Jesus Christ as Lord. "With Him is abundant redemption" (Psalm 130:7)—to God be the glory!

California has the highest population of any state in the country, and less than a third of its people profess to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The news media have dubbed it—and the entire Western U.S. coast—the blue wall. In May, at his first tour stop in the city of Escondido, Franklin made it clear just why he came to their influential state. "I want to pierce that blue wall—but not for politics. I want to pierce that blue wall for Christ," he explained to the 9,400 in attendance. Hearing the Good News of salvation, 239 people there indicated they prayed in repentance and faith to surrender their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ.

From the bottom of California, the tour worked its way north, stopping in nine more cities, including Pasadena, Oxnard, Bakersfield, Fresno, Modesto, Santa Clara, Berkeley, and Chico. The Golden State's final event in Redding—attended by over 9,000 people—took place the same day as California's primary elections. Franklin prayed for God's will to be done as new leaders prepared to take office. He urged everyone to pray for them individually no matter their political affiliation—"whether you voted for them or not has nothing to do with it," he said. We thank God for the 459 people who responded to the Gospel by indicating they repented and devoted themselves to Christ.

"Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come ... for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.'" —Luke 19:9-10



PORTLAND, ORE.:

Franklin Graham went across the Pacific Northwest, preaching the Gospel and calling believers to stand for Biblical truth.

DECISION AMERICA TOUR

CALIFORNIA:

Franklin Graham calls the church to prayer and the lost to repentance in Bakersfield during the Decision America California Tour.



DECISION AMERICA TOUR

THE CALIFORNIA & PACIFIC
NORTHWEST TOURS SAW 5,514 GIVE
THEIR LIVES TO JESUS CHRIST.

OREGON:
Franklin Graham proclaims the
Good News in Medford.



**“[We] did not cease teaching
and preaching Jesus as the
Christ.” —Acts 5:42**

By tour’s end, at least 57,700 Californians had come out to hear the truth of Jesus Christ proclaimed. We praise God for the over 2,400 people who indicated making a life-changing commitment to the Savior. One of them, 15-year-old Jordan, boldly stood when Franklin gave the invitation to receive Jesus in Bakersfield. Afterward, she asked a volunteer, “Did I get rid of my sins?” The volunteer told her that God assures us that if we confess Jesus as Lord and Savior, He forgives us. She also shared John 1:12 with Jordan—“*as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God.*” Encouraged, Jordan was excited to receive discipleship resources and said that she knew of a Bible-believing church to attend.

In August, the Decision America Tour continued, visiting seven cities across Oregon and Washington. More than a third of the people living in this region do not identify with any faith whatsoever—and thousands more are trapped in false religions.

The Pacific Northwest leg of the tour launched in Medford. For more than a week, smoke had blanketed the city and the rest of southern Oregon while wildfires raged. By the time Franklin stepped to the podium, the amphitheater had filled to the brim as an estimated 8,750 people—some wearing respirator masks—joined him to pray for their state and the nation.

“Maybe you’re here tonight and you feel ... like you have no hope,” said Franklin. “God’s got a plan, and God’s got a purpose. You might think that time is running out, but time goes for eternity in the presence of Almighty God!” As Franklin’s voice echoed, former U.S. Marine Bill Michaels stood in awe. He had come with his wife and kids, along with more than a dozen others he invited. When Franklin gave the invitation to repent and know Christ, Bill felt a tug at his side. It was his 7-and-a-half-year-old son, Jeffrey, wanting to walk forward.

“I felt honored to be a part of something that’s bigger than us,” Bill said, adding that Jeffrey assured him he knew the decision he was about to make. “Up there looking around, we were all the same,” Bill continued. “Rich, poor; it didn’t matter. Everyone was there together.” By the end of the night, the smoke had cleared and 217 people had confessed their sins and come to the Savior in faith.

The tour pushed north toward Canada, visiting Bend and Portland in Oregon. In Washington, the tour stopped in Richland (Washington’s Tri-Cities area), Spokane, and Tacoma before concluding in Monroe—located outside Seattle. “Jesus died on the cross for your sins, for my sins,” Franklin told the 8,300 people who gathered in Monroe. “We’ve been lost to sin, but He doesn’t want us to be lost. ... He wants to cleanse us from our sins.” After Franklin explained how, 361 individuals publicly repented and surrendered themselves to Jesus Christ.

We praise God that the Pacific Northwest portion of the tour reached over 70,100 people from southern Oregon to northern Washington. More than 3,000 individuals told us that they turned to Christ in repentance and faith. A man named Barry attended the event in his city, responded to the Gospel in repentance, and committed himself to Christ. He received a New Testament and follow-up materials encouraging him to get involved in a local church. Barry later contacted BGEA to share that he is growing in his new faith: “I have changed so much! ... Thank you!”

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that many would attend the Decision America Tour in 2019, hear the Good News, commit their lives to Jesus Christ, and then share His love with others.



OREGON:

A prayer volunteer leads an attendee
in Portland through *Living in Christ*.

TAKING GOD'S LIFE-CHANGING GOOD NEWS ACROSS THE GLOBE

*"That Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations."
—Psalm 67:2*

BLACKPOOL, ENGLAND:
Franklin Graham shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ during the Festival of Hope.

Since 1950, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association has held Crusades all around the world for one purpose: to call lost and hurting people to repentance and hope in Jesus Christ. Today, BGEA's Festivals and Celebrations continue this life-changing mission. Each one features a clear Gospel presentation and live music—and often consists of exciting programs for youth and young families. But more than an evangelistic event, each is a process of prayer, training, outreach, and follow-up that takes place over many months—and it begins and ends with local churches.

FRANKLIN GRAHAM FESTIVALS

BGEA continued to partner with thousands of local churches and community leaders in 2018 to conduct Franklin Graham Festivals in Portugal, the United Kingdom, and Mexico. He preached *“the word of the truth of the gospel”* (Colossians 1:5) to at least 68,600 total attendees, and more than 2,600 people responded by publicly repenting and professing faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Another 1,300-plus individuals worldwide indicated they committed their lives to Christ after watching Franklin's Festivals on BillyGraham.org. In all, more than 229,800 people attended Festival-related events, and over 5,400 made decisions for Christ in submission and faith.

In April, God opened a *“door of hope”* (Hosea 2:15) for Franklin to hold BGEA's first ever Crusade in Portugal. In the waning years of the Roman Empire, the ancient city of Lisbon became known for Christian martyrs who were fiercely devoted to the faith. With the fall of Rome, Lisbon became a prominent center for the spread of Christianity. Despite this rich heritage, today only three percent of its population identify as evangelicals. More than 27,700 Portuguese heard about God's incredible love for them during the two-day Festival da Esperança—and over 950 came forward during the invitations to repent and commit their lives to Jesus Christ.

One of them, Francisco, is wheelchair-bound at 52 years old. He was told by doctors that he wouldn't live past 20 because of his rare muscular condition. “My disease is hard, very difficult to carry,” he explained. When Franklin led the prayer of salvation, “I put my

“Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”
—Acts 3:19

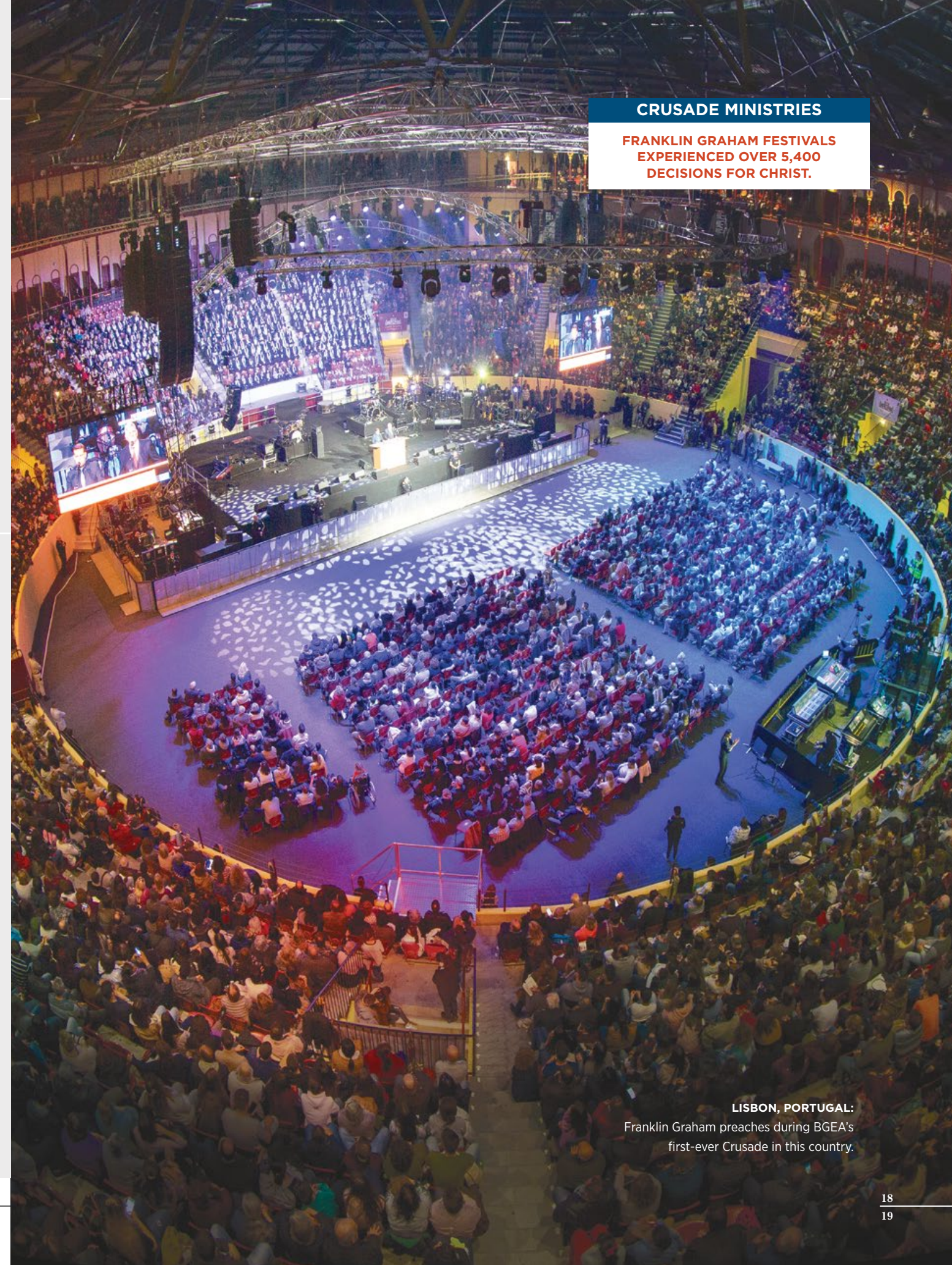


LISBON, PORTUGAL:

Each person who prays to receive Christ in repentance and faith is given proven discipleship materials to grow their faith and help them become effective witnesses in their communities.

CRUSADE MINISTRIES

**FRANKLIN GRAHAM FESTIVALS
EXPERIENCED OVER 5,400
DECISIONS FOR CHRIST.**



LISBON, PORTUGAL:

Franklin Graham preaches during BGEA's first-ever Crusade in this country.

CRUSADE MINISTRIES



MONTERREY, MEXICO:

A counselor leads a man in prayer for salvation.
Below: The Festival included outreach for children.



face down and also prayed,” Francisco said. “To hear that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins touched my heart. It was very beautiful to see [the Gospel] for the first time.”

The three-day Lancashire Festival of Hope with Franklin Graham took place in Blackpool, England, in September. Located on the northwest coast, where alcoholism, crime, and suicide are widespread, Blackpool has the shortest life expectancy in the entire country. Churches across the city and surrounding area have been praying for their community for years, and 200 congregations partnered with BGEA to proclaim the Gospel there. A small but influential group of activists attempted to derail the Festival, convincing a local bus line to remove Festival advertisements from their buses. In the face of opposition, Franklin came and preached the timeless message of God’s hope, love, and redemption through Jesus Christ to at least 9,000 people who attended. Drawn “by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13), nearly 400 came forward in repentance and faith.

After the event, a woman wrote to the

MONTERREY, MEXICO:

Huge crowds came out to hear Franklin Graham preach the Gospel every night of the Festival de Esperanza.



Blackpool newspaper: “As a local, I was surprised to read in Saturday’s *Gazette* that a preacher from America, Franklin Graham, was causing so much outrage. ... I attended the Festival of Hope last night to see, hear, and judge for myself. Franklin Graham said that the main thing he wanted us to remember from what he said was that ‘God loves you.’”

In October, Franklin held the Festival de Esperanza in Monterrey, Mexico, which used to be one of the safest cities in the country. Mexico’s widespread political corruption and drug violence began spilling over into this metro area of 5 million people in 2008. Over 500 area churches spent many months preparing for the two-day Festival and praying that the Holy Spirit would transform the hearts of the powerful, the vulnerable, and the perpetrator.

On the first night, more people came than the arena could hold. Many who could not get inside remained near the entrances to listen while many others gathered in front of TV screens placed under two tent shelters. Each night, hundreds poured out of their seats, many weeping as they crowded to the front to repent and commit their lives to Jesus Christ. Overall, at least 31,800 people attended, and we praise God that He drew over 1,300 souls to His Son. “*To Him be the glory*” (2 Peter 3:18).

One woman who came forward was Sandra, a 26-year-old English teacher. She stood, shaking, with tears streaming down her cheeks. She had endured a rough year of adversity and depression. “I wanted to kill myself,” Sandra said and had even made plans to do so. “I was out of control.” She began a relationship with Jesus as a young child but faced immense struggles. “My father was a drug addict, an alcoholic, and he [abused] my mom,” she said. Sandra’s parents physically abused her, too, before kicking her out of their home. “I felt like a real orphan. I understood the world of loneliness everyone talks about,” she explained. “Everything works for our good, God says in His Word,” she said with confidence, lifting her chin. “I was thanking God because I didn’t take my life.” Choosing to believe in “the God of miracles,” Sandra prayed, recommitting her life to Christ in repentance and gratefulness.

A separate dedication service was held the night before the Festival with a turnout of about 11,300 people—and almost 400 made life-changing decisions for Jesus Christ. A KidzFest was also held the following morning. At least 10,200 attended and more than a thousand confessed their sins and publicly submitted their lives to the Savior.



MONTERREY, MEXICO:

A counselor embraces a woman who came forward during the Festival de Esperanza.



MONTERREY, MEXICO:

After Franklin Graham shared the Good News during the Festival de Esperanza, more than 1,300 people made life-changing decisions for Christ.

WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATIONS

Will Graham’s 2018 Celebration schedule began with three different continents in a three-month span as he held evangelistic campaigns in Tennessee, Australia, and Scotland. He followed those with multi-city tours in Canada and Thailand. All told, more than 48,500 people heard the Gospel message of “*repentance for the remission of sins*” (Mark 1:4), with over 2,900 responding by publicly turning to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Another 1,000-plus individuals around the globe indicated they made commitments to Christ after watching streams of Will’s Celebrations online.

The Tri-Cities region of Tennessee and Virginia—Johnson City, Kingsport, and Bristol—is best known as the birthplace of country music. In April, Will Graham’s Celebration brought “*a new song ... praise to our God*” (Psalm 40:3). More than 235 churches from 30 denominations in the Tri-Cities all came together to deliver the Good News of Jesus Christ. Over 10,500



NEWFOUNDLAND, CANADA:

A counselor shares “Steps to Peace With God” during the Avalon Celebration of Hope in the city of St. John’s.

people attended the three-day event, and 540 stepped forward in repentance and devotion to Christ.

In May, Will returned to Australia, a country in which he has regularly preached over the past decade. The Goldfields-Esperance region of Western Australia is a land of deserts—yet fertile in the mining of precious metals. It has a population of almost 60,000 people. Half of the area’s residents live in the city of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, and more than a third of the people there say they have no religious faith. More than 5,900 people turned out for the three-day Goldfields Celebration. Nearly 400 responded when Will invited people to come to the front if they were ready to make a decision of “*repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ*” (Acts 20:21).

The town of Falkirk, Scotland, is located between the major cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow—less than 25 miles from each.

We thank God for providing such an ideal location for the three-day Central Scotland Will Graham Celebration of Hope in June. Less than 10 percent of Scots attend church, and most children there are born out of wedlock. After more than 9,500 people heard Will share the Good News of their heavenly Father’s love, over 700 were publicly drawn to Jesus Christ, repented, and are members of the family of God.

One Scot who came forward, named James, explained how Christ was there for him. A week earlier—drowning in two bottles of brandy a day—he had fallen to his knees, crying out to God. “Like the Prodigal Son, I got to my lowest point,” he revealed. After hearing Will preach the “*truth of the gospel*” (Galatians 2:5), James said, “I feel like God called me back tonight.” Prayerfully confessing his need for forgiveness, he recommitted his life to Christ. “It’s just such a lovely feeling to know that God’s holding you again,” he said.

