

OPEN DOORS

FOR THE

GOSPEL



BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

“[Pray] for us, that God would open to us a door for the word,
to speak the mystery of Christ.” —COLOSSIANS 4:3

PRESIDENT’S

2019

LETTER



Dear Friend,

I am grateful for your heart for the Gospel and your partnership in proclaiming the truth and love of Jesus Christ far and wide.

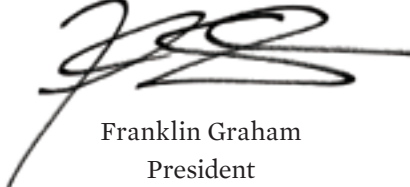
In Philippians, the Apostle Paul wrote, “*Reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal ... of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus*” (3:13–14). This was our prayer for 2019—to single-mindedly press toward the goal of sharing the Gospel with as many people as possible.

We give all glory to God for the remarkable opportunities for Gospel outreach that He gave BGEA during the year—including Decision America Tours in eight states, a continent-wide Australia tour, and Crusades in eight additional countries. Join us in praying as the apostles did, asking God to “*grant to Your servants that with all boldness [we] may speak Your word*” (Acts 4:29).

We deeply appreciate your generous and faithful support. This work would not be possible without you, and we praise God for all He did through you in 2019. Today, more people than ever still have no idea how to find real and lasting hope or true forgiveness. They need the Savior. Thank you for everything you do to tell them.

May God richly bless you.

Sincerely,


Franklin Graham
President

FRONT COVER | CHARLOTTE, N.C.: During the Decision America Tar Heel State Tour, Franklin Graham preaches a powerful message out of Mark 10: “God is alive, and He’s here tonight ... at this amphitheater.”

ASHEVILLE, N.C.: The Gospel is proclaimed during the Decision America Tour at the U.S. Cellular Center.

PROCLAIMING CHRIST

AND THE POWER OF

PRAYER

DECISION AMERICA TOUR

2019

SYRACUSE, N.Y. :

Franklin Graham shares the message of eternal hope during the Decision America Northeast Tour.

Jesus said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life." —JOHN 6:47

DECISION AMERICA TOUR

2019



INSET PHOTO | BURLINGTON, VT.:
Attendees stand in front of the
Decision America Northeast
Tour bus.

Each community, each state, and America as a whole needs a spiritual transformation that starts in individual hearts. Only Jesus Christ can bring that change. To take this Good News across the U.S., the Decision America Tour utilizes “saturation evangelism”—preaching the Gospel one night each in a series of cities across a state or region. This way, BGEA reaches more people with the hope of Christ than during a multiday Crusade in a major metropolis.

During each Decision America Tour event, BGEA works with local churches to tell the lost about the hope they can find in Christ. Each night, Franklin Graham also asks Christians to join him in prayer for their community, state, nation, and those who are far from God. The Decision America Tour went across the Northeastern U.S. and then North Carolina in 2019.

According to a Barna survey, the Northeast has eight of the 10 most “post-Christian” cities in America. More than 1,650 churches from New England to New York partnered with BGEA to reach this desperate region. Franklin Graham embarked on the seven-state tour in May. The series of one-night evangelism and prayer events during the Decision America Northeast Tour included stops in Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine.

Thousands of people attended the tour’s first event in Portland, Maine, which was recently ranked the second most “post-Christian” city in America by Barna Research.

Several hundred men, women, and children publicly responded to Franklin’s call to repent of their sins and submit their lives to Jesus Christ—including a married couple named Mike and Rena. This delighted their school-aged daughter. She had been encouraging her parents to go to church. They followed her lead and came to the event with the family of the pastor whose church they had been visiting. We praise God for drawing them to His Son and for placing them in a church where they can grow in their faith.

A few nights later, in Springfield, Mass., Franklin told the crowd, “God loves

again.” After explaining the Gospel, he gave the invitation.

One 13-year-old girl named Cheryl didn’t hesitate. She stood to her feet with her mother, Gene, by her side. Cheryl knew in that moment she wanted to accept Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. “[This] does give me peace, a lot of peace,” Cheryl said after praying in repentance and faith. “It calms me down, and it clears my mind.” Her mother’s eyes filled with tears as her daughter spoke. Gene had been praying for the moment that Cheryl would establish her own relationship with Christ.

As the Northeast run came to a close in Syracuse, N.Y., the largest crowd of the tour gathered to hear the Good News. One woman in her early 20s named Marion prayed with a trained volunteer following Franklin’s message. She was burdened by things she’d done in the past and had become disconnected from her family. It hadn’t occurred to Marion until that very night that Jesus Christ also cares about her situation. She realized she needed to not only apologize to her family,

**“The eyes of the
Lord are on the
righteous, and His
ears are open to
their prayers.”**

—1 PETER 3:12

you. If you don’t remember anything else I say tonight, remember this—God loves you. But you’ve gotta be born

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C.: People respond to worship during the Decision America Tar Heel State Tour.

DECISION AMERICA TOUR

2019

THOUSANDS COMMITTED THEIR LIVES TO
JESUS CHRIST DURING THE NORTHEAST
AND TAR HEEL STATE TOURS.

ASHEVILLE, N.C.:
Franklin Graham calls
individuals to prayer and
repentance during the
Decision America Tour.

PORTLAND, MAINE: People
turned out in droves to hear the
Good News and pray during the
Decision America Tour.



INSET PHOTO | GREENVILLE, N.C.:
The Decision America Tour
uplifted children and adults alike.

but also repent before God.
Marion did just that.

All told, many thousands
of people came out to hear
the Good News of Jesus Christ,
and many more watched each
night by internet live stream.
We give thanks to God for each
individual who made the life-
changing decision to repent of
their sin and follow the Savior.

In October, Franklin Graham
traveled down south, across his
family's home state, to share
the Gospel. North Carolina has
long been thought of as part of
the Bible Belt, yet nearly half of
its residents believe good works
will get them into Heaven.

Nearly 2,000 churches worked
together to reach the lost in this
region. During the eight-city
Decision America Tar Heel State
Tour, Franklin clearly preached
that salvation is only *"by grace ...
through faith"* (Ephesians 2:8) in
Jesus Christ. These evangelistic
events took place in the pivotal
communities of Fayetteville,
Greenville, Wilmington,
Raleigh, Greensboro, Hickory,
Charlotte, and Asheville.

The tour began in Fayetteville
with a crowd that included
many families from Fort Bragg,
the largest U.S. military base.
Thousands heard about the
most courageous person who
has ever lived—Jesus Christ. A
short while later, a man named



WILMINGTON, N.C.: A prayer
volunteer leads a resident
of Wilmington through
Living in Christ.

David prayed with Franklin to
ask Christ to be his Lord and
Savior. "For one of the first times
in my life, ... I talked to Jesus
one-on-one," David revealed. He
explained that he looks forward
to living a new life with Him.

Marcus, who lives in Raleigh,
attended the Decision America
Tour stop in his city. After
Franklin finished preaching,
Marcus found a counselor
and shared that he was eager
to repent and serve Jesus
Christ as the Lord of his life.
Though he described himself
as religious, Marcus explained,
"I've needed to do this for a long
time." His joy was obvious as
he surrendered to God's Son.

The Tar Heel State Tour
wrapped up in front of several
thousand people from the

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that many who do not
know the Lord would attend
2020's Decision America
Tour events—and be drawn
to Jesus Christ by the Holy
Spirit. Pray also that the
evangelical churches in
each city would be bold in
sharing their faith in their
communities.

mountain city of Asheville.
That night Eva, one of the
counselors, was brought
to tears while speaking to
16-year-old Rachel. The teen
didn't know the meaning of
true love. Rachel had been
sexually assaulted by her best
friend's father. For so long, "love"
only made her feel shame. But
Rachel wanted to overcome
her past. When Franklin gave
the invitation to accept Christ,
she decided to grab hold of the
redemption that only Jesus
offers. She knew it would be a
long process, but with God's
help, her pain could be eased
and her soul could be cleansed.

"God knows all of our pain,"
Eva told Rachel. "He knows
everything that we're facing,
and He is the One who can
heal us. He's the One that
can fill the void." Amen.

By tour's end, tens of
thousands had attended,
filling fairgrounds, parks,
and stadiums. Many more
watched around the world
via live stream. Thousands of
individuals told us they made
eternal commitments to Jesus
Christ, from a Raleigh couple
in their mid-80s to a 5-year-
old boy in Greenville. They
responded in person, via live
stream, or by text. We give
all praise to God and rejoice
with Heaven for each one.

