

November 2024
 Strong Tower Radio
 Ministry News
 P.O. Box 567
 Cadillac, MI 49601
 StrongTowerRadio.org
 231-468-2087



STR Engagements:

11/2	11:00 a.m.	David Bolduc	Idlewild Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/2	11:00 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	13th St, Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/9	10:45 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Holly Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/16	11:00 a.m.	David Bolduc	Gladwin Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/23	11:00 a.m.	David Bolduc	Marion Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/28	All Day	Thanksgiving	Enjoy your time with family!
11/30	9:00 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Mesick Seventh-day Adventist Church
11/30	11:00 a.m.	Kam Ferguson	Cadillac Seventh-day Adventist Church

Where God's Character is Proclaimed

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STRONG TOWER RADIO

Where God's Character is Proclaimed

Ministry News

89.3 Tower Hill, IL	92.3 Charlotte	TV 23 Cadillac
89.7 Grand Rapids	93.1 Grand Haven	
90.7 Harrison	93.9 Mio	
90.9 Escanaba	97.3 Kalamazoo	
91.3 Ironwood	97.9 Newberry	
91.3 Decatur, IL	102.7 Alpena	
91.9 Cadillac	104.7 Lansing	
91.9 Battle Creek	1540 Okemos	



Scott Ritsema

The Reformation, in light of the Great Disappointment

The darkness of the Dark Ages was a darkness that could be felt. For centuries, the spiritual yearnings of the soul were stifled by ignorance of the Bible and a tragic misunderstanding of God's character. But then, an explosion of light flashed upon the world – the Protestant Reformation. It was a pivotal moment in church history when Protestantism brought believers back to the Bible to grow in the knowledge of their Savior.

But the Reformation wasn't merely a historical event. Rather, it was (and is) an ongoing method of growing in the truth through the study of the Bible. "But the path of the just is like the shining sun that shines ever brighter unto the perfect day" (**Prov. 4:18**).

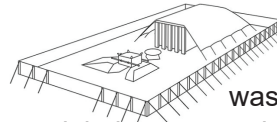
However, this progressive process of growth in the truth does not come without its challenges. What could arguably be called the greatest heartbreak in history occurred in October 1844. Historians refer to it as The Great Disappointment. It was only overcome through the spirit of Protestantism.

It all began in 1831 when William Miller, a Baptist farmer-turned-preacher, discovered in Daniel 8:14 a prophecy that was to be fulfilled in just a few years. As Miller and others studied and preached, it became clear to hundreds of thousands of Christians that "the sanctuary shall be cleansed" on October 22, 1844.

They believed this sanctuary cleansing referred to Jesus' second coming. Why? Christians at the time believed (incorrectly) that the "sanctuary" in the Bible symbolized the earth, and the cleansing of the earth would, of course, happen at Jesus' second coming. Exciting news to the 'Millerite' believers — Jesus was coming in just a few years!

But when Jesus did not return on October 22, 1844, the deep despair and utter confusion in the minds of those believers who expected to be in heaven together is difficult for us even to imagine.

Being the *most biblically* correct Christians of their day was little consolation; their faith in the soon coming of Jesus and their correct calculation of Daniel 8:14 ended up bringing a severe test upon them.





David Buldoc,

President

We are currently waiting to receive notification from the FCC regarding when **WJCG** 89.9 FM Greenville can begin broadcasting. Speaking of the FCC, I have found a tower near South Haven that is very affordable to rent. I am jumping through the various hoops to get permission to broadcast from this new tower site.

God alone deserves the praise for any progress. Speaking of progress, my wife, son, and I just got home from another quick trip to a tower site in the Upper Peninsula, where we dropped off a load of broadcast equipment for our engineer to assemble in the coming days. I am also trying to get our Owosso station on the tower crew's schedule. Please pray that the Lord will remove all obstacles so that these stations can be built! We are blessed by committed donors, volunteers, and broadcast engineers willing to do the job.

