

TEXAS FORUM_110303

BAPTIST

October 31, 2003

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TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM: Brave Baptists

Yesterday, I said goodbye to some of the bravest Baptists I have ever known.

When I first met the members of Colonial Hills Baptist Church in Cedar Hill in December 2001, they were fractured, broken, hurting and scared. Yet they voted to face their demons and begin the journey of intentional interim ministry.

For more than a year, they looked deeply within themselves, trying to discover what led to their earlier schism, to learn how to prevent a reoccurrence of those problems, and to put into practice what they had learned.



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New Orleans trustees reject request on sole membership_110303

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New Orleans trustees reject request on sole membership

NEW ORLEANS-Trustees of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary unanimously rejected a request by the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee to name the SBC the “sole member” of the seminary's corporation.

All other SBC entities have acceded to the request, which was intended to prevent the possibility of a seminary or mission board ever declaring its independence from the national convention.

New Orleans Seminary President Chuck Kelley voiced strong opposition to the request on grounds of Baptist polity, suggesting such a change would result in a form of Baptist “connectionalism” rather than traditional Baptist autonomy.

Nominees for BGCT boards & committees_110303

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Nominees for BGCT boards & committees

The following information is provided in compliance with the bylaws of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Nominations to be considered by messengers to the BGCT annual session in Lubbock Nov. 10-11 are presented by the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Members, the Committee on Committees, the Committee to Nominate Coordinating Boards and the Committee on Nominations for Institution Boards.

Key unless otherwise noted: # new member; % non-church/denominational employee; ^ positions to be elected by BGCT, when the BGCT does not elect all members of the board; + positions to be elected by the board or institution itself; @ elected at an Executive Board meeting and now must be elected at convention; E/ one year extended term, reverts to 2006 term.

BGCT Executive Board Members to be re-elected

Patterson, trustees join call for seminary offering_110303

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Patterson, trustees join call for seminary offering

FORT WORTH (BP)—Paige Patterson has joined Chuck Kelley in calling for creation of a W.A. Criswell Offering for Southern Baptist Convention seminaries.

Patterson, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, made the appeal to seminary trustees Oct. 21. He echoed the earlier words of Kelley, his brother-in-law, who is president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Faced with rising costs, seminary students are taking fewer hours per semester, working more and accumulating more educational debt, Patterson warned. And that ultimately will hamper ministry, he added.

On the Move_110303

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On the Move

Ken Ansell to Frontier Church in Waxahachie as pastor from Frio Church in Hereford.

- ♦ **Chuck Barnard** to Greenbrier Church in Alvarado as pastor.
 - ♦ **Lucas Biggs** has resigned as student minister at Highland Church in Denton.
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Organ shortage, but instrument making comeback_110303

October 31, 2003

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Organ shortage, but instrument making comeback

By Hannah Lodwick

Associated Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP) -Suncoast Baptist Church, a congregation of about 70 people in rural Homosassa, Fla., has been looking for an organist for almost two years.

‘Partial-birth’ abortion ban headed for implementation_110303

October 31, 2003

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'Partial-birth' abortion ban headed for implementation

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-When President Bush gives his promised signature to a newly passed bill, it will be the first time in 30 years the federal government has restricted abortion rights for adults.

Patterson vows alliance with

founders in inaugural address at Southwestern_110303

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During a
prayer of
dedication at
his
inauguration,
Paige Patterson
is surrounded
by son-in-law
and daughter
Mark and
Carmen
Howell, wife
Dorothy
Patterson,
daughter-in-law
and son Rachel
and Armour
Patterson, as
well as SBC
President Jack
Graham and
immediate past
seminary
President Ken
Hemphill.
(Stephan
Blan/BP Photo)

Patterson vows alliance with founders

in inaugural address at Southwestern

FORT WORTH (BP)—Paige Patterson was inaugurated eighth president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Oct. 21 with a vow to embody the standards set by the seminary's founders.

“We are headed to a full and thorough reaffirmation of the doctrine of B.H. Carroll and the founders,” Patterson said during the ceremony at Travis Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth. “We are headed to the reaffirmation of the centrality and of the incarnation of the atonement of Christ as the essential bedrock of Christianity.”

The seminary also is headed to a reaffirmation of Anabaptist reformation principles, of a church of “twice-born” men and women who bear witness of their faith through believer's baptism by immersion and a disciplined church membership, he said.



Patterson
signs the
2000
Baptist
Faith &
Message.

92-year-old pianist honored for service_110303

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92-year-old pianist honored for service

SAN ANGELO-Baptist Memorials Center honored longtime pianist Rowena Goss for 45 years of service.

Goss, who started playing the piano when she was 8, said she felt like she wasted years by not starting earlier.

After a few years of experience, she went on to teach piano lessons to some neighborhood children, charging a penny on up to a dollar for her services. At 12, she was interviewed by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and named "The Youngest Piano Teacher in Texas."



Baptist
Memorials
Center
Administrator
Pat Crump
presents a
plaque to
pianist
Rowena Goss
for her 45
years of
service at the
San Angelo
center.

Prayer may be scary, leaders say, but shouldn't be_110303

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Prayer may be scary, leaders say, but shouldn't be

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Eighty-two percent of adults say they prayed to God in the last seven days, according to a recent Barna poll.

New Mexico disaster relief gets boost from Texas donation_110303

October 31, 2003

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New Mexico disaster relief gets boost from Texas donation

By John Loudat

Baptist New Mexican

GLORIETA, N.M.-New Mexico Baptists' new disaster-relief ministry recently received a boost with the gift of a 24-foot trailer from Texas Baptist Men.

New tool, new desire help church find a God-focused vision_110303

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New tool, new desire help church find a God-focused vision

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

VICTORIA-Baptist Temple Church faces the same issues many congregations across Texas stare down daily. More than 500 people packed the Sunday School 50 years ago, but now fewer than 150 people come to worship.