*"There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over
one sinner who repents."* —LUKE 15:10

SHINING THE LIGHT
OF

CHRIST

AROUND THE WORLD

CRUSADE MINISTRIES

2019

BANGKOK, THAILAND:

People flooded to the front in response to the Good News of Jesus Christ during the Amazing Love Festival.

Jesus said, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, ... out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." —JOHN 7:37-38



INSET PHOTO | PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA: Responding to the Gospel in prayer during the Love Phnom Penh Festival.

PERTH, AUSTRALIA: Franklin Graham preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ in six cities across Australia to mark the 60th anniversary of his father’s historic Crusades there.

CRUSADE MINISTRIES

2019

Nearly everyone everywhere is searching for the same thing. Cultures are different. Customs are different. Creeds are different. But there’s one common denominator. People are desperately seeking hope. And from the world’s perspective, hope is in very short supply. That’s why, for seven decades, BGEA’s Crusades have spanned the globe with one purpose—to proclaim the eternal hope found only in Jesus Christ. After each event, through our partnerships with local churches, newborn Christians are provided with solid Bible teaching and fellowship with mature believers to nurture discipleship.

FRANKLIN GRAHAM FESTIVALS

During 2019, thousands of churches partnered with BGEA for Franklin Graham Festivals in Bangkok, Thailand; Cúcuta, Colombia; and Phnom Penh, Cambodia—as well as the six-city Graham Tour across Australia. Franklin preached the Good News that “*the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men*” (Titus 2:11) to hundreds of thousands. After hearing the Gospel—in person or online via Festival streams—many of them professed faith in Jesus Christ.

Christians are a tiny two-percent minority in Thailand, and Buddhists there who become followers of Jesus are often ostracized by their family and friends. In January, Franklin Graham shared God’s love in Bangkok, the nation’s capital. Known for its temples and shrines, the city boasts a population of more than 8 million. We thank God that during the two-day Amazing Love Festival, tens of thousands heard the Good News. Many “*whose hearts God had touched*” (1 Samuel 10:26) repented and submitted their lives to

Jesus Christ.

A woman named Prija had been praying for a longtime friend from a Buddhist background and asked her to come to the Festival. When Franklin spoke about God’s mercy and offer of forgiveness, the friend felt a deep longing in her heart. She realized that no one else can truly forgive her of her sins. She went forward and talked for several minutes with a counselor. After she prayed, she turned to Prija, who was waiting nearby, and announced with a smile that as a new follower of Christ, she wanted to begin going to church with her.

don’t have a personal relationship with Jesus. Franklin Graham marked the 60th anniversary of his father’s historic visit by bringing an all-new Graham Tour to six Australian cities in February. In partnership with more than 1,400 churches, one-night Festivals took place in Perth, Darwin, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Adelaide, followed by two nights in Sydney.

Tens of thousands heard the Gospel during the Graham Tour. We praise God for each person who made a decision for Christ and will spend eternity with the Savior.

The tour made its first stop on Australia’s far west coast in Perth. When Franklin gave the invitation to repent and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord, hundreds headed to the front to talk and pray with our counselors. More than 45 percent of those who responded were age 25 and under.

Noelle was among those who made a decision in Perth. “Tonight, I knew I couldn’t be on the fence anymore,” she said after praying with a volunteer to receive Jesus. “I’m feeling refreshed.” The volunteer gave her BGEA’s discipleship

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life.”
—JOHN 6:35

In 1959, Billy Graham launched a tour of evangelistic events across Australia that had a major spiritual impact on countless people. Today, however, only 38 percent of Australians even call themselves Christians—the vast majority

CRUSADE MINISTRIES

2019

FRANKLIN GRAHAM SPREAD THE HOPE OF CHRIST DURING INTERNATIONAL OUTREACHES IN THAILAND, AUSTRALIA, COLOMBIA, AND CAMBODIA IN 2019.

CÚCUTA, COLOMBIA: Thousands hear the Good News of Jesus Christ at the Festival de Esperanza.

BANGKOK, THAILAND: Trained counselors share the Gospel with inquirers during the Amazing Love Festival.



INSET PHOTO | PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA: Praying in repentance and faith at the Love Phnom Penh Festival.

materials and arranged for follow-up by a church where she can grow in her faith.

Kadie—from Sierra Leone, West Africa—found what she was looking for at the Graham Tour’s Festival in Adelaide. Kadie, who had believed in God for a while, began taking her boys to church just months earlier. This night, as Franklin preached, she felt God stirring her heart to take the next step of faith. Her 10-year-old son Alex joined her when Franklin invited the lost to accept Christ. “I feel lighter,” Kadie said after praying in repentance and faith. “It was time to ask God for forgiveness. Everyone else will let you down, but He will never.” Not far away, a 25-year-old woman named Michelle had also come forward. “It feels like there is a whole weight lifted off my shoulders,” she said after confessing her sins and praying to receive Christ.

The Graham Tour came to a triumphant close during two meetings in Australia’s largest city, Sydney. “God will give you a new life, a new beginning, if you come to Him through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ,” Franklin told them. And they did come—several hundred—to find eternal redemption in Christ.

Yendi Benitez, who served as the office manager for the Graham Tour in Sydney, reported that her in-laws attended on the



PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA: Franklin Graham explains what it means to live in Christ during the Love Phnom Penh Festival.

first night and went forward to accept Jesus as their Lord. At Franklin’s invitation, they ran to their son, who was a counselor, and he was able to lead them to Christ. The following night, his sister drove three hours from Newcastle, and she also prayed to receive Christ in repentance and faith. “Being part of this Tour has been an incredible experience and a real blessing,” Benitez said. “And having three members in our family make a commitment has made the journey and the experience that much extra special.”

The city of Cúcuta, Colombia, is located on the border of Venezuela—a nation experiencing

“Many of those who heard the word believed.”

—ACTS 4:4

profound chaos. In April, Franklin visited Cúcuta to proclaim the eternal life found only in Jesus Christ. The two-day Festival de Esperanza welcomed an audience of almost

a hundred thousand and many publicly repented and made spiritual decisions for the Lord.

A separate dedication service and pre-Festival kids outreach was held before the event, and thousands gave their lives to Jesus.

For the past century, Cambodia’s Christians have experienced wave after wave of persecution. The country’s community of believers is growing, but approximately 98 percent of the population—over 16 million people—is still unreached in the traditionally Buddhist nation. Franklin preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Cambodia’s bustling capital city in December. The Love Phnom Penh Festival—the first such evangelistic event held in this nation with over 200 churches participating—took place over two days. Thousands attended and many decided to repent—including hundreds of children at a pre-Festival kids outreach.

WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATIONS

At the invitation of local pastors, Will Graham held several outreaches around the world in 2019—in Manila, Philippines; Kaua’i, Hawaii; Tirana, Albania; Helena, Hamilton, and Great Falls in Montana; and Baker Lake and Belleville in Canada. Tens of

thousands heard Will proclaim that “*God ... has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ*” (2 Corinthians 5:18). We praise God for those in attendance who repented and offered their lives to Christ. After watching Will’s Celebrations online, hundreds of others worldwide indicated that they confessed their sinfulness and committed themselves to the Savior.

Once a colony of Spain, the Philippines is deeply entrenched in church-based religion. However, only a tiny minority of Filipinos believe they are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone. In February, Will launched a nine-event campaign in the Philippines that started with a two-day Celebration in the city of Lingayen and ended with a three-day Celebration in the capital, Manila.

During the Greater Pangasinan Celebration in Lingayen, thousands heard the Gospel of grace. We praise God that many repented and said yes to new life, hope, and freedom with Jesus Christ. During one of Will’s invitations, the flood of inquirers filled the open area in front of the stage beyond capacity. There arose a commotion to the right as people broke through a barricade and were now rushing towards the side of the stage because there was no more room in the front. Such was their desire to know the



MANILA, PHILIPPINES:

An open heart receives the Gospel at the Greater Pangasinan-Metro Manila Celebration.

eternal hope of the Savior!

From there Will shared the Good News at outreaches for teens, government, military, law enforcement, and business leaders before concluding with the Metro Manila Celebration—which marked the first time that all three generations of Graham evangelists had preached from the same venue in the same city. The Manila Celebration-related events drew more than a hundred thousand people, and we thank God for those who made life-changing commitments to Jesus Christ.