In fulfilling God’s commission to take the Gospel “*to the ends of the earth*” (Acts 13:47), Will kicked off his Canadian tour in October with a Celebration of Hope near the Arctic Circle—in Rankin Inlet. The remote town is located on the Hudson Bay in the territory of Nunavut. Sadly, alcohol addiction and physical abuse are common among the indigenous Inuits, and Nunavut has a suicide rate nearly 10 times Canada’s national average. During the two-day outreach, 676 people heard the Good News, and 144 adults and children responded to “*the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ*” (Revelation 1:9) by openly repenting of their sins and embracing Him as their Savior.

The following weekend, in early November, Will arrived in the seaside community of St. John’s, Canada—the most eastern city in North America. A single mother there had been praying fervently that God would move in her teenage son’s life. He had been fighting at school, getting bullied, and using drugs. She brought him with her to the Avalon Celebration of Hope. When Will invited those who wanted to give their lives to Jesus Christ to walk forward, her son didn’t move. His mother, her heart breaking but

“This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”
—John 17:3



FALKIRK, SCOTLAND:

When Will Graham preached salvation through Jesus Christ, more than 700 Scots publicly repented and surrendered their lives to Him.



CRUSADE MINISTRIES

**WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATIONS
WELCOMED MORE THAN 2,900
COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST.**

TENNESSEE:

Will Graham shares the Good News about “*the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ*” (Acts 8:12) in the Tri-Cities.

hiding her disappointment, stepped out to walk to the front with a child who was there without his parents. Moments later she was overcome with emotion upon seeing her 15-year-old coming forward. “I came here not expecting to do anything at all,” the boy said with a grin, “but I ended up getting saved. It feels like a lot of chains have been taken off.” His mother was in tears. “My joy is almost unbelievable,” she said. “I’m the happiest mom in here!” In all, more than 6,400 people attended the three-day event. Humbled by the Holy Spirit, 436 experienced the incredible action of public repentance and the healing renewal of Christ’s forgiveness.

For two days, Will Graham shared the Good News with 8,000 people in Surat Thani, Thailand, the first of two southern Thai cities he visited in December. Barely one percent of Thailand’s population are followers of Christ, and most people there—almost all Buddhists—know little to nothing about Christianity. When Will invited the Celebration’s attendees to come forward in repentance and accept Jesus Christ by faith, 264 moved to the front. We praise God that the Gospel—“*the power of Christ*” (2 Corinthians 12:9)—brought new life that will last for eternity.

A couple days later, Will arrived in Phuket, Thailand, for the Celebration of Love. The Holy Spirit stirred many hearts during the three-day event when at least 7,400 people heard the Gospel. Most of the 432 who responded in repentance and faith were making first-time decisions to follow Jesus Christ.



KALGOORLIE-BOULDER, AUSTRALIA:

A volunteer prays with a young man during the Goldfields Celebration with Will Graham.

“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” —John 3:3

ASSOCIATE EVANGELISTS

Due to escalating anti-Christian violence in India, the locations and dates of BGEA Associate Evangelist Robert Cunville’s 2018 Festivals weren’t widely announced until each event was about to take place—and many specifics about each outreach remain protected by local churches and this ministry. In India, as in other countries, a new generation is searching for meaning in their lives. In a particular village, young people have turned to satanic worship. In cities, many are caught up in materialism. In other towns, drug use is on the rise with heroin addiction increasing at an alarming rate. Cunville held 12 evangelistic events during the year across India, proclaiming The Answer to a searching generation. At least 110,700 individuals heard that Jesus Christ is the only One who can fill the huge hole in their hearts. That most powerful message resonated with over 12,700 who responded to the Gospel by openly confessing their sins and devoting themselves to Jesus Christ.

During 2018, BGEA Associate Evangelist David Ruiz held two Festivals in Mexico. The first took place in July in San Francisco Telixtlahuaca, Oaxaca, in southwestern Mexico. The town has a population of 13,500 people, and there are only four small evangelical churches and 10 small home Bible study groups in the area. These believers came together to prepare and pray diligently for the outreach. God, in His love, opened hearts and drew more than 3,700 people to the event—and 416 publicly repented and pledged their lives to Jesus Christ!

Ruiz’s second Festival occurred in November in Los Reyes La Paz, which is part of the greater Mexico City area. On the second night of the Festival, in an attempt to distract the crowd, a band set up only a few meters away from the Festival venue and started loudly performing. Despite such opposition and bad weather—drastically low temperatures—more than 5,000 people attended, and 373 made decisions for Christ in repentance and faith. God made the entire event a “*demonstration of the Spirit and of power*” (1 Corinthians 2:4).



INDIA:

Robert Cunville preaches the saving power of the Gospel.

COUNSELING & FOLLOW-UP

With every BGEA evangelistic outreach, winning people to Jesus Christ is only the beginning. We give each person who responds to the Gospel discipleship materials and work to connect them with a Bible-based local church and be given the chance to grow into a devoted follower of Christ.

During 2018, BGEA continued to use the Christian Life and Witness Course—the free program that emphasizes friendship-based evangelism, discipleship, and caring for new believers.

These courses were held domestically and internationally in 10 different cities in support of Franklin Graham Festivals and Will Graham Celebrations. More than 21,000 individuals completed the training. Through the course, over 1,000 of those people realized their own personal need for a relationship with Christ, repented, and made life-changing commitments to Him. As a result of the training, more than 5,900 people decided to serve as prayer volunteers to help inquirers find new life in Jesus during Crusades.



MEXICO:

David Ruiz shares the Good News of God’s grace in Monterrey.

OVER 21,000 PEOPLE COMPLETED THE CHRISTIAN LIFE AND WITNESS COURSE, WITH 1,000 ATTENDEES MAKING A DECISION FOR CHRIST.



PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the Crusade attendees who gave their lives to Jesus Christ in 2018, that they will grow in their faith and stand strong in the Lord. Pray for those attending BGEA’s Crusades around the world in 2019. Ask God to open their hearts to His truth in repentance and faith—and then equip them to share Jesus Christ with their lost loved ones, neighbors, and co-workers.

AUSTRALIA:

Nearly 400 people responded to Will Graham’s call to come forward and give their lives to Christ.

Although The Cove’s founders, Billy and Ruth Graham, are now together in heaven, BGEA remains more committed than ever to The Cove’s mission of training people in God’s Word to win others to Jesus Christ. The Grahams’ guiding principles were faithfully carried out at The Cove during 2018, as we continued our ministry of providing Biblical instruction, inspiration, intercession, and impact in an environment that offers opportunities for retreat, rest, relaxation, and renewal.

Every year, thousands from all over the world come for The Cove experience. Our staff regularly hears from guests sharing their stories of restored marriages, renewed callings, and reignited commitments to Christ after their stay.

The Cove’s 30th year was profound. Uplifting praise, moving times of mourning and remembrance, and spiritual and relational transformation defined this remarkable season. The Feb. 21 homegoing of Billy Graham provided opportunities for the ministry of comfort, hospitality, and Gospel witness. In the days and weeks following his death, The Cove’s Chatlos Memorial Chapel welcomed thousands of individuals from our local community and beyond as they visited to honor the memory of Mr. Graham and view the memorial display set up within the Visitors Center lobby.

We continued the practice of offering free Bible teaching in 2018. In response, over 20,100 individuals participated in Cove-programmed seminars and events by year’s end. More than 3,000 of them reported that, in a step of faith, they made commitments to make major changes—in areas including their family, career, ministry, and most importantly, their relationship with Jesus Christ. This included more than 100 Christian leaders who made significant ministry and/or family decisions during our Pastor Renewal Retreats.

“Our marriage was in crisis, which had been building over a dozen military deployments. Never had we done anything like this or gotten help for our marriage,” explained one guest. “The veterans center in Columbus, Ohio, told us about The Cove. We thought, ‘We don’t know if we are still going to be “us” by the time we can make it to a seminar there.’ Your seminar literally saved our marriage. I just want you all to know the power of this place.” We praise God for such intervention and His continued blessing on this ministry.

During the year, The Cove also welcomed 115 groups from 18 states who utilized our facilities as they held their own Christian retreats, conferences, and ministry events. More than 10,600 individuals participated in these guest groups. All told, 227 seminars, concerts, retreats, and guest group events took place at The Cove, with a combined total attendance of more than 30,800.

Another 18,700-plus people visited Chatlos Memorial Chapel, and many of them went upstairs to the Prayer Room to seek the Lord and “call upon Him in truth” (Psalm 145:18). In all, nearly 49,600 guests visited The Cove during 2018. We’re honored that, along the way, The Cove’s intercessory prayer team had the opportunity to pray for over 46,300 requests we received.



