

Baptist Briefs_92203

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✖ **Annuity Board adds Blue Cross.** The Annuity Board has reached an agreement with Highmark Blue Cross & Blue Shield that will give many participants in the Annuity Board's Preferred Provider Organization medical plans access to Blue Cross & Blue Shield PPO networks across the country. Effective Jan. 1, Annuity Board medical plan participants in many states will have a choice of networks. Current Annuity Board participants received information about the new medical plans and networks in mid-September. For more information, call (800) 262-0511.

✖ **ABP honors Wingfield.** The Associated Baptist Press board of directors presented its inaugural "writer's award" Sept. 11 to Mark Wingfield, managing editor of the Baptist Standard. Greg Warner, ABP's executive editor, praised Wingfield as the "most prolific writer" in the network of contributing reporters to the news service. The award commended Wingfield's "skill, courage and tenacity" that have "distinguished him as a champion in the ministry of Christian journalism and the cause of religious freedom."

✖ **Central Seminary president to retire.** Thomas Clifton, president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Kan., for the past decade, will retire Dec. 31. Clifton is the ninth president of the 102-year-old theological school, which is affiliated with the American Baptist Churches in the USA and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.