“He has delivered us ... into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

—COLOSSIANS 1:13-14

The island of Kaua’i is the oldest of Hawaii’s inhabited islands. Over half its population claims no religion—and less than 10 percent believe that salvation comes through Christ’s efforts only. Hopelessness abounds on the island, with many people working multiple jobs to make ends meet. Will traveled to the Garden Isle

in May to proclaim the Good News during the three-day Kaua’i Celebration. Franklin Graham surprised attendees by making a guest appearance and presenting the Gospel message on the opening night. This would mark the first time father and son preached from the same platform. The Celebration drew thousands, with many making decisions for Christ in repentance and faith.

During one of the invitations, Denise, a counselor, stood near the front and prayed: *Let me be a vessel for You, Lord. Let me find the right person to talk with tonight.* As soon as she looked up, her eyes met those of a woman standing nearby. “Did you decide to follow Jesus Christ tonight?” Denise asked. “Yes!” the woman responded. The 54-year-old named Lisa repented and gave her life to the Savior. She had been going through difficulty and was looking for hope. “We’re going to meet and do a Bible study together, and I am going to drive her to church,” said Denise, who found out she lives across the street from Lisa. “That’s how God works. A divine appointment.”

In August, Will Graham traveled to Tirana, the capital city of Albania, for a one-night Celebration of Hope. No BGEA evangelist had ever preached in this formerly communist state. Back in 1968, this country declared itself the world’s first

CRUSADE MINISTRIES

2019

WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATIONS SHARED THE LOVE AND HOPE OF JESUS CHRIST FROM CANADA TO THE PHILIPPINES AND FAR BEYOND DURING THE YEAR.



TIRANA, ALBANIA: Thousands listen intently to Will Graham’s message of eternal transformation through Jesus Christ.

INSET PHOTO | GREAT FALLS, MONT.: “Either you’re going to accept Him or reject Him,” Will preached. “There is no neutral ground. What decision are you going to make?”



atheist nation. Since the downfall of communist rule in 1991, Islam has emerged as the most prominent religion there. Thousands came out to hear about God's love and the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ—and many Albanians publicly turned from their sins and gave their lives to Him.

Montana may be one of the most beautiful states in America, but it's also one of the most troubled. Almost half of its people have either left the church or never attended, and sadly, Montana has our country's worst suicide rate. In September, Will embarked on a three-city tour across western Montana called the Big Sky Celebration. Thousands of attendees in the communities of Helena, Hamilton, and Great Falls heard him preach *"the kingdom of God"* and teach *"the things*

which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence" (Acts 28:31).

A 30-year-old man named Harold had walked far from God for years. He had only been attending a local church's small group for a week when they invited him to a Big Sky Celebration outreach. During the service, Harold listened carefully to the Gospel message. When Will gave the invitation to receive Jesus Christ, Harold repentantly made his way forward. "I'm committing my full life to Christ now," he joyfully said. Hundreds of other Montanans shared with us that they, too, made eternal decisions for Christ. To God be all the glory!

In October, Will Graham shared God's life-changing message of love and redemption during

two Celebrations of Hope in Canada. Belleville, Ontario, and Baker Lake, Nunavut, are both towns desperate for the hope of Jesus Christ. Belleville has one of Canada's highest rates of hospitalization from opioids—five times higher than the nation's largest city, Toronto. Belleville's three-day Quinte Celebration of Hope welcomed several thousand people, and hundreds of Canadians made public declarations of faith in Christ.

In the small community of Baker Lake—1,500 miles to the north, near the Canadian Arctic—many Inuit residents struggle with poverty, substance abuse, domestic violence, and suicide. The two-night Baker Lake Celebration of Hope drew several hundred individuals, and more than one-third of them responded to the Gospel by openly repenting and placing their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord.



INSET PHOTO | MANILA, PHILIPPINES: Will Graham proclaimed the Good News during nine events for the Greater Pangasinan-Metro Manila Celebration.

ASSOCIATE EVANGELISTS

Once again during 2019, the locations and dates of BGEA Associate Evangelist Robert Cunville's Festivals remained cautiously under wraps until each event was about to take place. This practice continued due to escalating anti-Christian violence in India. Also as a result, many specifics about each outreach remain protected by local churches and this ministry.

Tensions in India increased further late in the year due to a controversial new law that offers citizenship to persecuted immigrants, unless they are Muslims. In many states, riots and protests took place throughout the remainder of 2019 and beyond. During the year, Robert Cunville traveled across the nation telling people about the eternal citizenship that is offered freely to everyone from all religious backgrounds. This gave thousands the opportunity to discover their place in Heaven through new faith in Jesus Christ. During 13 evangelistic events, more than a hundred thousand heard this Good News, and many repented of their sins and accepted Christ's invitation.

In Mexico, BGEA Associate Evangelist David Ruiz held three Festivals in 2019 with thousands attending. After hearing the Gospel, many confessed their sinfulness and placed their *"hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is abundant redemption"* (Psalm 130:7).

Ruiz held a three-day Festival in March in Iztapalapa, the most populated suburb of Mexico City. It's an extremely dangerous area due to drugs, gangs, and juvenile



INSET PHOTOS | INDIA AND MEXICO: BGEA associate evangelists Robert Cunville (top) and David Ruiz (bottom) held Festivals and evangelistic outreaches throughout the year.

three days in Monclova, a city in northern Mexico. This region has been overwhelmed with violence and other dangers from a cartel trying to take control of the area. We praise God that the Festival drew thousands of people. As the Gospel pierced hearts, many individuals openly gave their lives to Jesus Christ.

COUNSELING & FOLLOW-UP

BGEA places great importance on a person's spiritual growth after the moment of decision. During our Festivals and Celebrations, we give each person who responds to the Gospel discipleship materials and strive to connect them with a local Bible-based congregation. It is a priority for every one of our outreaches to encourage and strengthen the local church.

For more than 60 years, BGEA has used the Christian Life and Witness Course (CLWC) to train Christians to serve as counselors by helping them grow in their faith, learn to share it with others, and make disciples themselves. In 2019, CLWC was offered in 18 cities worldwide. Tens of thousands attended this free training. Through CLWC, many realized their own personal need for a relationship with Jesus Christ and submitted themselves to His Lordship. We also give thanks to God that at least 19,000 participants volunteered to serve as counselors during the Festivals and Celebrations.

delinquency. While it's a very religious region, evangelicals and other Protestants account for only six percent of the community. Crowds of thousands attended the event, and hundreds turned to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith. Ruiz returned to the Mexico City area in June for a three-day festival in the township of Alvaro Obregon, which faces many of the same problems as Iztapalapa. After hearing the Gospel, hundreds of people placed their faith in Christ.

In November, the evangelist preached the Good News during

PRAYER REQUEST:

Please ask God to draw lost people to Himself during BGEA's Festivals and Celebrations in 2020—that many men, women, and children will *"hear the word, accept it, and bear fruit"* (MARK 4:20).

"There is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." —ACTS 4:12

BELOW | GREAT FALLS, MONT.: The life-changing Gospel of God's grace is proclaimed at one of the three stops during the Big Sky Celebration across Montana.



DISCOVER THE WONDER OF HIS PRESENCE



BILLY GRAHAM TRAINING CENTER AT THE COVE: Believers have the opportunity to strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ through seminars, retreats, and concerts.

INSET PHOTO | SEMINARS: Visitors spend time in God's Word during seminars taught by Christian leaders like Erwin Lutzer, R.T. Kendall, and Anne Graham Lotz.

BILLY GRAHAM TRAINING CENTER AT THE COVE

2019

More than three decades have passed since God gave Billy and Ruth Bell Graham a shared vision for The Cove. Mr. Graham anticipated the mountain retreat would be a place for believers to study the Word of God and seek Him in prayer. Mrs. Graham pictured a haven of respite—an escape from the distractions of the world where people could rest in Scripture and refresh their spirits. Together their visions merged into the mission statement that greets each visitor who enters The Cove today: “Training people in God’s Word to win others to Christ.”

Followers of Jesus traveled from all over the world to The Cove seeking spiritual renewal in 2019—from exhausted believers who left reinvigorated, to weary pastors who renewed their calling, and vulnerable couples whose broken marriages were restored through the power of the Holy Spirit and His Word.

Programed events at The Cove included Biblically based three-day seminars, intensive five-day seminars, worshipful concerts, and Personal Spiritual Retreats. The Cove also offered Pastor Renewal Retreats, Military Marriage Retreats, and Gold Star Wives Retreats free of charge (including the program, food, and lodging).

“You have made a very wise investment into the lives that are currently serving Jesus Christ,” said one Pastor Renewal Retreat attendee. “Many pastors financially could never afford such a wonderful experience as you have shared with us. The lasting effects will bring the most dividends—people won to Jesus Christ because their pastor has been renewed in spirit.”