ASHEVILLE, N.C.:

The Cove’s seminars are free of charge, so anyone—despite their financial challenges—can come and learn God’s marvelous truths and be refreshed.

BILLY GRAHAM TRAINING CENTER AT THE COVE

TRUTH AND GRACE FOUND HERE

“Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.” —Psalm 37:7

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the Holy Spirit will minister to each of The Cove’s guests in a lasting way this year. Ask God to equip them to share His truth when they return home to their everyday lives.

ASHEVILLE, N.C.:

The Cove’s Training Center hosts deep Biblical teaching and provides an ideal atmosphere for fellowship.

BRINGING THE HOPE OF JESUS TO PEOPLE ENDURING TRAGEDY



REDDING, CALIF.:

RRT chaplains pray with a woman who lost her home during the deadly Carr Fire—one of California's 10 largest wildfires in history.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Please ask God to strengthen the RRT chaplains as they minister in the wake of overwhelming tragedy. Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the hearts of each person they speak with so that hurting people can respond to His truth.

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

The Billy Graham Rapid Response Team (RRT) is an international network of volunteer chaplains trained specifically to care for people's spiritual and emotional needs in crisis situations. They quickly deploy to communities traumatized by natural disasters, civil unrest, or violence. RRT chaplains offer a listening ear, prayer, and compassion in Jesus' Name to all those affected, including first responders.

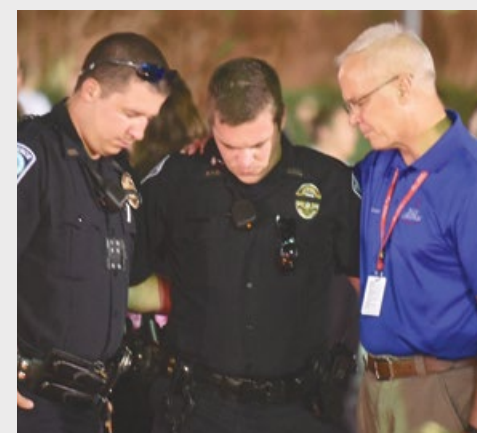
"Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" (1 John 5:5). Fueled by this empowering truth, 957 RRT chaplains boldly deployed to 40 domestic disaster locations during 2018 in response to wildfires, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, a volcanic eruption, and shootings. RRT also deployed to Mati, Greece, in response to the deadly wildfires. Our chaplains encouraged and prayed one-on-one with more than 50,000 individuals. Nearly 1,000 of these victims and first responders confessed their sinfulness and committed their lives to Jesus Christ. We praise the Lord that He works through these deployments to draw people from all walks of life into a relationship with Him.

RRT deployed to Jacksonville, N.C., after it was hit by Hurricane Florence in September. Jason, who is stationed at the nearby Marine Corps base, connected with a group of chaplains. As they talked, the chaplains asked Jason if he thought he would have gone to heaven if he had died in the storm. Jason said he knew he wouldn't have and listened attentively as the chaplains shared the Gospel. Afterwards, he said, "I need to pray right now." We praise God that Jason repented and surrendered his life to Christ. Before they left, the chaplains prayed with Jason and encouraged him to connect with the Christian military chaplain on base.

During the year, RRT hosted the 5th annual National Law Enforcement Retreat at The Cove in Asheville, N.C., and the first National Law Enforcement Retreat in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, providing emotional and spiritual care to 449 officers and their spouses. Attendees benefited from Biblical teaching, as well as plenary sessions that encouraged them in their faith and marriages. After one of the events, an officer's wife reported that the retreat had helped her feel like she wasn't alone—and that her time there led her to a life-changing decision. "I have found my way to Jesus Christ. He is my Savior," she shared. Just weeks after the retreat ended, her husband also prayed to receive Christ in repentance and faith. We praise God for drawing this husband and wife to Himself.

The Rapid Response Team continued to grow in 2018, welcoming 286 new chaplain volunteers and equipping more than 1,000 people in the U.S. to share God's hope during everyday trauma through seminars, conferences, and crisis response briefings. RRT's American team trained another 300 individuals by presenting the *Sharing Hope in Crisis* seminar in Seoul, South Korea, and Budapest, Hungary.

**"Comfort all who mourn."
—Isaiah 61:2**



FLORENCE, S.C.:

An RRT chaplain prays with law enforcement in the aftermath of a shooting that killed two police officers and wounded five others in October 2018.

Billy Graham’s legacy of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ has continued at this 40,000-square-foot experience every day it’s been open. Offering free admission, the Billy Graham Library has welcomed nearly 1.5 million visitors from across the globe since 2007.

Every person who comes to the Library sees and hears the Good News proclaimed throughout each exhibit on *The Journey of Faith* tour. Many respond by surrendering their lives to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith, and countless Christians leave ready to share God’s love with others, inspired by what He can do through any life surrendered to Him.

The Billy Graham Library had already been rated the “No. 1 thing to do in Charlotte” on TripAdvisor for almost five years. After Billy Graham’s homegoing in February and his burial in the Library’s Memorial Prayer Garden, visitor attendance surged dramatically.

During 2018, the Library hosted nearly 214,000 guests from 70 countries. Memorial events on-site included the two-day lying in repose, which saw more than 13,000 people file through the Graham family homeplace in honor of his ministry. Franklin Graham’s wife, Jane Austin, and his son Roy stood near the casket to personally greet and thank thousands of visitors. An additional 2,300 invited guests attended the evangelistic funeral itself. A special *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* exhibit was added to the Library’s lobby highlighting these events.

We continued to offer evangelistic opportunities through several programs, including the Ladies’ Tea & Tour, Mother’s Day Breakfast & Tour, Doughnuts with Dad, Military Appreciation, *Bikers With Boxes*, Ladies’ Night Out, and *Christmas at the Library*—which lasted Nov. 29–Dec. 22 and drew nearly 40,000 people. We also hosted book signings with United States Senator Tim Scott and former Congressman Trey Gowdy; Jonathan Cahn; and Franklin Graham signed his new book, *Through My Father’s Eyes*.

The Library created special displays throughout the year and continued to curate Mr. Graham’s memorabilia to draw people to the Gospel. We also worked closely with the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., by providing memorabilia and archival items for their special exhibit, *Pilgrim Preacher: Billy Graham, the Bible, and the Challenges of the Modern World*. The exhibit ran from August through early 2019.

During 2018, more than 146,500 visitors took the evangelistic *Journey of Faith* tour, and over 1,800 openly repented and committed their lives to Jesus Christ. We praise God that He “opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.” (Luke 24:45).

One such person was 73-year-old Janet. She had gone to church off and on for most of her life and had even read parts of the Bible, but she never realized the truth of God’s love for her in Jesus Christ. After she finished *The Journey of Faith* tour, Janet’s understanding totally changed. She shared that the message of salvation had become clear to her—and that she was ready to confess her sins and turn her life over to the Savior, which she did as she prayed with a volunteer.



BILLY GRAHAM LIBRARY PRAYER ROOM:
Every day, lives are changed through prayer and Biblical truth shared by Library volunteers.

THE LIVING LEGACY OF THE GOSPEL

“See the salvation of our God.”
—Isaiah 52:10



**214,000 VISITED FROM
70 COUNTRIES**

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the Holy Spirit would use the Billy Graham Library’s *Journey of Faith* tour to draw many to Jesus Christ in 2019. Pray also for the volunteers in the Library’s prayer room, that God would use them to comfort, encourage, and challenge our guests through the power and truth of His Word.

BILLY GRAHAM LIBRARY:
Christmas at the Library drew nearly 40,000 people who witnessed the true reason for the season.

GUIDING PEOPLE TO JESUS AND MENTORING THEM ONLINE

“Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” —Romans 10:13



GOOD NEWS!

God loves you so much that He gave His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die for your sins. If you believe in Him, repent of your sins, and make Jesus the Lord of your life, you will have eternal life with Him in heaven.

WILL YOU PRAY THIS PRAYER TODAY?

Dear God, I know that I am a sinner. I want to turn from my sins, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son. I believe He died for my sins and that You raised Him to life. I want Him to come into my heart and to take control of my life. I want to trust Jesus as my Savior and follow Him as my Lord from this day forward. In Jesus' Name, amen.

NOW WHAT?

Did you pray this prayer today? Or do you have questions about a relationship with Jesus Christ? Go to [PeaceWithGod.net](https://www.peacewithgod.net) and let us know.

