BGCT adopts \$47.3 million budget for 2005_111504

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BGCT adopts \$47.3 million budget for 2005

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SAN ANTONIO-Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual session approved a \$47.3 million budget for 2005.

The fiscal plan is an increase of \$1.5 million over the 2004 budget.

More than \$40.5 million is meant to come through the BGCT Cooperative Program. The remainder is to come through the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions, endowment income, allocated funds, fees and other sources.

David Nabors, BGCT chief financial officer, said he expects the convention to receive about 98 percent of its 2004 budget.

Bob Fowler, chairman of the BGCT Administrative Committee, said funds may have to be shuffled to accommodate the convention's restructuring efforts.

The BGCT-suggested offering plan continues giving 79 percent of funds to Texas Baptist ministries and 21 percent of receipts to worldwide causes.

Each Texas Baptist church is free to give as it chooses.

The Texas Worldwide Initiatives giving option now includes the Baptist World Alliance, which was defunded by the Southern Baptist Convention this year.

Other Texas-funded worldwide ministries include the WorldconneX missions network, ongoing Mexico mission work, Texas Partnerships Resource Center and other international efforts.

BGCT messengers make their views known by a show-of-ballot vote during the annual session in San Antonio.

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.