In August, Anne Graham Lotz and her daughter Rachel-

Ruth Wright co-led a seminar on the topic of “Leaving a Godly Legacy in an Ungodly World.” This marked Anne’s first public speaking engagement since her cancer diagnosis. In 1993 at The Cove’s dedication, Ruth Bell Graham prayed that the site would be a place for retreat, rest, relaxation, and renewal—a refuge where people could meet with the Lord Jesus Christ. She could not have imagined how abundantly God would answer that prayer even for her own daughter. Anne returned to The Cove in November to teach on the topic, “Jesus in Me.” Hundreds of guests attended Anne’s two seminars, and nearly 3,000 participated via live stream.

The Cove offered 163

programed events with over 21,000 participants in 2019. We give God thanks for the over 3,000 life-changing decisions recorded here in 2019. These ranged from decisions for Christ to new ministry, career, and family commitments.

The Training Center also welcomed nearly 100 different Guest Groups from 14 states, who held their own ministry events—more than 10,000 individuals participated in these. In total, The Cove hosted almost 300 individual events with a combined attendance of more than 31,000 participants.

In addition to the guests attending events at The Cove, over 15,000 visitors stopped by Chatlos Memorial Chapel to tour the facilities and learn more about the life and ministry of Billy and Ruth Bell Graham. Many went upstairs to the Prayer Room to quietly approach “*the throne of grace*” (Hebrews 4:16). In all, more than 43,000 guests visited The Cove during 2019. Along the way, The Cove’s intercessory prayer team had the privilege of praying for over 46,000 requests that were submitted to us.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for all the men and women visiting The Cove this year. Ask God to restore their spirits and strengthen them to tell others about His truth when they leave.

“You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy.” —PSALM 16:11

BRINGING COMFORT

IN THE NAME OF

CHRIST



LEE COUNTY, ALA.: BG-RRT chaplains minister in Lee County, Ala., after deadly tornadoes claimed 23 lives and damaged hundreds of homes in March 2019.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MINISTRY: BG-RRT chaplains offer opportunities for officers—and their spouses—to come together for prayer and spiritual renewal.

BILLY GRAHAM RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

2019

The Billy Graham Rapid Response Team (BG-RRT) deploys chaplains in the aftermath of a disaster to care for the emotional and spiritual needs of people in crisis—and equips others to do the same through Christ-centered training.

“Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:9). Trusting this promise from the One who never changes, nearly 800 BG-RRT chaplains faithfully deployed to 44 disaster sites across the U.S. during 2019. They responded to fires, hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, shootings, and more. We also flew chaplains to the devastated Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian. All combined, our chaplains personally prayed with over 43,000 individuals by year’s end. As the chaplains brought God’s love into battered communities and broken hearts, more than 1,000 people decided to *“rest [their] hope fully upon the grace ... of Jesus Christ”* (1 Peter 1:13) and surrendered their lives to Him.

After Hurricane Dorian pummeled the Bahamas in September, one of the chaplains deployed there met a man struggling with depression. Tate had lost a loved one and his fishing boat—his main source of income—in the storm. He said he felt like no one cared about him. The chaplain assured him of the love of the Lord *“from everlasting to*

everlasting” (Psalm 103:17). Tate listened, but wasn’t ready to receive Jesus Christ. A few days later, the chaplain returned to check on him. He was still struggling, but God had softened his heart. Tate was eager to hear more and then joyfully prayed to surrender his life to the Savior.

With training invitations received from multiple countries, BG-RRT trained

also equipped more than 600 individuals during trainings in the Bahamas and Costa Rica.

During the year, BG-RRT hosted our annual National Law Enforcement Retreats at The Cove in Asheville, N.C., and in Horseshoe Bay, Texas, to minister to nearly 500 officers and their spouses. Martin, a police corporal in Florida, and his wife, Melissa, attended the retreat at The Cove. Connecting with other officers who were open about their deepest struggles encouraged Martin: “Just to see cops get up here in front of all these guys they don’t know and be able to share, it’s amazing. This is monumental for me.” Melissa added, “This is life-changing.”

The Billy Graham Rapid Response Team’s law enforcement ministry continued to grow in 2019 as we hosted a special retreat for police chiefs, sheriffs, and their spouses to Biblically address the tremendous challenges unique to their leadership positions. BG-RRT also provided family and spouse ministry, which includes emotional and spiritual care to wives following a critical incident and Biblical teaching at the retreats to equip them for marital and family challenges.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that the hearts of those affected by crisis would be open to the peace that only God can provide. Pray also that the Lord would strengthen the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team as they comfort the hurting.

more than 1,000 people across the U.S. for grief ministry in 2019 through seminars, conferences, and crisis response briefings. The ministry continued to grow as we welcomed over 300 new chaplain volunteers. BG-RRT’s American team

“Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you.” —PSALM 55:22

AN EXTRAORDINARY



JOURNEY

STARTS HERE



CHRISTMAS AT THE LIBRARY:

Thousands of people visit the Library each December to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ—and many come to faith in Him during their time there.

THE JOURNEY OF FAITH TOUR: Guests discover how God used one humble man to reach millions of people with His Gospel as they watch moving presentations and browse fascinating memorabilia.

BILLY GRAHAM LIBRARY

2019

The Billy Graham Library has been rated the “No. 1 thing to do in Charlotte” on TripAdvisor for almost six years now. As guests tour the Library’s grounds, they explore Billy Graham’s childhood home, the Memorial Prayer Garden, and the main facility—which features photo galleries, memorabilia, inspiring short films, and more. At every turn, this 40,000-square-foot experience compels visitors to prayerfully consider the same Good News of Jesus Christ that the evangelist faithfully proclaimed throughout his life.

Offering free admission, the Billy Graham Library welcomed more than 177,000 guests from 74 countries in 2019. The Library continued to create evangelistic opportunities through several programs, including the Ladies’ Tea & Tour, military appreciation, law enforcement appreciation, *Bikers With Boxes*, the Men’s Dinner, Ladies’ Night Out, and *Christmas at the Library*—which alone drew more than 37,000 guests between Dec. 2–23. We also hosted book signings with Will Graham—for his first book, *Redeemed: Devotions for the Longing Soul*—and with hero airline pilot Captain Tammie Jo Shults.

Anne Graham Lotz spent a day in Charlotte for three Library events in October to launch her newest book, *Jesus in Me: Experiencing the Holy Spirit as a Constant Companion*. She did a live audience interview with SiriusXM® satellite radio, took part in a meet and greet with dozens of readers, and enjoyed a sold-out dinner-with-the-author event.

During the year, BGEA announced that the Billy Graham Archives at Wheaton College would be consolidated and relocated to the Billy Graham

Library. We began preparing for the addition of the Billy Graham Archive and Research Center, which will be another important way to proclaim the Gospel through the Library.

In 2019, nearly 140,000 of the Library’s guests experienced *The Journey of Faith* tour, which creatively retraces Billy Graham’s life and ministry. Our trained volunteers and BG-RRT chaplains prayed with more than 9,000 visitors, including nearly 2,000 people who made decisions for

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray that hearts would be drawn to Jesus Christ as people experience the Billy Graham Library. Ask God to use the galleries, exhibits, tour, and children’s activities to transform lives with the Good News of God’s grace.

Jesus Christ in repentance and faith. Almost 1,000 of these were first-time commitments. “*The gospel of Christ ... is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes*” (Romans 1:16), and we praise Him for all those who made the decision to put their

trust in Jesus as Lord and Savior.

God moved in the hearts of both young and old during the year. At one point in the summer, a group of 13 international students working at the nearby amusement park Carowinds visited the Library. When they heard the Good News, nine of them openly repented and surrendered their lives to Christ.

Musa, an 84-year-old man originally from the Middle East, confessed his sinfulness and came to Christ during his own trip to the Library. He also made the decision to forgive his brother after years of bitterness and hatred.

Another visitor, a little girl named Emily, came to the Library with her grandmother. After completing the tour, she walked with her grandmother to the car but then asked to go back inside because she had one more question. Emily walked through the front doors, found one of our volunteers and asked, “Do you really believe God can forgive all sin?” The volunteer answered her question and told her about the life-changing power of Jesus Christ. Young Emily said she wanted to put her trust in the Lord for the forgiveness of sins and her eternal future.