Speaking of obstacles, our Port Sanilac station has been plagued with many obstacles. I don't have the space to go into all the details, but I will say that with all of the challenges this station has faced, I am sure that the enemy hates the thought of this station going on the air. I am certain that God will be honored when it is finally broadcasting.

My wife and two of our sons recently attended 3ABN's Fall Homecoming Camp meeting in southern Illinois. We were blessed with various sermons focused on one of my favorite books, *Steps To Christ*. We were also blessed to tune in to 89.3 FM **WWJR** Tower Hill, IL, which is the first of our 9 new station construction permits granted by the FCC. This station covers a good portion of south-central Illinois. I was amazed to hear the station reaching many areas where I and my family grew up. It is humbling to see what God is doing through our efforts.

Countless people are driving through the coverage areas of each of these stations every day. Please consider supporting this ministry as the Holy Spirit leads.

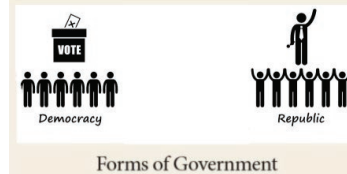


From Jilane Fenner: Thank you for your love, prayers & financial support! God provides through you, our listeners & we appreciate all you do! Currently, all our bills are paid **except 13 weeks of payroll**; we need your help. Won't you please consider asking God what you can do, or what more you could do, to help Strong Tower Radio. Call us at 231-468-2087 or go to our link, *STR.fm*, & click the donate button or use the enclosed envelope to mail a donation. Thank you!!



Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving!

Most of us live in the greatest country ever to function on planet Earth. A constitutional republic (not a democracy) whose framing documents are based on



gospel principles, the United States has grown much and painfully during its first 200 years to live by its founding principles.

Despite all our problems, U.S. citizens enjoy the highest average living standard on the planet. The United States leads the world in generosity, giving over 4 billion labor hours and \$557 billion to non-profit, charitable entities during 2023.

With the ongoing 'explosion' of self-storage contents, all the wealth in monetary and physical assets held, and all the resources given to help others each year, U.S. citizens are blessed indeed. How many are saying 'thank you' to the One providing all these blessings?!



We praise God for sustaining this ministry for 17 years! October 2007 marks the start of STR, and next month marks the 15th year of broadcasting the Three Angels Messages 24/7/365! Praise God, we didn't get here on our own! The Holy Spirit calls upon you to help sustain this ministry, some since the very beginning! *As recipients of your generous prayer and financial support, we again thank you for being part of STR! Many souls are connecting with Jesus because you give.*

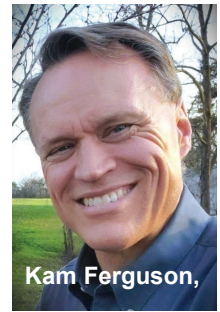
Over 100 trace their first experience with the everlasting gospel to STR, and new listeners continue to contact us. Your further investment in STR loudly proclaims the true character of God's love and power not only through much of Michigan and part of Illinois on the F.M. dial, but also web streaming to the world!

Through STR listening, during the past 12 months, 6 people have joined the Seventh-day Adventist church and are actively living by faith. Now my friends, you have even more for which to thank and praise God when you enter His presence!

Happy Thanksgiving!



Thankfully, prayerfully,
and with the Holy Spirit's leading,
consider sharing God's blessings with Strong Tower Radio.



Kam Ferguson,

Development Director

Plug
in to



CURRENT EVENTS

Tom Mejeur



Program Director

Thanksgiving is my favorite holiday. Strong Tower Radio celebrates the beauty of this holiday with 30+ hours of Thanksgiving-themed programs. We will air the **Youth With A Mission** book reading of the Plymouth colony governor, William Bradford (a member of the English Puritan Separatists, popularly known as 'Pilgrims'), on Thanksgiving Eve at 6 p.m. and the day at noon. We will air STR Thanksgiving Variety Hour programs throughout the festival. Thanksgiving specials and even regular programs will be their Thanksgiving editions. Strong Tower Radio's Thanksgiving festival will begin Wednesday, November 27th, and throughout Thanksgiving Day.