SEARCH FOR JESUS:
“We are online because people are online, and everyone needs the hope of Jesus Christ.”
—Franklin Graham

SEARCH FOR JESUS

Every hour of every day, there are people all over the world who turn to the internet in search of ways to calm their inner fears and fill their spiritual hunger. Individuals living in 239 different countries and territories—including places where the Gospel cannot be shared openly—have visited our interactive *Search for Jesus* (SFJ) websites to explore the message of God’s grace.

Since its start in 2011, SFJ has reached over 68 million online visitors, with over 12.5 million indicating that they made commitments to Jesus Christ. Like all BGEA ministries, SFJ values follow-up discipleship and provided guidance on topics such as reading the Bible, prayer, and connecting with local churches to 1.9 million people.

Today, SFJ operates websites in all of the internet’s top five languages—English, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, and Chinese (Mandarin). During 2018, these sites welcomed 8.4 million visitors. Approximately 1.5 million indicated making decisions for Christ. Of those, 311,000 people requested follow-up for discipleship materials, online training, connecting with a local church, or other assistance.

Search for Jesus also features a team of 786 BGEA-trained volunteers from all over North America, Australia, the U.K., Spain, and Portugal, who chat live with visitors, mentor them in online discipleship courses, answer their text questions and emails, and converse with them through social media tools like Facebook Messenger. These volunteers invested over 119,000 combined hours of ministry in 2018.

When a woman named Holly connected with a chat volunteer on [PeaceWithGod.net](https://www.peacewithgod.net), she was carrying overwhelming guilt from an abortion. “I count the months and know how old my child would have been,” she typed. After the volunteer explained that Jesus Christ offers forgiveness for every sin, Holly eagerly embraced the Good News. She prayed in faith to give her life to Christ, and then shared, “I didn’t know how to repent. Talking to you has helped me so much.”

On the February morning of Billy Graham’s death, SFJ launched [StepsToPeace.org](https://www.steps-to-peace.org) so it could be strategically featured on his new memorial site. StepsToPeace.org drew more than 118,300 visitors. Over 11,500 of them responded to the Gospel presentation by indicating they surrendered themselves to Jesus Christ. More than 3,650 requested follow-up.

One key element of SFJ follow-up is the *Know Jesus* course for new believers. Nearly 13,400 people enrolled in the course in 2018. Two of our other self-guided discipleship courses saw combined enrollments of over 10,000 individuals. More than 14,800 visitors used our platform to explore the website of a church in their area, while another 789 people requested help connecting to a specific church.

Since 80 percent of Arabic-speaking internet users are active on Facebook, SFJ uses Facebook Messenger as our primary communication tool to reach them—and the year saw 1,259 ongoing conversations develop. We praise God for the many who found new life in Jesus Christ.

During 2018, SFJ also provided online follow-up to Franklin Graham Festivals and Will Graham Celebrations, as well as communication via text at the Decision America Tour stops in California, Oregon, and Washington—offering each respondent the opportunity to connect with a local church.



PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for each lost person who discovered the Savior through *Search for Jesus* in 2018—that the Holy Spirit would strengthen them, make them effective witnesses for Him, and protect those living under life-threatening persecution. Pray also that God would lead *Search for Jesus*’ expansion in Arabic and Chinese in 2019, as well as the launch of new ministry in South Korea.

Our founder was a pioneer in using television and film to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The groundbreaking seeds he planted have grown into a prolific media ministry. From nationally televised programs and our channel on SiriusXM® satellite radio to internet innovation and so much more, the Good News is going global in new ways.

DECISION MAGAZINE

In 2018, *Decision*, “The Evangelical Voice for Today,” published the Gospel of Jesus Christ to millions of readers in 68 countries. Each issue of the magazine featured clear explanations of how to know Jesus Christ personally, messages from respected Christian leaders to equip believers to stand strong for God’s Word, and Scriptural analysis of critical issues facing the church.

Over the course of the year, more than 5.5 million copies were printed. After the passing of Billy Graham, more than 1.1 million copies of the 128-page Billy Graham commemorative edition were printed, and over 10,000 copies were made available on newsstands.

Decision also publishes a mobile edition for iPad and iPhone. In addition, our weekly email devotional went to more than 60,000 people, with click and effective rates higher than the nonprofit industry averages.

“Thank you so much for the work you do to bring the truth to the world!” wrote one reader. “Every issue of the magazine is informative and specific with areas that I can pray about and be more knowledgeable after reading. ... I am so relieved that the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association still proclaims Biblical truth and does not reflect the cultural persuasions of the current time. ... Thank you for helping us in these bewildering times!”

A pastor from Houston, Texas, called to say that he has subscribed for several years and considers *Decision* “the best magazine available at this time for Christians” and that it is “extremely relevant and well-written.”

INTERNET

The response to the passing of Billy Graham was overwhelming in the digital media world. BGEA hosted more than 2.1 million visits to the Billy Graham Memorial website from 228 countries and territories and experienced a record year for traffic and our online outreach with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

BGEA provided 24/7 live web streaming with comprehensive coverage of Mr. Graham’s memorial events, including key events such as the motorcade from Asheville to Charlotte, the public lying in repose at the Billy Graham Library, the lying in honor in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C., and the funeral service at the Library. The web stream had more than 18 million cumulative views online.

The Good News was shared far and wide online, reaching nearly 63 million people through

**“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season.”
—2 Timothy 4:2**



DECISION MAGAZINE:

BGEA printed over 5.5 million copies in 2018.

TECHNOLOGY. TRUTH. TRANSFORMATION.



DECISION MAGAZINE:

Readers are informed and challenged to take a bold stand for their faith each month.

MEDIA MINISTRY

BGEA's Facebook page in the month following Mr. Graham's passing on Feb. 21, 2018, leading to a 107 percent engagement increase in 2018. Memorial events drew more than 12 million views on Facebook, with 2.1 million watching the funeral on Facebook Live and another 1.5 million on the memorial site. More than 24,100 online condolences and memories were submitted in Mr. Graham's honor.

"Watching from Modesto, California," one viewer posted. "I cannot see with all my tears. God almighty forgive me of my sins."

Another, named Chris, wrote, "God, I'm a sinner, please forgive me. In Jesus' name, amen!"

The February–March boost contributed to a 28 percent increase in website traffic in 2018 (up to 20.9 million) on our sites—including BillyGraham.org, BillyGrahamLibrary.org, TheCove.org, and DecisionAmericaTour.com—excluding the *Search for Jesus* ministry's work. We also experienced a 31 percent increase in Facebook reach and a 62 percent increase in YouTube subscribers. During the year, BGEA's social media pages (Twitter, Instagram, etc.) welcomed over 700,000 new followers/subscribers. Our social media reach now includes

9.2 million followers on various platforms.

Our YouTube channel generated more than 12.4 million views, three times higher than the previous year. Videos posted on the BGEA and Billy Graham Facebook pages fueled 46 million views—five times more than 2017—and there were more than 1.5 million video views on BGEA's websites, three times higher than the year before.

Billy Graham's daily devotional *My Answer* columns and other spiritual growth content continued to be the biggest draw to BillyGraham.org, accounting for 10.1 million views, 1.3 million more than 2017.

Live event streaming extended the reach of the Gospel in 2018, supporting the ministry of Franklin Graham and Will Graham. Evangelistic outreaches were streamed globally from California, Oregon, Washington, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Australia, Scotland, and Canada. Viewers in 126 countries watched these events online.

Web visits from mobile devices accounted for 72 percent of our total traffic, while the percentage of mobile/tablet giving increased to 40 percent (from 35 percent in 2017).

INTERNET:

Mobile devices were used for 72 percent of BGEA's online traffic.

MY HOPE

BGEA started *My Hope* in 2002, using evangelistic video programs to reach across entire nations. We began in four countries in Central America and went on through the years to South America, Africa, and Asia, including nations such as Russia and India, and then the U.S. As God worked, we have seen millions of people repent and discover new life in Jesus Christ.

In November of 2018, we launched the *My Hope Italia* campaign across Italy. Thousands turned to the Savior, and God is stirring more Bible-believing Christians there to use the BGEA film *The Cross*—dubbed into Italian—to share the Gospel with lost and hurting friends, neighbors, and loved ones. More than 2,000 churches (81 percent of all evangelical congregations) in the country have taken part, and many will continue their *My Hope* outreach through Easter of 2019—over 6,000 evangelistic events have been planned across the nation.

By the end of 2018, more than 4,000 *My Hope* events—with approximately 60,000 total in attendance—were already held across Italy. These included two citywide outreaches in Naples (nearly 1,100 attended) and Rome (over 775). These gatherings took place in movie theaters, homes, immigration centers, hotels, prisons, hospitals, universities, and rest homes—and many other people watched *The Cross* online.