“They were all amazed at the majesty of God.” —LUKE 9:43

REACHING THE LOST

IN ALL WALKS OF

LIFE

SEARCH FOR JESUS: This online Gospel ministry reaches people across the globe—many of whom live in places hostile to traditional evangelism. Thousands have made decisions for Jesus Christ during live chats with trained volunteers and through online discipleship courses.

The 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 and let us know.

SEARCH FOR JESUS

2019

Since its launch in 2011, BGEA's *Search for Jesus* internet evangelism ministry has shared the Good News with more than 77.5 million website visitors from virtually every country. More than 14.2 million have indicated that they made life-changing decisions for Christ. Each one is offered the opportunity for one-on-one discipleship—to be mentored by one of our trained, online volunteers. To date, more than 2.2 million have provided their contact information to receive further guidance in their relationship with God and request help to find a local church.

Search for Jesus is ministering around the globe in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Korean, and Chinese. During 2019, Noelle was one of nearly 9.3 million visitors who used their smartphones or computers to explore the message of the Gospel on our internet evangelism ministry sites. After an online chat volunteer answered her spiritual questions, Noelle passed along fantastic news: "I have surrendered my life and asked Jesus to come into my heart. ... I asked Him to be my Savior and let the Holy Spirit guide me."

Matari, who lives in Australia and described himself as an agnostic, had been struggling with questions about life's purpose when he decided to pray for the first time. "I was instantly filled with joy and meaning," he shared. "I am the biggest skeptic but I know God spoke to me, and I have spoken to Him every day since." After praying, Matari looked to the internet for answers about his experience and found the *Search for Jesus* website, PeaceWithGod.net. He learned about the Good News, and immediately prayed to surrender his life to Jesus Christ in repentance and faith.

Throughout the year, more than 1.6 million people like Matari and Noelle indicated a commitment to Christ, and nearly 307,000 shared their contact information

"Behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb." —REVELATION 7:9

for discipleship materials. BGEA's follow-up websites, where people learn how to live daily in a relationship with God, exceeded 1 million website page views for the first time this year.

Like all BGEA ministries, *Search for Jesus* partners with and trains volunteers from the

local church to minister to those responding to the Gospel. Almost 1,000 volunteers from nine countries invested nearly 125,000 hours combined in personal one-on-one ministry during 2019. They mentored over 17,000 students enrolled in discipleship courses, sent more than 135,000 personal email responses, held nearly 44,000 online chats, and sent over 21,000 Facebook Messenger and text messages in response to spiritual questions.

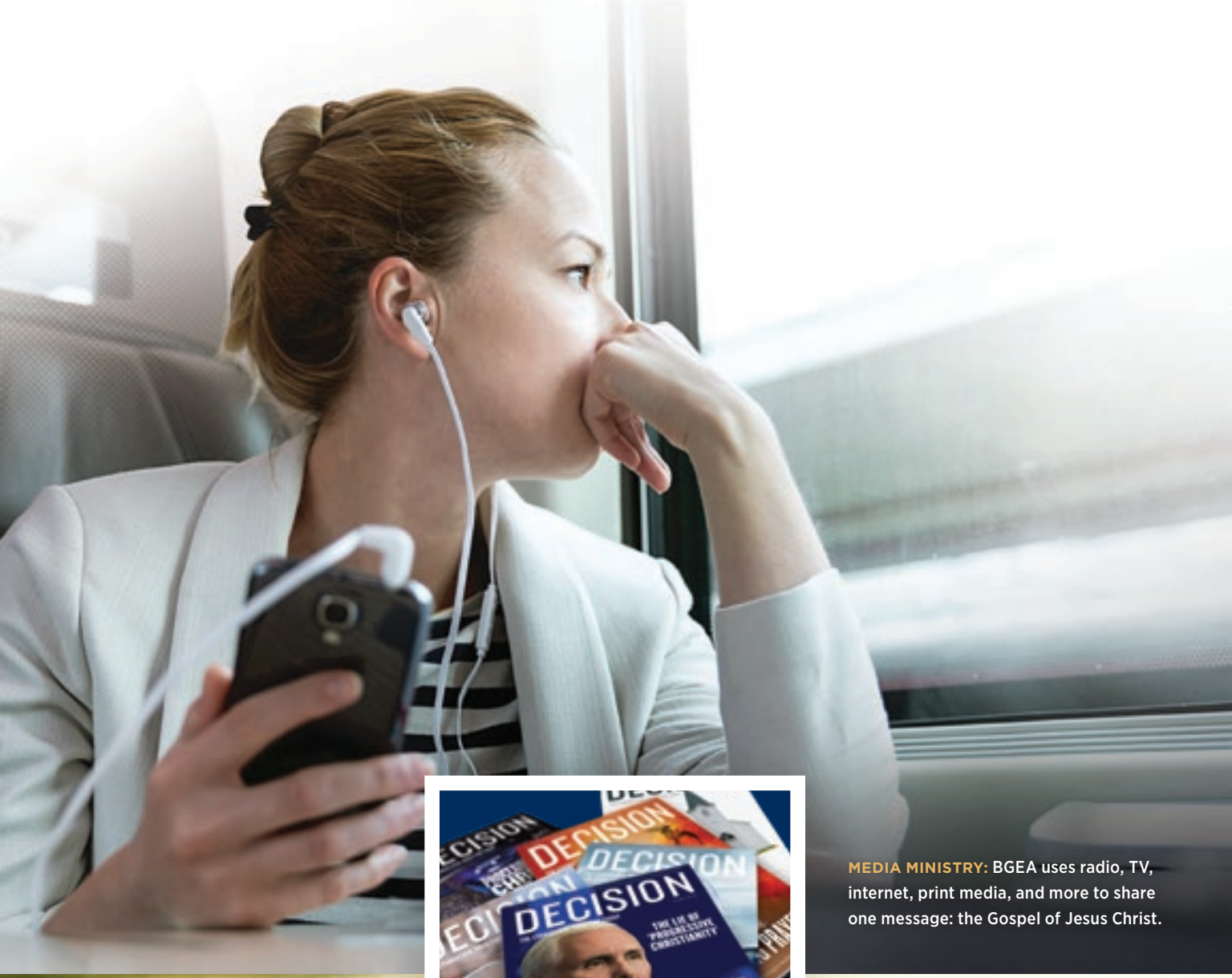
Search for Jesus experienced significant momentum with our Korean and Arabic ministries in 2019. Our Korea outreach launched in June, ministered to 23,000 website visitors by year's end, and prepared to support the 2020 Franklin Graham Festival in Seoul. The Arabic ministry held more than 3,000 online conversations with individuals in Iraq and the Middle East—a 150 percent increase over 2018. Eighty-five individuals from the region openly repented and professed new faith in Jesus Christ.

Outreach event follow-up is also a part of the *Search for Jesus* ministry. Discipleship volunteers followed up with thousands of people who chose to text in at Decision America Tour events.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Pray for the men, women, and children making commitments to Christ through *Search for Jesus*—especially those who live in countries where their faith in Him may put them in danger. Ask God to encourage and strengthen these brothers and sisters.

DECLARING THE TRUTH OF JESUS CHRIST TO MILLIONS



MEDIA MINISTRY: BGEA uses radio, TV, internet, print media, and more to share one message: the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

DECISION MAGAZINE: In 2019, *Decision* magazine was distributed to readers in 76 countries, sharing the Gospel and strengthening believers across the globe.

MEDIA MINISTRY

2019

BGEA has strived to share the Gospel by every effective means possible since 1950. Inspired by God's promise that the Good News will be preached in all the world before Christ's return, we use proven technology to reach "*all the families of the nations*" (Psalm 22:27) with the hope of His salvation.

DECISION MAGAZINE

Each month, *Decision* features evangelistic articles that call people to follow Jesus, discipleship messages from respected Christian leaders to equip believers to stand strong for God's truth, and Biblically-based analysis of critical issues facing the church.

"The Evangelical Voice for Today" printed nearly 4.8 million copies during 2019, taking the Good News of Jesus Christ to readers in 76 countries. On average, nearly 16,000 copies of each issue were sent in bulk to chaplains at prisons and jails across the United States. More than 300 Braille copies and over 200 audio versions for the blind were also produced each month.

In April, *Decision* launched **DecisionMagazine.com**, a new website which features all the content of the print magazine plus daily news articles on issues that are especially pertinent to evangelicals. By the end of the year, the site had received more than 660,000 page views.

Decision's weekly email devotional went to more than 50,000 people on average during 2019, with an open rate of 28 percent—surpassing the nonprofit industry standard of 24 percent.

"This magazine is such a pleasure to read, and I learn a great deal from it," wrote a reader named Elizabeth. "It's also very comforting and inspiring. I anxiously look forward to each and every issue."