How about an "Honest Abe" Lincoln Marathon? Tune in the day before Thanksgiving, as we air **Your Story Hour's** dramatized Lincoln stories, and Tim Gregory reads Janet and Geoff Benges's "**Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom.**" Check specific air times via our broadcasts, STR.fm, (STR) Facebook page, our weekly *News & Views*, and bulletin announcements.

Here is a heads-up on November's exclusive programs. **The Garden Guy**, Mason County Historical Society Research Center, poet Steve Kantner, the Jackson Adventist Community Service tour, the Ludington Lighthouse tour, **Mission Aviation**, **Guyana Mission**, marriage counselors Tom and Bev Rodgers, Southern Adventist University religion faculty, and the Andrews University Institute of Archeology director.

Ron Price of "Relationship CPR" completed his second Michigan tour last month. In addition to speaking at several churches, he presented at schools, two Rotary meetings, a chamber of commerce meeting, and a community foundation seminar. He also recorded episodes of his "Relationship CPR" program and four episodes of STR's "People with a Purpose."

Share STR with your family, friends, and neighbors. Let them know about the "Lincoln Marathon" and "30 hours of Thanksgiving," heard only on Strong Tower Radio, where God's Character is Proclaimed.



Why Radio?

Data from Nielsen Ratings show that **92%** of American adults listen to radio compared to **88%** that watch tv.

The average listening time is more than an hour and a half per person! Radio holds the largest draw of **any** broadcast medium in America.

Changing Lives: How God Brought Us to STR



Jodi and Kam

Strong Tower Radio (STR) testimony articles usually feature how a listener discovers STR, begins listening and learning, begins or deepens a walk with Jesus, and joins His end-time movement. The following shares how God brought my wife Jodi and me to become part of STR.

In 2013, God very distinctly directed us to buy a 16-acre property 30 miles NW of Cadillac that had a small home and garage. The house needed gutting and rebuilding, which we did during the next 6 years with the help of several local friends. Through 2018 and 2019, the Holy Spirit kept impressing me to ~~press forward more~~ quickly. I made more trips from Tennessee, where we'd lived since 1991, and the renovation neared completion. I didn't want to occupy the home until it was finished, yet the Spirit pressed me more, and in June 2019, I moved Jodi up to this Michigan property with the plan to return in several weeks in a moving truck with our remaining household goods.

Prior to STR, I worked in corporate accounting management and worked from a home office for the past decade. I expected to bring my work to Michigan, but the parent corporation's CFO nixed that plan. He directed instead that I train one of the corporations accountants who had just lost 80% of her job when the corporation sold its Canadian company holdings.

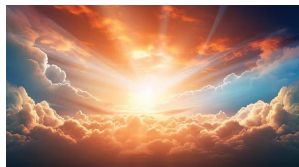
During the next 5 months, I trained that person and went through year-end audits with them. I also made several trips to Michigan to visit Jodi and install various essentials. In August, it was a gas stove/oven and tank-less water heater; in October, it was new ductwork and restoring central heating and air. It was enough for the moment; the essentials were in place.

During this time, Jodi met STR employee Joy Corliss and full-time volunteer Sandy Cole, and they invited her to volunteer **VolUNTEER** at STR. They soon learned of my job situation, and the STR prayer team began praying for us. Strong Tower Radio had been seeking a development director for much of 2019 to succeed the legendary George Corliss, who had spearheaded STR development for nearly all of STR's first decade. They offered the position to someone who actively worked in another ministry, and from June – October 2019, they awaited an answer. In late October, this person was impressed to remain in their current ministry, and STR continued searching.

The Reformation in light of the Great Disappointment (Continued from page 1)

But the light of Protestantism could not be hidden under a bushel! It must break forth in even brighter rays, shining ever brighter unto the perfect day.

