

# JERSEY SHORE WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## “INCREDIBLE WORK” TAKING PLACE AS WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION PREPARATIONS ENTER FINAL MONTH

**Ocean Grove, N.J., April 20, 2011** – One month from today, the Jersey Shore Will Graham Celebration will officially begin inside the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove, N.J. More than 265 churches representing 25 denominations are working together to host the Celebration.

"There have been incredible people doing incredible work for God's kingdom here on the shore, and now the time for the Celebration is almost upon us," said John M. Taylor, M.D., who has served as chairman of the Celebration executive committee. "Our region is about to see some unbelievable blessings poured upon it, and for those of us here, it's palpable."

Celebration organizers recently concluded a series of classes designed to help local Christians share their beliefs with others. Those classes were attended by more than 3,000, with participants coming not only from the local two-county area, but also from as far away as New York and Pennsylvania. Additionally, an average of 945 teenagers per session have attended a three-week student version of the classes.

Local churches have been preparing for the Celebration through ongoing prayer outreaches, including a 12-hour "prayer journey," in which more than 50 people on a bus – with several more following in cars – drove the roads of Ocean and Monmouth counties. The group stopped seven times across the region to pray for the upcoming Celebration and the people of the area. During the Celebration next month, a seven-day, 24-hour-a-day marathon of prayer is being planned for the event and the community.

"This is spectacular to see, and it's a real privilege to be a part of what God is doing here," said Celebration Director Terry Wilken. "There is still a lot of work to do over the coming weeks, but it has been exciting to watch the level of involvement and enthusiasm from the Christians in the Jersey Shore region as the Celebration preparations have taken shape."

The next event in the Celebration preparation process will take place on April 30. The "Follow-Up Breakfast" will be held from 9-11 a.m. at the Church of Grace and Peace, 1563 Old Freehold Road in Toms River. The breakfast is designed for pastors and church leaders to learn more about the follow-up process that will take place after the Celebration, while also receiving tools and resources that will equip them to minister to new believers in their own churches. Those interested in attending should contact the Celebration office at (732)256-9435 or [jerseyshore@bgea.org](mailto:jerseyshore@bgea.org) by April 26.

The Jersey Shore Will Graham Celebration will take place May 20-22 at the Great Auditorium in Ocean Grove. For more information, including dates, times and a list of events, visit [www.WillGrahamCelebrations.com/JerseyShore](http://www.WillGrahamCelebrations.com/JerseyShore) and [www.Facebook.com/JerseyShoreCelebration](http://www.Facebook.com/JerseyShoreCelebration).

**About Will Graham:** Will is the third generation of Grahams to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ under the banner of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA). Will is the grandson of Billy Graham and the oldest son of Franklin Graham. Since beginning his evangelistic ministry with youth-oriented, one-day events in Canada, Will has spoken to audiences across North America, Australia, India and other parts of Asia and South America.