



# LIGHTLINES

## God Is Not Done

by Eli Williams

I have lived long enough to enjoy reminiscing about the old days. 40 years ago, the top songs on the radio included Time after Time, I Just Called to Say I Love You, What's Love Got to Do With It? and many more. Some consider 1984 the greatest year in pop music. 1984 was also the final year of my career as a secular pop radio announcer.

In April of the next year, God called me out of that focus and into the gospel ministry. I was led to start a weekly Christian radio show. It aired on WKSX FM on Sundays. That was the beginning of a challenging but rewarding journey for Judy and me.

During the ensuing years, we and the various members of our ministry partners made a gospel impact on hundreds of individuals, fathers, and families, 20,000+ school children through 25 years of the Sunshine Clubs, and countless Internet radio listeners worldwide. All for the glory of God and His kingdom.

**But He is not done with us!**  
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We have reached over 55,000 people through our Google Ad Grant already in 2024.

## FATHERING STRONG Progress Report

Like most caring people, you are probably concerned about the sad state of so many families broken and with missing or unengaged fathers. An unfortunate consequence of this is a growing number of delinquent youths – many of whom are addicted, violent, and suffering emotionally and academically. At Urban Light Ministries, we are also concerned. We want to work with you to make a lasting difference for these and other youth and families.

Through Fathering Strong, we facilitate the formation of fatherhood communities where dads can connect, learn together, and inspire one another. We are also dedicated to fostering stronger bonds between fathers and their children, regardless of the current relationship status of their parents. We do this through virtual and in-person group facilitation. We know this can create a brighter future because building better fathers benefits youth and shapes a safer society. We currently serve 247 member fathers, with 63 actively participating in our resources, including engagement in dad chats.  
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## Board News

To begin the year, the ULM Trustee Board made some changes. Our new chairperson is Daniel Blevins, a financial representative and small business owner. The board added Pastor Andy Lawrence-Shroyer as vice chair, Jay Weygandt is now treasurer, and Pastor Cozette Snead became our parliamentarian. The latter two are newly created board offices. Pastor Kermit Rowe continues as secretary. We are positioned to add a few more new members. Please contact us if you are interested in hearing more about that.



Andy and Daniel

## God Is Not Done (continued)

Fast-forward four decades. In 2023, Urban Light Ministries moved downtown in January, launched the groundbreaking Fathering Strong digital platform in June, and instituted a new Mayor's Breakfast in November. Many of you reading this newsletter were used by Jehovah Jireh to provide the financial and/or volunteer support to do that and more. **We need you for what is ahead!**

2024 will be another year of great impact. Our vision for this year includes continuing to develop Fathering Strong to engage dads and to provide it as a service to other organizations. We will serve more families through Care-It's for Kids and honor fathers through the Good Dad Awards.

We owe a great debt of gratitude for the volunteer work of our immediate past board chair, Bruce Stapleton. He continues contributing his considerable skills, as we have contracted with him for technical services, marketing advisor, and program developer.

Everything mentioned above is costly but will result in a much greater impact for God. Jehovah Jireh has promised to meet all our needs according to His riches in glory if we prioritize His kingdom and His righteousness (Phil. 4:19 and Matt. 6:33). We are determined to do that. He has been faithful to His word over all these years, and I don't believe He will fail us now. He is not done with us, and we are not done serving Him.

Thank you for reading through our newsletter. May the Lord bless you richly in Jesus's name.

**Eli Williams**, ULM President and CEO

## Fathering Strong (continued)

We also empower other caring organizations by providing our Fathering Strong platform, which enables them to engage more effectively with the fathers and youth they seek to serve.

We are currently developing a partnership with Buckeye School to serve 60 to 80 young male students. From churches to early childhood education facilities, Fathering Strong is becoming an asset in helping them serve parents and children with excellence. We are excited about this development!

### How We Can Work Together with You to Make a Difference?

Your support is crucial in making a lasting positive impact on youth, families, and communities.

**Donate:** Your generous donations enable us to expand our reach by building and growing the online Fathering Strong community. It also provides the funds to develop new collaborations, programs, and resources for youth, fathers, and families.

**Volunteer:** Join us by giving your time and expertise. Whether mentoring young boys or fathers, moderating a fatherhood community, volunteering at events, offering professional skills, or board service, your contribution matters.

**Spread the Word:** Help us raise awareness of this important work by sharing our mission with your friends, family, and community. Get your company involved with support to drive a greater and faster impact.

**Pray with us:** Intercede for us as we seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness by turning the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to Him.

Together, we will build a safer, more resilient future for all as God helps us.

## Special April Campaign

We seek to raise \$25,000 this month to underwrite the cost of serving 250 fathers and young males over the next 12 months.

Scan QR  
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donate



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