An estimated 6,000 individuals who attended *My Hope Italia* events indicated that they confessed their sinfulness and committed their lives to Jesus Christ. For the first time in years, small churches all across the country are doubling the size of their congregations with new believers. Local pastors, who had never spoken to each other before, worked together on *My Hope Italia* and are now partnering on more evangelistic outreaches. One denomination with 200 churches in Italy is continuing to use *The Cross* and openly working with other denominations. Other large churches are partnering with congregations that have different doctrinal traditions. We praise God for this powerful new unity and the fruit it will produce for His kingdom.

CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

BGEA's Christian Response team answers thousands of individuals seeking ministry assistance and spiritual help through letters, email, and telephone inquiries. Specially trained, our representatives answer spiritual questions and are ready to pray or offer comforting words of encouragement from God's Word with humility and care. BGEA responded to nearly 206,000 inquiries in 2018. In many cases, Biblical resources and materials are provided to help point the inquirer further toward the truth found only in Jesus Christ.

Thousands of individuals contacted BGEA

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
—John 14:6



CHURCH OUTREACH:

In 2018, BGEA continued to expand its partnerships with congregations domestically and internationally.



MY HOPE:

In addition to gatherings across the country, Italians could watch the BGEA film *The Cross* almost anywhere, anytime.



BGEA's television and video team works with the internet staff to stream many Crusades live around the world.

through our website in 2018, and we responded to more than 44,700 individual emails. Representatives also answered almost 13,000 letters—more than double the 2017 total. Christian Response's incoming calls increased 16 percent over the year, surpassing 133,000 in all. Many of these increases were directly attributed to Mr. Graham's passing. Incoming spiritual calls were primarily from viewers of BGEA's TV Specials and Billy Graham Classics and listeners to the ministry's radio broadcasts. During the year, our representatives and trained volunteers were privileged to pray with more than 48,000 callers. We give praise to God that over 9,300 of them indicated they made life-changing commitments to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith. In addition to BGEA's in-house phone representatives, more than 1,000 volunteers served at 33 other call centers across America.

BGEA's in-house call center made more than 70,600 phone calls to reach out, follow up, build relationships, and invite thousands to come and be a part of the work God is doing through BGEA. No matter the initial purpose of a conversation, staff listen attentively, pray upon request, and support their responses with Scripture.

TELEVISION AND VIDEO

BGEA produced hundreds of television programs and videos in 2018 to globally proclaim the “salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus” (2 Timothy 3:15), show what God is doing around the world, and help equip churches for proclamation evangelism.

To commemorate the life and legacy of Billy Graham and, most importantly, to further the Good News, BGEA released the hourlong documentary *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey*. The program debuted nationally on the FOX Network the Sunday after his funeral. Featuring rare historical footage and compelling interviews with family members, lifelong friends, former presidents, and prominent broadcasters, it tells the remarkable story of how God used an ordinary man to reach millions of people with the Gospel. The documentary was released to national retail outlets on DVD and Digital HD in November and plans were confirmed to release it to Netflix's 65 million subscribers in early 2019.

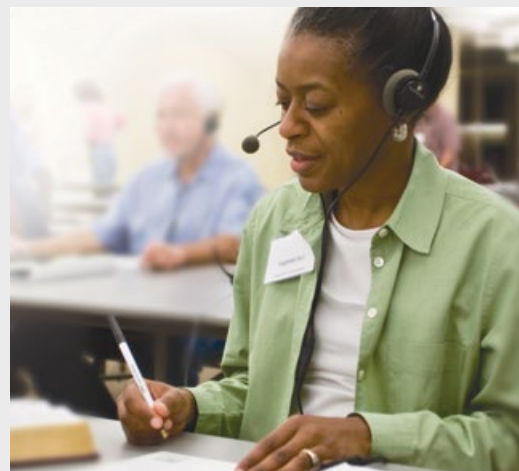
“It was wonderful. I couldn't stop crying,” wrote a viewer named Amy.

Wrote another, Cheryl, “I rededicated my life.”

More than 3,300 churches and ministries downloaded *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* for screenings, and viewers were offered an opportunity to receive Christ at the end of the film. One church that showed it on a Sunday evening saw its usual attendance triple—and 120 people there indicated they made a life-changing decision for Christ.

We also produced five new TV Specials,

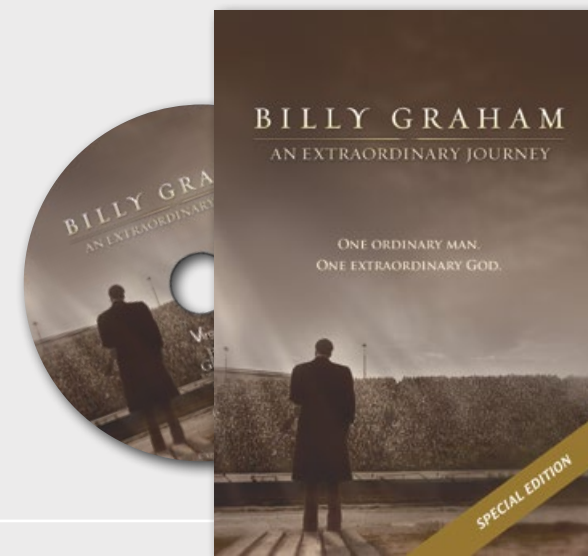
“He who believes in the Son has everlasting life.” —John 3:36



CHRISTIAN RESPONSE:

BGEA's primary call center made more than 70,600 calls to reach out, follow up, and build relationships.

MEDIA MINISTRY



The documentary *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* aired on The FOX Network on Sunday, March 4, 2018. According to the Nielsen ratings, the broadcast drew 2.86 million viewers among adults 18-49.

*as reported by TV By The Numbers (Tribune Media Entertainment)

including the 30-minute tribute program *Billy Graham: A Life Remembered*, which commemorated his life and ministry. BGEA distributed it to Christian and cable networks around the world. Each TV Special was broadcast on national Christian cable TV and select affiliates, and shown as video-on-demand through digital platforms such as Roku and on BillyGraham.tv.

In 2018, we continued updating and distributing Billy Graham Classics. The programs were broadcast worldwide via global Christian networks like TBN, Daystar, and GodTV, as well as digital platforms.

“I was thinking of taking my life with pills, because of all the pain I'm going through but ended up here by accident and I can't stop listening to him,” wrote one Billy Graham Classics viewer. “It's so comforting, a calm came over me.”

Another responded, “It wasn't until his death that I really [experienced] his ministry. As I was listening to his 1957 sermon about what is a Christian, I realized that I truly did not know. ... I believe listening to that message has changed my life. I am going to continue to listen to other sermons and messages he preached.”

Seven of BGEA's World Wide Pictures films were released to Amazon in Digital HD for streaming and download in 2018. We continued to distribute programs to other digital streaming and video-on-demand platforms such as Roku, Pure Flix, RightNow Media, and Christian Cinema.

ONLINE EVANGELISM TRAINING

For almost 70 years, the Lord has drawn people to Himself through BGEA's evangelism and discipleship work. Today, pastors and laypeople around the globe study these time-tested principles through one of our online training programs, resulting in a furtherance of our ongoing ministry. The lessons and instructional videos feature 20 widely respected instructors—including Billy Graham, Franklin Graham, John Stott, Ravi Zacharias, Will Graham, Bill and Vonette Bright, and others. Individual and group options continued to be offered for each course during 2018.

The School of Evangelism Online (SOE)—BGEA's first course—was offered through our website as well as at four Christian colleges (Liberty University, Montreat College, the University of the Cumberland, and Columbia International). This resulted in 718 new enrollments from 10 countries in 2018, bringing the total to 54 countries worldwide. Scholarships and funding for international and domestic participants are now available and expected to increase enrollment in this practical and important training. Churches, chaplain groups, and ministries accessing additional training in their networks continued to register for SOE. “This course is an excellent way for anyone wanting to know and be prepared to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ,” responded one participant. “Thank you so much for ... offering it at a very affordable price.”

MEDIA MINISTRY

ReIgnite—our online version of the Christian Life and Witness Course—welcomed 88 new enrollments during the year and reached 800 total participants since its launch. One ReIgnite student wrote, “Thank you so much for this course. I can’t begin to tell you how much it has meant to me and my spiritual walk with Christ. ... I am already looking into [your] other courses.”

The adult and student courses of the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team’s seminar *Sharing Hope in Crisis* had 461 new enrollments combined. All *My Hope* regional directors were also enrolled through our inter-department training.

