

summer_snapshots_82503

August 23, 2003

Posted: 8/22/03

2003 Summer Missions Snapshots

BGCT student summer missionary Angie Cornett poses with children she met prayerwalking in Northern Africa.	
	
Jason Ellis of Texas A&M-Commerce plays with a child in Sabine-Neches Baptist Association.	

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.

summer_zambia_82503

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Texas team bikes among villages

Four college students from Texas spent a month in Zambia doing mountain bike evangelism.

Justin Childress, Richie Conry, Randy Kelley and Mickey Matlock served through the Baptist General Convention of Texas Baptist Student Ministry and the Southern Baptist Convention International Mission Board.

Childress is from Texas A&M; Conry from the University of North Texas; Kelley from the University of Houston; and Matlock from Midwestern State University.

Student missionary Mickey Matlock rides into a village on his mountain bike, greeted by local children.
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tidbits_82503

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Texas Tidbits

Amarillo hospital ranked highly. Baptist-St. Anthony Hospital in Amarillo was ranked among the best hospitals in the United States this year by U.S. News & World Report. In the magazine's annual evaluation of hospitals by specialization, Baptist-St. Anthony ranked among the top 50 hospitals in neurology and neurosurgery as well as for treating kidney disease.

♦ **Flamming to speak at HSU.** James Flamming, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richmond, Va., since 1983 and former pastor of First Baptist Church of Abilene, will speak at Hardin-Simmons University's Sept. 4 convocation program in Behrens Chapel. Dedication services also will be held for the new Elwin Skiles Social Sciences Building and the Linebery Boulevard and Linebery Clock Tower. That evening, dedication services will be held for the renovated Caldwell Music Building.

♦ **Another Flowers blooms.** Leighton Flowers has accepted a part-time position as consultant in youth evangelism with the Baptist General Convention of Texas Center for Strategic Evangelism. Effective Aug. 1, he assumed many of the responsibilities previously carried by his father, Chuck Flowers, who is on medical leave from the BGCT. Flowers, 29, is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth. He has served nearly two

years as staff evangelist at Cornerstone Baptist Church of Wylie. Previously, he was youth minister at Colonial Hills Baptist Church in Cedar Hill. While attending seminary, he was pastor of First Baptist Church in Era.

together_82503

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TOGETHER: Baptists affirm priesthood of believer

As I have participated in the ordination of Baptist deacons through the years, one doctrinal conviction most often mentioned in their testimonies has been the priesthood of the believer. Baptists have cherished this biblical doctrine and have believed it to be a bulwark against any authoritarian religion that is pressed down on others by some formal or informal religious hierarchy.

The Old Testament role of priest was to serve the people, intercede with God on their behalf and lead in the worship rituals, including offering sacrifices. When Jesus offered himself as the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world, he brought an end to the sacrificial system. He became the Great High Priest and made those who believe in him priests who serve under him.

CHARLES WADE Executive Director BGCT Executive Board
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It is not that Baptists do not believe in the importance of priests. Rather, we believe the role is so important that God has called all Jesus' followers to be priests. We have the privilege of standing beside one another, for we all need priests who can intercede in prayer for us, listen to us with spiritual ears, help us see the sin in our life, and love and serve as Jesus commanded us to do.

umhb_stockel_82503

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UMHB student gains new view from Palo Duro musical

By Mark Wingfield

Managing Editor

CANYON-Texas Baptists who ventured to Pioneer Amphitheater at Palo

Duro Canyon this summer saw a product of their own mission work on stage.

wayland_spain_82503

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Wayland Baptist University students perform a concert in Spain, where they debuted the original composition of Wayland professor Gary Belshaw.
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SPANISH SERENADE:

Wayland musicians on mission

By Jonathan Petty

Wayland Baptist University

PLAINVIEW-After being tucked away for more than 20 years, "A Espana" finally made its successful debut before a captivated Spanish crowd.

moore_commandments_82503

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Posted 8/18/03

Land 'troubled' by Ten Commandments judge's defiance of federal court ruling

By Mark Wingfield

Managing Editor

In his first public comments on the plight of Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore, Richard Land said Aug. 18 he is troubled by the Southern Baptist judge's open defiance of a federal court ruling.

truelove_africa_92503

August 23, 2003

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True Love Waits program in East Africa encouraged by Bush commitment

By Clinton Wolf

International Mission Board

ENTEBBE, Uganda (BP)-Baptists working with the True Love Waits program in East Africa are encouraged following President Bush's commitment to U.S. support of abstinence-based programs in the war on AIDS.

warren_rick_82503

August 23, 2003

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Rick Warren sees his role as Bible

'translator' for 21st century people

By Ted Parks

Religion News Service

LAKE FOREST, Calif. (RNS)-Before his junior year in high school, Rick Warren knelt in a cabin at summer camp. "God, if you're really alive, I want to know you," he prayed. The response? Nothing he could hear or see. "No thunder, lightning," Warren said. But it didn't deter him.

mcgill_protest_82503

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Operation Rescue protester disrupts worship service

By Steve DeVane

N.C. Biblical Recorder

CONCORD, N.C.-A protester was arrested at McGill Baptist Church in Concord, N.C., July 13 after he stood up at the end of a worship service and started shouting.

cartoon_81103

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"Let's try that new church down the street," you said. "What harm can come from that?"

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ex_gay_81103

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Ex-gay warns of winning argument, losing neighbor

By Hannah Lodwick

Associated Baptist Press

ORLANDO, Fla. (ABP)—Sy Rogers, an author and speaker who lived as a woman for 18 months, has apologized to Exodus International delegates and members of the homosexual community for “a church that would rather win an argument than a neighbor.”