David, another, stated, "I just read [Franklin Graham's] article in the October 2019 *Decision* magazine titled: 'In Changing Times: The Word of God Never Changes.' I just want to tell you that was a great—and powerful—article. ... You nailed it. Every church and every preacher and every

**"Pray ... for those
who will believe
in Me through
their word."**

—JOHN 17:20

Christian in America needs to hear what you said."

Nick wrote, "I appreciate receiving your magazine each month. It is so good that I just cannot throw it in the trash. So I leave each copy in a different public location, hoping it will be read by someone needing encouragement or guidance. I leave it to God to

use it to reach out, influence, or comfort someone."

INTERNET

Through email communication, websites, social media, and digital apps, BGEA continued to expand its reach in 2019 to "*boldly ... make known the mystery of the gospel*" (Ephesians 6:19). In addition to the *Search for Jesus* ministry, our other sites—including **BillyGraham.org**, **BillyGrahamLibrary.org**, **TheCove.org**, and **DecisionAmericaTour.com**—drew nearly 32.3 million pageviews from over 200 countries and territories.

Our website traffic was fueled by strong online demand for our *Daily Devotion*, *My Answer*, and *Grow Your Faith* resources. Ten million users accessed **BillyGraham.org**, consuming more than 25 million pages of content in 2019.

"I am grateful to discover the Billy Graham site," wrote a woman named Trish. "There are questions I've struggled with for years, but now I am finding wonderful Bible references that help me understand."

Three out of every four

MEDIA MINISTRY

2019

DECISION MAGAZINE:
Decision equips and encourages readers to stand strong for Biblical truth.

“I am grateful to discover the Billy Graham site. There are questions I’ve struggled with for years, but now I am finding wonderful Bible references that help me understand.” —TRISH, A BillyGraham.org viewer

BILLYGRAHAM.ORG:
In addition to featuring updates on what God is doing through this Gospel ministry around the world, BillyGraham.org offers Biblical spiritual growth resources.

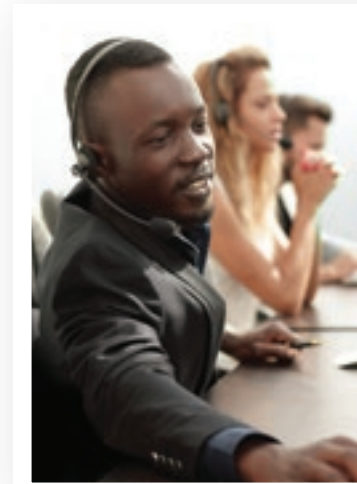
people engaged our websites on a mobile device. All BGEA ministry content and events were made available for all devices from streaming TVs and desktop computers to laptops, tablets, and phones.

BGEA provided original real-time reporting via the web and email to update our prayer partners and donors on evangelistic activities during the year. Our various digital channels also helped facilitate millions of ministry-oriented conversations.

During 2019, BGEA utilized Facebook Live to stream Franklin Graham Festivals and Will Graham Celebrations around the globe. Hundreds of thousands of viewers from over 40 nations watched these 11 evangelistic events online. The coverage also garnered important prayer support for each outreach. “Praying lost souls will be saved and accept Jesus as their Savior tonight,” Steve and Audra Evans commented on Facebook as they watched a Festival.

BGEA’s social media presence grew to 9.4 million likes/followers/subscribers across our 27 different accounts during the year, and BGEA’s Facebook reach totaled 96.7 million combined users, thanks to people sharing our posts. Our YouTube channel generated more than 8 million views during the year, while over 41,000 new users subscribed to it. Billy Graham Classics, television programs that re-air vintage Billy Graham Crusade sermons, were shared every Monday on Facebook Premiere and YouTube. More than 800,000 viewings of those messages occurred in 2019.

After watching online, a Billy



RESPONDING ONE-ON-ONE: The Christian Response Team answers phone calls from people with spiritual questions and points them to the answers found only in God’s Word.

Graham Classic viewer named Tom commented, “I just put my faith in Jesus Christ to be born again.”

“Holy Spirit, please forgive me. I’m a sinner,” wrote another, Charlie.

Edgar watched a Classic and then commented online, “I am rededicating my life to God tonight—I want Him to give me a pure heart in my walk with Him. May I be a blessing to my Lord instead of a stumbling block. I pray that the Lord will forgive me from all my sins and direct my paths daily. Amen.”

During the year, videos posted to the BGEA and Billy Graham Facebook pages generated more than 12 million views combined.

“Rest your hope fully upon the grace ... of Jesus Christ.”

—1 PETER 1:13

CHRISTIAN RESPONSE

Each day, people seeking spiritual answers or simple words of comfort call and speak one-on-one with BGEA’s trained representatives who share God’s love through His Word. Whether fielding prayer requests, leading people to salvation, or answering questions about evangelistic events, our Christian Response ministry answered more than 273,000 phone calls, letters, and emails during 2019. In many cases Biblical resources and materials are provided to help direct the inquirer toward the truth found only in Jesus Christ.

Christian Response’s incoming phone calls increased by more than 1,000 over the previous year to total nearly 135,000 in 2019. Spiritual calls were primarily from viewers of BGEA’s TV Specials and the Billy Graham Classics as well as from listeners to the ministry’s radio stations and broadcasts. People also contacted BGEA using our website, and our representatives responded to more than 36,000 individual emails and answered nearly 12,000 letters.

In addition to our in-house phone representatives, at least 900 trained volunteers served at BGEA’s 33 call centers around the country. In 2019, our representatives and volunteers prayed with individuals during more than 46,000 incoming calls. We praise God that over 7,000 of the calls led to life changing decisions for Jesus Christ.

BGEA’s in-house call center representatives also made more than 74,000 outbound phone calls to our donors and friends to share the Good News of what the ministry was doing throughout the year.

TELEVISION AND VIDEO

During 2019, BGEA produced hundreds of television programs and online videos to share the Good News of God’s love, show what He is doing around the world, and help equip churches and individuals for proclamation evangelism. These included three new episodes of the internationally broadcast monthly TV Specials, which show the power of the Gospel changing people’s hearts and lives—and reveal the reach of BGEA’s ministry work. The programs aired on Christian cable networks and select TV affiliates and through our websites, social media, and digital platforms such as Roku.

In February, BGEA released our 2018-produced film *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* to 65 million Netflix subscribers. The documentary continued to be distributed via DVD and Digital HD throughout 2019.

“This ... is so inspirational that I watch it over and over again,” wrote a viewer named CeCe.

Responded another, Melanie, “Just watched *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* on Netflix, based off Dave Ramsey’s recommendation. He was right, what an amazing documentary!”

Don and Leanne Mills wrote, “Praying that we all would be [compelled] by this man’s life as he was [compelled] by the life of Jesus, and that as a generation we would be truly transformed and show the world the saving power of our God!”

Our production team continued updating and distributing Billy Graham Classics during the year. The programs were broadcast worldwide on various Christian

“The Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.”
—MATTHEW 18:11

networks and digital platforms. BGEA also released 12 World Wide Pictures films and 12 Billy Graham Classics to the Amazon platform in Digital HD for streaming, rental, and download. This BGEA content was streamed more than 720,000 combined hours by year’s end. We also continued to provide BGEA video content to other digital streaming and on-demand viewing platforms such as Roku, Pureflix, RightNow Media, and Christian Cinema.

ONLINE EVANGELISM TRAINING

For BGEA’s entire history, our evangelism and discipleship ministry has worked to support and strengthen the local church. Today, people around the globe can learn and use BGEA’s time-tested principles through one of our online training programs, resulting in a furtherance of God’s kingdom and 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.

BGEA’s first course, The School of Evangelism Online (SOE), was offered through our website again this year to individuals and groups—and as a part of the Distance Learning program at Liberty University. This resulted in almost 500 new enrollments, bringing the total number trained to more than 5,000 since inception. Scholarships and funding for international and domestic participants continue to be available.

“I am thankful I found this course and have the opportunity to take it,” wrote an SOE participant. “It has helped me extremely in the advancement with God’s Word. It has given me confidence and encouragement to move forward with the Lord.”

The adult and student versions of the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team’s seminar *Sharing Hope in Crisis* (SHIC) continue to be among our most popular online offerings. It was also used by BGEA’s Church Ministry department—which oversees the Decision America Tours—to further train its volunteers and regional managers. SHIC and Student SHIC had more than 800 enrollments in 2019 bringing the total enrollments since first being offered to nearly 3,000 participants. Interest in our group option for this course continues to grow as crisis chaplains and

ONLINE EVANGELISM TRAINING: Time-tested evangelism and discipleship training is offered online to help equip Christians reach others with the Good News of Jesus Christ.