Through BGEA’s latest course additions *Back to the Basics* by Dr. Howard Hendricks and *Lost Secrets of Powerful Lives* by Ron Hutchcraft, 99 participants discovered the relationship between Biblical doctrine (what we believe) and Biblical practice (how we live), and the evangelistic power of Christians in the book of Acts. “Thank you for making the training available,” one participant responded. “Being a long way from home, I truly appreciate being plugged back in to my faith.”

AUDIO AND BLUE RIDGE BROADCASTING

One of the many ways BGEA continued to point listeners to Jesus Christ in 2018 was through

the radio and on-demand internet audio coverage of Billy Graham’s homegoing. We produced and aired “Remembering Billy Graham” for SiriusXM® satellite radio, 270 broadcast radio stations, and our podcast, *GPS: God. People. Stories.* Additionally, BGEA provided live coverage of Mr. Graham’s funeral on SiriusXM® and 261 radio stations across the country, plus the live video stream internationally via Trans World Radio’s TWR360 website.

After four successful limited-runs, The Billy Graham Channel became a permanent part on the SiriusXM® satellite radio service in August. Depending on one’s subscription package and receiver type, Mr. Graham’s messages are available 24/7 on channel 460 and any streaming device such as smartphones and laptops. All content on The Billy Graham Channel is directed and produced by BGEA. “I have been listening to nothing else since this channel first popped up!” wrote one listener. “It has changed everything about me in ways I cannot explain! I need to hear this all the time when at work, home, or driving in my car like I have been since it began!”

God used many other BGEA audio productions to tell people of His love in 2018, including the *Decision Minute* radio feature and our weekly podcast *GPS: God.*

People. Stories.—available on the leading podcast providers as well as Amazon and Google Home smartspeakers. Each month, a new set of 15 *Decision Minute* vignettes was delivered to more than 720 U.S. and Canadian radio stations, which air them free of charge. The 60-second features provide listeners with hope, encouragement, and a challenge to live out their faith. Every *Decision Minute* concludes with an invitation to learn more about Jesus Christ at FindPeaceWithGod.net.

BGEA also continued to produce the Facebook-only program the *Billy Graham Minute*, and used Facebook to share messages from the Billy Graham Audio Archives. Our weekly e-newsletter, *Weekend Encouragement*—which features several ministry productions—reached over 20,200 subscribers, an increase of 53 percent over 2017.

Blue Ridge Broadcasting (BRB) is the operator of BGEA’s multiple radio signals all known as The Light FM. It broadcasts the Good News of God’s love to a seven-state area that includes the metro regions of Asheville and Charlotte, N.C.; Greenville-Spartanburg, S.C.; and Knoxville and the Tri-Cities in Tennessee. The Light FM’s primary signal reaches more than 6 million people—making it the 12th-largest FM radio station in the nation, in terms of coverage area. Its programming is accessed by listeners around the world at TheLightFM.org.

For Mother’s Day, The Light FM engaged its communities for Christ with “Heartbeat for Hope,” a 10-hour on-air event bringing awareness to the ultrasound services of seven area crisis pregnancy centers. Historically, over 80 percent of women decide to choose life for their unborn child when presented with an ultrasound of their baby. Listeners responded with donations that provided almost 1,500 ultrasounds (based on average costs).

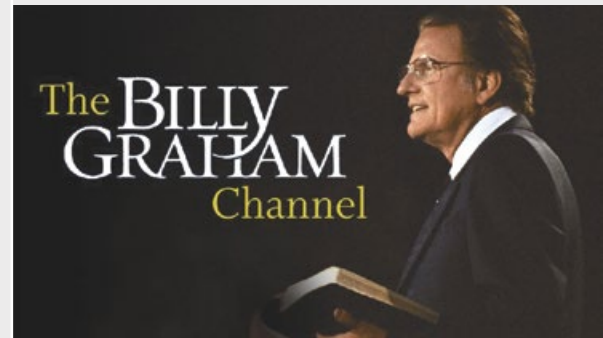
A listener named Beth shared this about The Light FM: “This station has helped me grow in my Christian walk and become a better parent and wife. I’m a 5th and 6th grade Sunday school teacher and The Light FM helps me teach and plant seeds for my kids. If it were not for this station, I wouldn’t be teaching and encouraging our students to be ready to tell others why they believe the Bible to be true and why they know God is the Savior of the world.”

The Light FM answers the need from listeners for hope and truth through music and messages whenever and wherever expected. An app for smartphones provides The Light FM’s live feed 24 hours a day—and podcast versions of each daily teaching program as well as two station-produced podcasts, all in one convenient location. An alarm setting on the app enables listeners to wake up to The Light FM. The station is also available via Amazon and Google Home smartspeakers.

**“This was the Lord’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.”
—Psalm 118:23**

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that God would continue to grow BGEA’s evangelistic media outreach, use us to build greater awareness of what He is doing around the world, and increase the prayer network undergirding this important work.



THE BILLY GRAHAM CHANNEL:

The Billy Graham Channel (channel 460) is now a permanent part of SiriusXM® satellite radio.

THE LIGHT FM:
The Light FM’s primary signal reaches more than 6 million people with the Gospel.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

—2 Timothy 3:16–17

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative Word of God revealing the love of God to the world.

WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

WE BELIEVE in the deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood on the cross, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.

WE BELIEVE that all men everywhere are lost and face the judgment of God, that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that for the salvation of lost and sinful man, repentance of sin and faith in Jesus Christ results in regeneration by the Holy Spirit. Furthermore we believe that God will reward the righteous with eternal life in heaven, and that He will banish the unrighteous to everlasting punishment in hell.

WE BELIEVE in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit, whose indwelling enables the Christian to live a godly life.



WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; the saved unto the resurrection of eternal life and the lost unto the resurrection of damnation and eternal punishment.

WE BELIEVE in the spiritual unity of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and that all true believers are members of His body, the church.

WE BELIEVE that the ministry of evangelism (sharing and proclaiming the message of salvation only possible by grace through faith in Jesus Christ) and discipleship (helping followers of Christ grow up into maturity in Christ) is a responsibility of all followers of Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE God’s plan for human sexuality is to be expressed only

within the context of marriage, that God created man and woman as unique biological persons made to complete each other. God instituted monogamous marriage between male and female as the foundation of the family and the basic structure of human society. For this reason, we believe that marriage is exclusively the union of one genetic male and one genetic female.

WE BELIEVE that we must dedicate ourselves to prayer, to the service of our Lord, to His authority over our lives, and to the ministry of evangelism.

WE BELIEVE that human life is sacred from conception to its natural end; and that we must have concern for the physical and spiritual needs of our fellowmen.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION & CONSOLIDATED ORGANIZATIONS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2017

2018

Assets

	2018	2017
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 40,022,876	\$ 33,172,394
Accounts receivable, net	3,026,177	4,189,844
Contributions receivable, net	2,079,876	1,232,710
Inventories	554,446	498,968
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	2,331,148	1,315,138
	48,014,523	40,409,054
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation	55,068,472	55,556,126
Investments:		
Investments functioning as endowments	201,245,996	209,683,278
Other long-term investments	25,176,978	20,473,200
Deferred giving program	88,118,295	92,878,599
	314,541,269	323,035,077
Beneficial interest in remainder trusts	2,363,890	2,560,210
Other assets	1,926,800	1,976,800
Total assets	\$ 421,914,954	\$ 423,537,267

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,725,511	\$ 3,123,285
Accrued expenses	2,791,348	2,739,578
Deferred revenue	2,333,899	2,076,331
Deferred giving program	65,535,396	67,866,379
Total liabilities	73,386,154	75,805,573
Net assets:		
Without donor restriction:		
Charitable gift annuities	17,023,687	17,850,211
Undesignated	56,036,011	45,970,916
Investment in property and equipment	55,068,472	55,556,126
Designated by governing board for endowment	178,550,434	192,402,865
Total without donor restrictions	306,678,604	311,780,118
With donor restriction:		
Purpose restrictions	11,156,463	10,820,734
Time-restricted for future periods	10,921,114	12,397,442
Perpetual in nature	19,772,619	12,733,400
Total with donor restrictions	41,850,196	35,951,576
Total net assets	348,528,800	347,731,694
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 421,914,954	\$ 423,537,267

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2018

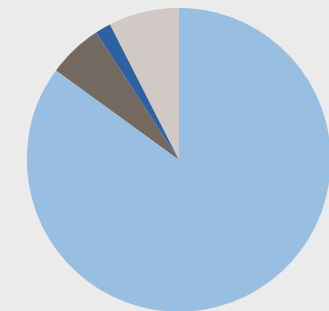
BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION & CONSOLIDATED ORGANIZATIONS

