

Cybercolumn for 4/12 by Jeanie Miley: A necessary task in changing times_41904

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/12/04

CYBERCOLUMN: A necessary task in changing times

By Jeanie Miley

On my way to work, I made my customary turn onto a back street, only to discover that still one more street is “under repair,” delaying my arrival back at my office by 20 minutes.

I spent that 20 minutes going over my usual routes in this city, Houston, trying to think of one part of my usual traffic pattern that isn’t “under repair.” I failed, and the sad thing is that the biggest road upheaval is going to be “under repair” for at least three years! Between my house and the places I go on a daily basis, there will be traffic snarls and delays for three years.

Jeanie Miley



Commentary by Megan Wiliford: America's strongest foundation_41904

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/12/04

COMMENTARY: America's strongest foundation

By Megan Williford

When separation of church and state arises for discussion, more often than not, strong opinions are voiced quickly. One must ask several questions: What exactly does separation of church and state mean? What were the Founding Fathers' intentions when creating the First Amendment's free exercise and establishment clauses? Where does the line between separation of church and state begin? How long is it? And most importantly, where does it end?

America was founded under Judeo-Christian principles, and I believe the foundation, the solid ground laid before us with every possibility for freedom, liberty and the right to happiness, lies in the trust and faith in the church. In addition, I also believe that due to this solid ground instilled by our Founding Fathers, America is the greatest nation in the world.

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First African-American graduate of Southwestern Seminary still preaching at 100_41904

April 12, 2004
Posted: 4/08/04

First African-American graduate of Southwestern Seminary still preaching

at 100

By George Henson

Staff Writer

FORT WORTH—One hundred-year-old Eugene Florence has seen plenty of change in his lifetime, but the gospel of Jesus Christ and his heartfelt desire to preach it have not wavered at all.

Buckner marks 125 years of ministry to children, families and the elderly_40504

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

The population of the Buckner Orphans Home grew dramatically in the early part of the 20th century, with entire family groups of children accepted as residents. The children pictured were representative of orphans from the Great Depression.

Buckner marks 125 years of ministry to children, families and the elderly

DALLAS-The vision for Buckner Baptist Benevolences began 125 years ago in the heart of R.C. Buckner and his love for “widows and orphans.” Today, it touches points around the globe.

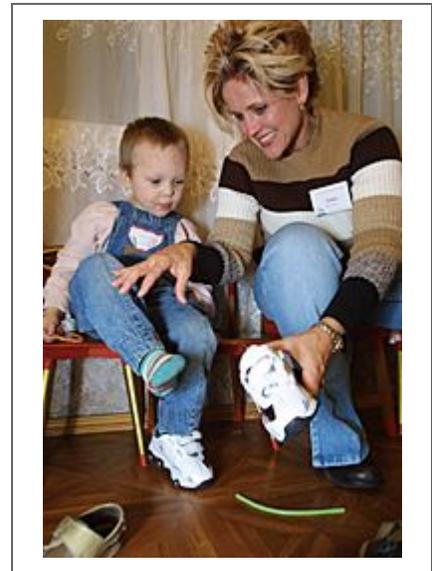
Burdened by a deep concern for the weak and vulnerable, Buckner—a Baptist preacher and editor—traveled Texas to campaign for the creation of

an orphans' home. He found an ally in Texas Baptist deacons. After a series of letters, he called for the formation of a Texas Baptist Deacons Convention.

See related articles:

- [Buckner honors BGCT, Park Cities, orphans' home alumnus](#)
- [Buckner marks 125 years of ministry](#)

At the deacons' meeting in Paris, Buckner sponsored a resolution to begin an orphans' home as soon as \$2,000 could be raised, and those present named him fund-raising agent for the project. Under the shade of a spreading oak tree, Buckner passed a hat, putting the first dollar in himself. When the collection was counted, it totaled \$27.



Buckner's Shoes for Orphan Souls humanitarian aid drive, expects to net its 1 millionth pair of new, donated shoes in 2004. The shoes are sent to children in more than 30 countries.

Buckner honors BGCT, Park Cities, orphans' home alumnus_40504

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This year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Buckner by R.C. Buckner (left), who served as its first president from 1879 to 1919.

Buckner honors BGCT, Park Cities, orphans' home alumnus

By Russ Dilday

Buckner News Service

DALLAS-The Baptist General Convention of Texas, Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas and Buckner Orphans Home alumnus Bill Annis have been named recipients of the R.C. Buckner Founder's Award for their contributions to Buckner Baptist Benevolences.

**COMMENTARY by Brett
Younger: Worth dying
for_40504**

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/07/04

COMMENTARY: Worth dying for

By **Brett Younger**

I've forgotten which war they were protesting, but I remember the words on the sign: "Nothing is worth dying for." The person carrying the placard was cynical, honest and representative of prevailing sentiments.

Death has an increasingly bad reputation. Woody Allen spoke for most when he said: "I don't want to achieve immortality through my work. I want to achieve immortality by not dying." Death is considered the greatest enemy.

Brett Younger

EDITORIAL: More churches need to go bivo_40504

April 12, 2004
Posted: 4/02/04

EDITORIAL:

More churches need to go bivo

Are churches needlessly starving their pastors? And what's the connection between pitiful pastoral pay and the plague of vacant pulpits?

A new study by Duke University's Pulpit and Pew Research on Pastoral Leadership validates these questions. The Duke survey documents a national shortage of pastors, which is especially acute in small rural and inner-city congregations. These churches have a hard time providing sustainable salary and benefits that can support a full-time pastor. ([See the full story here.](#))

The survey shouldn't surprise anyone who's paid close attention to churches. At any given moment, about 12 percent of churches affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas are pastorless. Of course, every church is going to be pastorless from time to time. But many small churches are chronically pastorless, due both to short tenures and long vacancies.

Fort Worth evangelist shares gospel message by clowning around the world_40504

April 12, 2004

Posted: 3/12/04

Fort Worth evangelist shares gospel message by clowning around the world

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Baptist Standard

FORT WORTH—Eugenio Adorno, better known as Chagy the Clown, says he entertains audiences the same way secular circus acts do. But his performances have the added bonus of presenting the gospel.

Worship works when leaders relate honestly to each other, Swindoll says_40504

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Worship works when leaders relate honestly to each other, Swindoll says

By Samuel Smith

Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH (BP)—Honest and supportive relationships between worship

leaders are necessary for a church to reflect God's plan, author and radio Bible teacher Chuck Swindoll told participants at the 2004 Church Music Workshop at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Building campaign helped unify, strengthen congregation, Mineral Wells pastor testifies_40504

April 12, 2004
Posted: 4/02/04

Building campaign helped unify, strengthen congregation, Mineral Wells pastor testifies

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

MINERAL WELLS—Members of Fairview Baptist Church identified a problem they are glad to have: Their sanctuary is too small for them to carry out their mission.

Around the world, Moms in Touch lift up children in prayer_40504

April 12, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Around the world, Moms in Touch lift up children in prayer

By Mary Jacobs

Religion News Service

DALLAS-Women carrying flags from around the world paraded through the cavernous ballroom. An audience of 1,600 women looked on, singing, eyes glistening, arms raised.

Country church believes new

life may rest on the other side of the nearby cemetery_40504

April 12, 2004
Posted: 4/02/04

Country church believes new life may rest on the other side of the nearby cemetery

By George Henson

Staff Writer

SOMERSET-New life for Old Rock Baptist Church may rest just the other side of the cemetery, Pastor Melvin Schupp believes.