So, what actually happened on October 22, 1844? What was the sanctuary that was cleansed? And are these believers to be ridiculed as a bunch of fanatics? First, their experience should be seen in the light of biblical history—specifically, in the experiences of Jesus' disciples, who also turned out to be wrong about an event upon which they had placed their hopes.



The disciples had anticipated an earthly Messiah who would overthrow the oppressive Roman regime. When Jesus was crucified at the hands of the Romans, theirs was the *First Great Disappointment*. Their disappointment happened due to a misunderstanding of prophecy. Yet, through this experience, they were led to a deeper understanding of the Bible and of Jesus' kingdom, and thus, they became the universally admired founders of the apostolic Christian church.

Similarly, after October 22, 1844, some faithful but disappointed believers saw in Daniel 7 that *before* Jesus comes to this earth on the clouds, He comes on the clouds *within heaven* to the Father.

They saw in Hebrews 8 and 9 that the sanctuary is not this earth, nor is it even *on* this earth. It is in heaven! *That's what* was to be cleansed beginning October 22, 1844!

They saw Jesus as their High Priest, blotting out sins. They saw that a judgment was set and that books were opened. They saw that, *prior to the second coming of Jesus*, an announcement was to be made to the world that the hour of His judgment (cleansing of the sanctuary) had come!

In other words, they were true Protestants. They relied on the Bible to grow in their knowledge of truth, which shines ever brighter over time. With their sights set upon the blessed hope in Jesus Christ, they found the only High Priest who can buoy the spirits of the disappointed.

Indeed, the truths revealed to God's people throughout the centuries have been like a growing light, illuminating our path. With the principles of the Protestant Reformation in our hearts and Scripture as the foundation of our faith, the lessons from The Great Disappointment urge us to continually hunger for greater biblical light when confused and never give up the eternal pursuit of truth.

Changing Lives; How God brought us to STR (Continued from page 3)

The STR hiring committee were soon impressed to explore who this Kam Ferguson guy actually is. Could he be the one God is bringing to become Development Director?

I was scheduled to travel to Michigan again in mid-November, and STR president David Bolduc asked Jodi to have me come to STR and fill out an application for the position. I had no intention to work for a ministry and was not inclined to accept David's invitation, yet I also recognized that this might be God's hand directing. After all, the last two job offers I'd received were unsolicited. The first, God directed me away from; the second, He directed me to accept.

I filled out the application, provided my resume, and prayed for several specific indicators that would clearly indicate God's will regarding my working for STR. I didn't want it to be my will or the will of mankind; I wanted God's will. He provided all that I requested, plus a bonus indicator, and I accepted STR's employment offer.

Jodi and I have experienced so many blessings and God's provisions in many ways, and we praise God for His continued leading. When tempted to doubt God's plan for being part of STR, I simply look back to how He has led thus far and His promise to sustain those who follow him.

A note looking back on exiting my former job unexpectedly: Nearly two years after I was terminated from the company with 12 weeks' severance, the parent corporation sold that company to its main competitor for a significant gain. Had I still been employed there, I would have been released immediately without severance. I also would have missed the STR growth of the past 5 years as God would have filled that need with someone else.

Instead, God directed us to purchase a country home in NW Michigan without explaining why, guided our home renovation over 6 years, pressed me to move from TN before I wanted (avoiding relocation during COVID-19), pulled me out of the corporate world, and directed me to work with STR.

God continues to develop our faith in His guidance and provision, and our testimony grows daily. If faithful to the end, we will only have our Heavenly Father to thank & praise, for He directed our way. **Thank you for the opportunity to work with you to reach souls with the everlasting gospel. Many lives, including ours, are being changed!**



Thank You Lord!

There's a roof up above me, I've a good place to sleep,
there's food on my table, and shoes on my feet.
You gave me your love, Lord, and a fine family,