TV AND VIDEO: BGEA programs featuring a clear presentation of the Gospel are broadcast through Christian cable networks, TV affiliates, social media, and other digital platforms.

“Just watched *Billy Graham: An Extraordinary Journey* on Netflix, based off Dave Ramsey’s recommendation. He was right, what an amazing documentary!”
—MELANIE

first responders utilize it in their ongoing training and ministries.

“I will absolutely be recommending this course to my fellow classmates in our Crisis Response and Trauma masters program!” stated a SHIC enrollee.

ReIgnite—the online version of the Christian Life and Witness Course—had almost 100 new participants during the year and reached nearly 900 total participants since its launch.

One ReIgnite student wrote, “One of the best courses I have ever had the honor to take for advancing the kingdom of God. It leaves nothing out!”

Two courses—*Back to the Basics* by Dr. Howard Hendricks and *Lost Secrets of Powerful Lives* by Ron Hutchcraft—helped almost 100 participants discover 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.

“I have been looking for courses like this one and the next several that I am going to take with the Billy Graham

Training Center that are highly informative along with affordable costs,” wrote a *Back to the Basics* participant. “The lay person just cannot afford a lot of these other courses that are out there. ... I am very grateful that after my wife and I stayed at The Cove for a retreat, we found these.”

AUDIO AND BLUE RIDGE BROADCASTING

BGEA continued to use radio and on-demand internet audio in 2019 to broadcast the message of Jesus Christ—“*that everyone who ... believes in Him may have everlasting life*” (John 6:40). Our means to do so expanded with the launch of a podcast hosted by Franklin Graham’s daughter. The purpose of *Fearless with Cissie Graham Lynch* is to challenge followers of Jesus to practice fearless faith in a compromising culture.

“Because of listening to you, Cissie, I’m more bold about—in your words, ‘less ashamed of’—sharing the Gospel!”

commented one subscriber.

Fearless is the second podcast to be produced by BGEA, following *GPS: God. People. Stories*. Every episode of the weekly *GPS* tells the story of God’s remarkable work in someone’s life, followed by an invitation to listeners to surrender their lives to Christ.

A woman named Ella let us know how thrilled she was to learn that her 24-year-old son also listens regularly. “Thank you from the bottom of my heart for creating a positive, non-pressure way to lead people to God,” she wrote. “We are hooked!”

The Billy Graham Channel on SiriusXM® satellite radio channel 460 is produced by BGEA. We added special programming to its lineup of round-the-clock messages from Billy Graham. In October, we aired *From The Library: A Conversation with Anne Graham Lotz* (see Billy Graham Library report on page 25). In December, the channel promoted the Billy Graham Library’s annual celebration by airing *Christmas*

From the Billy Graham Library. These two-hour programs, which aired for six consecutive evenings before Christmas, mixed stories from Library guests with Christmas-themed messages from Mr. Graham.

“I just want to thank you for this powerful ministry!” wrote one SiriusXM® listener. “I listen almost daily, and I love that it is a solid resource I can refer others to—to help them on their journey.”

The radio feature *Billy Graham Minute* challenges the listener to begin or deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, directing them to God’s Word and BGEA’s online resources for those seeking His truth. The 15 features each month present Biblical truth from the messages of Billy Graham with select features also presenting teachings from Franklin Graham. *Billy Graham Minute* is heard on more than 700 U.S. and Canadian radio stations, which air them free of charge for BGEA!

In addition to BGEA’s web and social media pages, platforms used to share our audio content include the Billy Graham app, Amazon and Google smart speakers, the iHeartRadio app, Spotify, and our weekly e-mail, *Weekend Encouragement*.

“I would like to thank you for the *Weekend Encouragements*,” wrote Ann. “I have learned a lot and, thanks to you and the sermons, I feel I have become a stronger Christian.”

Blue Ridge Broadcasting (BRB) is the listener-supported corporation founded by Billy Graham to operate our regional

“I thank you very much because your music and Christian messages are helping me share the Good News of Jesus Christ.”
—The Light FM app listener

radio station, The Light FM. From studios on the grounds of the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove, The Light FM is heard across a 42,000 square-mile region of North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and portions of four adjoining states. The radio station ministers to its nearly 400,000 weekly listeners by encouraging them through faith-fueled music and Bible teaching to have a personal, dynamic relationship with Christ, and to support evangelistic and service efforts that present the truth and hope of Jesus Christ.

During 2019, The Light FM served a number of area ministries by inviting listeners to learn of their work and provide support for their mission objectives. These on-air events resulted in more

than 70,000 meals being served at seven Christ-centered rescue missions in the area and almost 2,000 ultrasounds being provided at seven crisis pregnancy centers across the listening area.

“Everywhere I go, you are there,” wrote one The Light FM app listener. “I thank you very much because your music and Christian messages are helping me share the Good News of Jesus Christ, encouraged by [the messages of] Pastors Greg Laurie, Chip Ingram, and Dr. David Jeremiah. The station helps me sow seeds of hope with those with whom I share the word of God or a prayer or encouragement to make the step of faith. I thank God He put your good work in my path.”

When BRB purchased a translator station on 94.9 FM along with WSMX 1500 AM during the year, The Light FM added Winston-Salem—North Carolina’s fifth largest city—to its seven-state broadcast area. Our other locations on radio are 106.9 FM for in and around Asheville, Charlotte, Hickory, the South Carolina Upstate, and the Tri-Cities of Tennessee and Virginia; 106.7 FM for the Knoxville area; and 101.3 FM for Franklin and Cherokee in far-western North Carolina.

We are honored to report that the Christian Music Broadcasters presented its 2019 Major Market Station of the Year award to The Light FM at its annual convention in Orlando.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Please pray that God will continue to increase the reach of BGEA’s media ministry globally. Most of all, pray that He will use our audio and TV programs and our print and online resources to draw many lost souls to His Son.



THE LIGHT FM: This radio ministry—founded by Billy Graham—broadcasts Bible teaching and Christian music to listeners in a seven-state region and around the world through its website.

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

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents
Accounts receivable, net
Contributions receivable, net
Inventories
Prepaid expenses and other current assets

\$ 53,658,531
4,124,426
772,341
506,410
2,210,545
61,272,253

\$ 40,022,876
3,026,177
2,079,876
554,446
2,331,148
48,014,523

Property and equipment, net
of accumulated depreciation

54,166,405

55,068,472

Investments:

Investments functioning as endowments
Other long-term investments
Deferred giving program

238,083,080
29,679,372
97,040,629
364,803,081

201,245,996
25,176,978
88,118,295
314,541,269

Beneficial interest in remainder trusts

3,234,996

2,363,890

Other assets

2,297,800

1,926,800

Total assets

\$ 485,774,535

\$ 421,914,954

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:

Accounts payable
Accrued expenses
Deferred revenue
Deferred giving program

\$ 3,767,974
3,267,413
2,155,673
69,686,661
78,877,721

\$ 2,725,511
2,791,348
2,333,899
65,535,396
73,386,154

Total liabilities

Net assets:

Without donor restrictions:

Charitable gift annuities
Undesignated
Investment in property and equipment
Designated by governing board for endowment

20,956,717
70,815,586
54,166,405
211,092,961
357,031,669

17,023,687
56,036,011
55,068,472
178,550,434
306,678,604

Total without donor restrictions

With donor restrictions

49,865,145

41,850,196

Total net assets

406,896,814

348,528,800

Total liabilities and net assets

\$ 485,774,535

\$ 421,914,954

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF
ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019, WITH SUMMARIZED
COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2018

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION & CONSOLIDATED ORGANIZATIONS

2019

WITHOUT DONOR
RESTRICTIONS

WITH DONOR
RESTRICTIONS

TOTAL

2018 TOTAL

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Support and revenue:

Contributions	\$ 98,488,711	\$ 24,132,158	\$ 122,620,869	\$ 113,934,018
Billy Graham Training Center	7,952,243	-	7,952,243	7,569,305
<i>Decision</i> magazine and other evangelistic materials	2,075,755	-	2,075,755	2,288,840
Other income	8,043,479	-	8,043,479	9,920,903
Net assets released from restrictions	21,190,657	(21,190,657)	-	-
Total support and revenue	137,750,845	2,941,501	140,692,346	133,713,066

Operating expenses:

Ministry expenses:

