

LifeWay Family Bible Series for April 11: God's grace gives testimony to his great love_40504

April 2, 2004

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for April 11

God's grace gives testimony to his great love

Matthew 28:1-10; Ephesians 2:4-9

By Rodney McGlothlin

First Baptist Church, College Station

LifeWay Family Bible Series for April 18: Jesus Christ is the

church's one foundation_40504

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for April 18

Jesus Christ is the church's one foundation

Matthew 16:13-19; Ephesians 2:17-22

By Rodney McGlothlin

First Baptist Church, College Station

Two-thirds of Americans dissatisfied with moral climate, Gallup Poll says_40504

April 2, 2004

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Two-thirds of Americans dissatisfied with moral climate, Gallup Poll says

WASHINGTON (RNS)- An annual Gallup Poll found nearly two-thirds of Americans are dissatisfied with the country's moral and ethical climate.

But younger people seem to be less pessimistic than their elders, the poll revealed.

Gallup's annual Mood of the Nation poll found that 64 percent of Americans are dissatisfied with the country's moral climate, while 35 percent say they are satisfied.

Church struggles to learn legal lessons from bus accident_40504

April 2, 2004

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Church struggles to learn legal lessons from bus accident

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

ELDORADO-About five months after a bus crash claimed the lives of nine senior adults on a church-sponsored trip, members of First Baptist Church in Eldorado planned their first major out-of-town trip since the accident.

Agency suggests questions to ask when selecting a charter company_40504

April 2, 2004

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Agency suggests questions to ask when selecting a charter company

If churches choose to charter a bus for long trips, they need to carefully examine the companies they hire, a representative of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration suggested.

Before hiring any carrier, request the bus company's United States Department of Transportation number, said Donna Channel with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's consumer and public affairs office.

With that information, a church can log onto www.saftersys.org for information, such as the company's safety rating and crash history and

whether the company is an authorized for-hire carrier.

Privacy policies designed to protect children from predators_40504

April 2, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Privacy policies designed to protect children from predators

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—When churches decide whether to publish the names and photos of children, a growing number cite protection as their guiding principle—protecting the church from legal action and children from predators.

Establishing a driver policy can help keep church out of court, lawyers say_40504

April 2, 2004

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Establishing a driver policy can help keep church out of court, lawyers say

Every church should adopt a policy for drivers of vehicles operated for church business or activities, whether the vehicles are owned by the church or by individuals, a Texas Baptist guidebook recommends.

“Keeping Your Church Out of Court,” a notebook of materials produced by the Baptist General Convention of Texas Christian Life Commission and the Southern Baptist Annuity Board, provides a driver policy checklist.

The resource, prepared by the Fort Worth law firm of Bourland, Smith, Wall & Wenzel, suggests a church's driver policy should:

15-passenger vans pose rollover

crash risk, extra safety measures needed, agencies say_40504

April 2, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

15-passenger vans pose rollover crash risk, extra safety measures needed, agencies say

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Federal agencies have issued safety warnings about them and major insurance companies have stopped writing policies on them, but some churches continue to struggle with the question of what to do with 15-passenger vans.

Texas Baptist Forum_40504

April 2, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM:

Anti-voucher predators

Your editorial regarding education (March 22) was not accurate, as the facts do not support what you wrote.

The public schools in Washington, D.C., spend more per student than any public school system in the U.S.A., and their performance is near the lowest. Vouchers have worked well in Cleveland.

That is why the black mayor of Washington and the black parents there have essentially forced Congress to try vouchers in D.C.

E-mail the editor at

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Logsdon, Wayland partner to bring master of divinity program to South Plains residents_40504

April 2, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Logsdon, Wayland partner to bring master of divinity program to South Plains residents

By Teresa Young

Wayland Baptist University

LUBBOCK-Wayland Baptist University and Logsdon School of Theology at Hardin-Simmons University have partnered to bring a graduate-level divinity program to the South Plains.

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

April 2, 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.

How high is the cost of discipleship for missionaries today?_40504

April 2, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

How high is the cost of discipleship for missionaries today?

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

When missionaries answer what they believe is Christ's call, a growing number also may hear echoes of the martyred German pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer who wrote 60 years ago: "When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die."