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

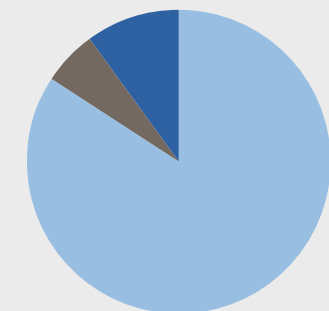
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018, WITH SUMMARIZED COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2017

	2018			2017
	Without Donor Restriction	With Donor Restriction	Total	Total
Operating Activities				
Support and revenue:				
Contributions	\$ 84,638,778	\$ 29,295,240	\$ 113,934,018	\$ 92,875,743
Billy Graham Training Center	7,569,305	-	7,569,305	7,141,343
<i>Decision</i> magazine and other evangelistic materials	2,288,840	-	2,288,840	1,624,337
Other income	9,920,903	-	9,920,903	6,708,936
Net assets released from restrictions	21,028,151	(21,028,151)	-	-
Total support and revenue	125,445,977	8,267,089	133,713,066	108,350,359
Operating expenses:				
Ministry expenses:				
Evangelistic crusades	20,484,900	-	20,484,900	14,114,624
Decision America	13,122,493	-	13,122,493	8,754,490
Billy Graham Training Center	11,340,151	-	11,340,151	11,198,294
Billy Graham Library	7,642,487	-	7,642,487	7,512,232
Print and internet	6,028,366	-	6,028,366	6,097,117
Radio	5,790,861	-	5,790,861	6,499,229
<i>Search for Jesus</i>	5,649,723	-	5,649,723	5,210,626
<i>Decision</i> magazine	4,989,365	-	4,989,365	4,218,921
Church ministry	4,390,168	-	4,390,168	4,661,733
Rapid Response Team	3,857,037	-	3,857,037	3,637,621
Television and film	3,115,157	-	3,115,157	2,387,759
Other evangelistic ministry	15,106,648	-	15,106,648	16,510,235
Total ministry expenses	101,517,356	-	101,517,356	90,802,881
Support activities:				
Fundraising	6,861,079	-	6,861,079	6,149,156
General and administrative	11,978,570	-	11,978,570	10,260,890
Total operating expenses	120,357,005	-	120,357,005	107,212,927
Change in net assets from operations	5,088,972	8,267,089	13,356,061	1,137,432
Nonoperating Activities				
Investment return	(10,386,650)	(1,279,229)	(11,665,879)	24,279,261
Change in value of annuities and trusts	38,702	(1,202,669)	(1,163,967)	4,966,029
Other nonoperating income (loss)	157,462	113,429	270,891	(106,585)
Total nonoperating activities	(10,190,486)	(2,368,469)	(12,558,955)	29,138,705
Change in net assets	(5,101,514)	5,898,620	797,106	30,276,137
Net assets at beginning of year	311,780,118	35,951,576	347,731,694	317,455,557
Net assets at end of year	\$ 306,678,604	\$ 41,850,196	\$ 348,528,800	\$ 347,731,694

2018 OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE



2018 OPERATING EXPENSES



**“Providing honorable things,
not only in the sight of the Lord,
but also in the sight of men.”
—2 Corinthians 8:21**

To see the complete version of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association 2018 audited financial statements, please go to BillyGraham.org/financial.

Continuing the lifelong work of Billy Graham, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association exists to support and extend the evangelistic calling and ministry of Franklin Graham by proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to all we can by every effective means available to us and by equipping the church and others to do the same.

BOARD MEMBERS



KEN BARUN
Executive Vice President
Billy Graham Evangelistic
Association
Charlotte, North Carolina
Elected 2018



GEORGE BATTLE, JR.
Senior Bishop
AME Zion Church
Davidson, North Carolina
Elected 2003



DAVID BRUCE
Executive Director
Montreat Office
Billy Graham Evangelistic
Association
Montreat, North Carolina
Elected 2002



**MICHAEL CHEATHAM, MD,
FACS, FCCM**
Chairman
Orlando Health Surgery Group
Orlando, Florida
Elected 2016



FRANKLIN GRAHAM ▲
Chairman, President,
and Chief Executive Officer
Billy Graham Evangelistic Association
Chairman, President,
and Chief Executive Officer
Samaritan's Purse
Boone, North Carolina
Elected 1979



MELVIN GRAHAM ▲
President and Owner
Graham Enterprises
Charlotte, North Carolina
Elected 2001



WILL GRAHAM
First Vice Chairman and Vice President
Billy Graham Evangelistic
Association
Asheville, North Carolina
Elected 2005



FRANK HARRISON, III ●
Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer
Coca-Cola Consolidated Inc.
Charlotte, North Carolina
Elected 2002



THOMAS HODGES ●
Executive Vice President
Private Wealth Management
Division Executive
SunTrust Bank
Charlotte, North Carolina
Elected 2016



GREG LAURIE
Senior Pastor
Harvest Christian Fellowship
Evangelist for Harvest Crusades
Riverside, California
Elected 1994



ANNE GRAHAM LOTZ
President
AnGel Ministries
Raleigh, North Carolina
Elected 1994



HON. STEPHEN MERRILL ●
Former Governor of New Hampshire
Chairman, Morgan Lewis Consulting
at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Manchester, New Hampshire
Elected 1997



WILLIAM PAULS ▲
Chairman
The Pauls Corporation
Denver, Colorado
Elected 1997



PAUL SABER ▲ ●
President and
Chief Executive Officer
Manna Development Group LLC
Encinitas, California
Elected 2006



DONALD WILTON
Senior Pastor
First Baptist Spartanburg
Spartanburg, South Carolina
Elected 2017

BOARD MEMBERS

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely;
and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved
blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls
you is faithful, who also will do it. Brethren, pray for us.”
—1 Thessalonians 5:23-25

BOARD MEMBERS EMERITUS



WALLACE BERG
Retired Consultant
Edina, Minnesota
Elected 1973
Emeritus 1997



DAVID BURNHAM
Chairman
Burnham Ministries International
Boca Raton, Florida
Elected 1985
Emeritus 1998



MELVIN CHEATHAM, MD
Clinical Professor of Neurosurgery
UCLA Medical Center
Ventura, California
Elected 1997
Emeritus 2008



MICHAEL HAYNES
Pastor Emeritus
Twelfth Baptist Church
Roxbury, Massachusetts
Elected 1987
Emeritus 2002



HERBERT HESS
President Emeritus
North American Management
Hingham, Massachusetts
Elected 1979
Emeritus 2012



HOWARD KAST
Retired Business and
Financial Consultant
Westminster, Colorado
Elected 1987
Emeritus 1999



GRAEME KEITH
Chairman
The Keith Corporation
Charlotte, North Carolina
Elected 1990
Emeritus 2008



DENTON LOTZ
General Secretary Emeritus
Baptist World Alliance
Pastor of Tremont Temple
Baptist Church
Forestdale, Massachusetts
Elected 1999
Emeritus 2014



CHARLES MORGAN, JR.
Attorney
Miami, Florida
Elected 1983
Emeritus 2015



WILLIAM POLLARD
Chairman
Fairwyn Investment Company
Carol Stream, Illinois
Elected 1986
Emeritus 2013

OFFICERS

FRANKLIN GRAHAM
Chairman

WILL GRAHAM
First Vice Chairman

MELVIN GRAHAM
Chairman of Executive Committee

DANIEL ALLEN
Secretary

WILLIAM PAULS
Treasurer

THOMAS HODGES
Assistant Treasurer

KEY: ▲ Executive Committee | ● Audit Committee

BOARD COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

MELVIN GRAHAM
Executive Committee

FRANK HARRISON, III
Audit Committee

PAUL SABER
Compensation Committee

MELVIN GRAHAM
Development Committee

FRANK HARRISON, III
Field Ministry Committee

WILLIAM PAULS
Finance/Investment Committee

HON. STEPHEN MERRILL
Insurance Committee

WILLIAM PAULS
International Security Risk
Assessment Committee

FRANKLIN GRAHAM
Nominating Committee

PAUL SABER
Retirement Plan
Committee

**BILLY
GRAHAM**
Evangelistic Association
Always Good News.

FRANKLIN GRAHAM, PRESIDENT

1 BILLY GRAHAM PARKWAY, CHARLOTTE, NC 28201-0001

TELEPHONE: 1-877-247-2426 (1-877-2GRAHAM) | WEBSITE: BILLYGRAHAM.ORG

Names in testimonials have been changed to protect privacy.

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BGEA is a charter member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA).



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*