Evangelistic crusades	25,994,215	-	25,994,215	20,484,900
Decision America Tour	17,268,976	-	17,268,976	13,122,493
Billy Graham Training Center	11,445,245	-	11,445,245	11,340,151
Billy Graham Library	8,059,613	-	8,059,613	7,642,487
Print and internet	6,256,408	-	6,256,408	7,456,658
Radio	4,436,709	-	4,436,709	4,362,569
<i>Search for Jesus</i>	6,565,005	-	6,565,005	5,649,723
<i>Decision</i> magazine	4,498,772	-	4,498,772	4,989,365
Church ministry	2,282,094	-	2,282,094	4,390,168
Billy Graham Rapid Response Team	4,604,851	-	4,604,851	3,857,037
Television and film	5,571,980	-	5,571,980	3,115,157
Other evangelistic ministry	8,549,469	-	8,549,469	15,106,648
Total ministry expenses	105,533,337	-	105,533,337	101,517,356

Support activities:

Fundraising	7,604,910	-	7,604,910	6,861,079
General and administrative	13,493,034	-	13,493,034	11,978,570
Total operating expenses	126,631,281	-	126,631,281	120,357,005

Change in net assets from operations	11,119,564	2,941,501	14,061,065	13,356,061
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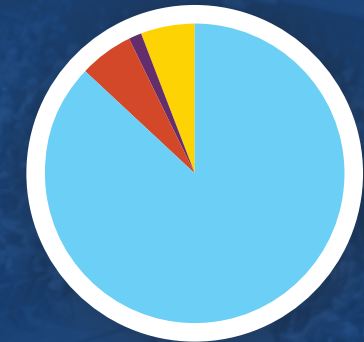
NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES

Investment return	35,708,916	4,486,213	40,195,129	(11,665,879)
Change in value of annuities and trusts	3,436,590	552,929	3,989,519	(1,163,967)
Other nonoperating income	87,995	34,306	122,301	270,891
Total nonoperating activities	39,233,501	5,073,448	44,306,949	(12,558,955)

Change in net assets	50,353,065	8,014,949	58,368,014	797,106
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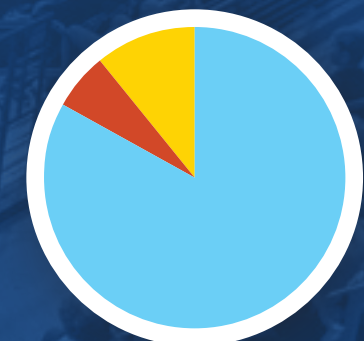
Net assets at beginning of year	306,678,604	41,850,196	348,528,800	347,731,694
Net assets at end of year	\$ 357,031,669	\$ 49,865,145	\$ 406,896,814	\$ 348,528,800

2019 OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE



- Contributions, 87.2%
- Billy Graham Training Center, 5.6%
- Decision* magazine & other evangelistic materials, 1.5%
- Other income, 5.7%

2019 OPERATING EXPENSES



- Ministry expenses, 83.3%
- Fundraising, 6.0%
- General and administrative, 10.7%

**“You uphold me in my integrity, and set
me before Your face forever.” —PSALM 41:12**

To see the complete version of the Billy Graham
Evangelistic Association 2019 audited financial
statements, please go to BillyGraham.org/financial.

BOARD MEMBERS

2019

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
Division Director
Truist 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
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 EMERITUS



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



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



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



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

*“Pray for us; for we are
confident that we have
a good conscience, in
all things desiring to
live honorably.”*
—HEBREWS 13:18

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 Committee

HON. STEPHEN MERRILL
Insurance Committee

WILLIAM PAULS
International Security Risk
Assessment Committee

FRANKLIN GRAHAM
Nominating Committee

PAUL SABER
Retirement Plan
Committee

MELVIN GRAHAM
Succession Plan Committee

IN MEMORY



WALLACE BERG 1920–2019
Member of BGEA Board
of Directors, 1973–1997

An outstanding leader even in his youth, Wallace Berg was elected student body president at St. Olaf College. After also graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School and graduate school

at the University of Chicago, he served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. In 1950, Mr. Berg was named “Outstanding Man of the Year” by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Minnesota. He was appointed Federal Housing Administration director for Minnesota in 1952. From 1962 until his retirement in 1985, he excelled as senior vice president for Midwest Federal Savings & Loan. Mr. Berg’s commitment to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ led him to serve on the boards of several Christian organizations—including his home church, First Covenant of Minneapolis; the University of Northwestern, St. Paul; Campus Crusade for Christ; and BGEA. He continued to serve as an emeritus board member until his death.



MICHAEL E. HAYNES 1927–2019
Member of BGEA Board
of Directors, 1987–2002

Michael E. Haynes, who grew up during the Great Depression, was the child of immigrants from Barbados. He graduated from the New England School of Theology, completed postgraduate studies at Shelton

College, and continued his education at Gordon Divinity School and the Boston University School of Social Work. During his life, Rev. Haynes passionately represented his Savior as a youth director, a three-term state representative, a member of the Massachusetts Parole Board and—for four decades—as the senior minister of Boston’s Twelfth Baptist Church. In 1965, he introduced his friend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to a joint session of the Massachusetts Senate and House—the first time Dr. King addressed an American legislature. Rev. Haynes provided leadership to more than 40 boards—including Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, the evangelistic Vision New England, *Christianity Today*, Berkshire Christian College, and BGEA. He continued to serve as an emeritus board member until his death.



DENTON LOTZ 1939–2019
Member of BGEA Board
of Directors, 1999–2014

Before joining the U.S. Marine Corps in 1961, Denton Lotz graduated from the University of North Carolina. After completing his military service, he earned a theology degree from Harvard Divinity School and a doctorate at

the University of Hamburg in Germany. He then became a missionary with the American Baptist Churches, USA, in Eastern and Central Europe. During that time, he taught missions and homiletics for 11 years at the International Baptist Theological Seminary (Switzerland). Beginning in 1980, Dr. Lotz served the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) as director of evangelism and education and director of youth. He was elevated to general secretary—the chief executive officer—of the BWA in 1988, where he represented more than 100 million people and led until his retirement in 2007. He spent most of the subsequent decade as senior pastor of Tremont Temple Baptist Church in Boston, before becoming vice president of the International Religious Liberty Association. Dr. Lotz continued to serve as an emeritus BGEA board member until his death.

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



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*

Names in testimonials have been changed to protect privacy.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version. ©1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

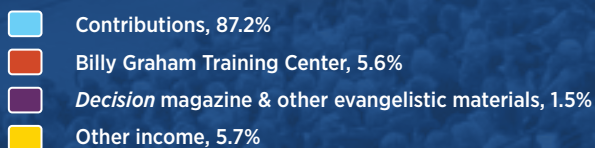
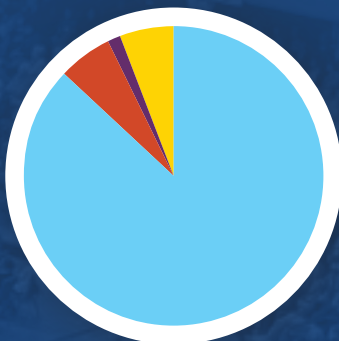
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF
ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019, WITH SUMMARIZED
COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2018

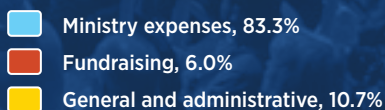
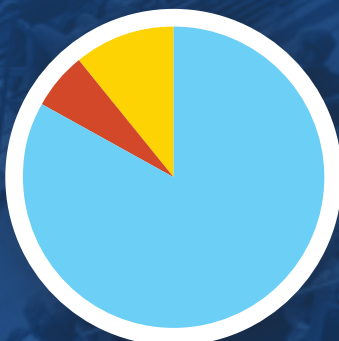
BILLY GRAHAM EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION & CONSOLIDATED ORGANIZATIONS	2019		TOTAL	2018 TOTAL
	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Support and revenue:				
Contributions	\$ 98,488,711	\$ 24,132,158	\$ 122,620,869	\$ 113,934,018
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Net assets released from restrictions	21,190,657	(21,190,657)	-	-
Total support and revenue	137,750,845	2,941,501	140,692,346	133,713,066
Operating expenses:				
Ministry expenses:				
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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

2019 OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUE



2019 OPERATING EXPENSES



**“You uphold me in my integrity, and set
me before Your face forever.” —PSALM 41:12**

To see the complete version of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association 2019 audited financial statements, please go to BillyGraham.org/financial.