

# **Gay marriage OK in Oregon county\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **Gay marriage OK in Oregon county**

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Oregon's most populous county began issuing marriage licenses to gay couples March 3, marking the latest incident of local officials following the lead of San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom in allowing the practice.

Two gay men and two lesbians wed each other at a hotel in downtown Portland.

A majority of Multnomah County commissioners reportedly decided to proceed after the county's attorney issued an opinion that such marriages would not violate state law.

---

## **Regional convocations for Hispanic laity seek to inspire,**

# train and equip\_30804

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **Regional convocations for Hispanic laity seek to inspire, train and equip**

**By Orville Scott**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

TYLER—About 200 East Texas laymen and pastors were challenged at Hillcrest Hispanic Baptist Church recently to join hands and hearts with others in missions and ministries to reach an estimated 7 million Hispanics in Texas.

---

# **Texas Baptist Forum\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM: Gratitude to Jews**

I'm neither anti-Semitic, nor do I have animosity toward the Jewish people regarding Christ's death.

To lay blame on anyone is to say that his death was a mistake. Not only was it not a mistake, it was prophecy, and there was no way around it. Our sins, particularly those of Gentiles, could have never been pardoned in any other fashion. God allowed his chosen people to carry out a task for which they would forever be ostracized, persecuted and, in some cases, killed, for their role. That God trusted the Jews to carry out this task is a testament to his love for his original “chosen people.” Sometimes, you have to be the heavy to accomplish the tough tasks.

E-mail the editor at

[marvknox@baptiststandard.com](mailto:marvknox@baptiststandard.com)

Still, I don't get the anti-Semitism aspect (of the accounts of Christ's passion). Christians owe the Jews an enormous debt of gratitude for bringing on God's kingdom, through Jesus Christ, and for playing a part in building the bridge that allows redemption for the “un-chosen people.”

---

# **Oath trumps court order, Moore claims\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **Oath trumps court order, Moore claims**

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ABP)—Attorneys for Alabama's former chief justice have asked for his reinstatement, claiming Roy Moore did not commit an ethical violation when he defied a federal court's order last year.

---

## On the Move\_30804

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

### On the Move

**Ronnie Aubrey** to Trinity Church in Reno as pastor.

- ♦ **Jekabs Bikis** to First Church in Richardson as pastoral intern.
  - ♦ **Ken Cannon** to First Church in Paris as associate pastor for pastoral ministries, outreach and singles. He had been church administrator there.
- 

## ‘Passion’ too intense for most

# **young children, ministry leaders suggest\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **'Passion' too intense for most young children, ministry leaders suggest**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

Christians may want everyone to hear the gospel, but parents should be wary of letting their younger children view Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ," according to faith leaders.

---

## **Quilting bee-lievers at First Baptist Church in Plano\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

# Quilting bee-lievers at First Baptist Church in Plano

**By George Henson**

*Staff Writer*

PLANO—Needle and thread can be prime tools for ministry, Margaret Shafer believes. And she is teaching women both inside and outside her church to use them.

---

## Twister wrecks Seymour church gym\_30804

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## Twister wrecks Seymour church gym

---



A tornado destroyed the gym at First Baptist Church in Seymour shortly after noon March 4. Marion Fonville, director of missions for Salt Fork and Red Fork Baptist associations, said the facility was the only known church damage, although the storm inflicted considerable damage on local businesses. No injuries were reported.

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.

---

**Show Christ's love by working**

# **to renew communities, student leaders told\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **Show Christ's love by working to renew communities, student leaders told**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

SHREVEPORT, La.-Christians can pull the United States out of societal decline by reaching out to their neighbors as Christ would, a community renewal activist told student leaders.

---

## **TBM names Smith executive director, agrees to work with SBTC on disaster relief ministry\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

# TBM names Smith executive director, agrees to work with SBTC on disaster relief ministry

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

AQUILLA-Texas Baptist Men's board of directors named an executive director, signed an agreement to work with Southern Baptists of Texas Convention-affiliated disaster relief units and outlined the group's new meeting schedule.

---

## Texas Tidbits\_30804

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

### Texas Tidbits

**Dennehy case against Baylor dismissed.** McLennan County's 19th Judicial District Court entered an order dismissing all claims against Baylor University by Patrick Dennehy Sr. individually and as a representative of the estate of his son, a former Baylor basketball player. Baylor University issued a public statement saying: "The court's ruling followed well-established law that a university has no legal duty to prevent one of its students from committing a criminal act while off the premises at an event

not sponsored by the university. Baylor deeply regrets the tragic and untimely death of Patrick Dennehy Jr. but is gratified that the court has clearly ruled that neither Baylor nor its representatives were responsible for this unfortunate event."

**Hardin-Simmons receives foundation grants.** The Shelton Foundation of Abilene has awarded Hardin-Simmons University \$900,000 for two projects. The university received a \$450,000 grant to help establish and fund a Neighborhood Enhancement Center for four years. The center will be responsible for the oversight of programs aimed at improving the overall appearance and quality of life in the neighborhood near the campus. It will include Habitat for Humanity projects, a literacy program, a volunteer program for teenagers and establishment of a Friendship House aimed at community renewal. Another \$450,000 grant will enable the school to build an effluent water pipeline and use the reclaimed water for irrigation on the campus.

**ETBU names student life director.** Tony Davis has been named director of student life at East Texas Baptist University. He succeeds David Brooks, who was promoted to vice president for student services. As director of student life, Davis will be responsible for supervising resident directors of student housing, enforcing university disciplinary policies and overseeing the school's computer identification access system. Davis served previously as manager of technical services with ETBU physical facilities.

---

# **Together: BGCT will honor churches' decisions\_30804**

March 5, 2004

Posted: 3/05/04

## **TOGETHER: BGCT will honor churches' decisions**

Since New Testament times, churches have met human needs and responded to missions challenges through cooperation. This principle has been imbedded in the heart of churches since the Apostle Paul gathered offerings to help the Jerusalem church through days of persecution and hunger.

Baptist churches in America, however, were so committed to local-church autonomy that they were slow to see how they could combine resources to accomplish more for God than they could do alone. Slowly but surely, Baptists began to see how they could pool their mission offerings and do together something necessary and good for God's work.

The Cooperative Program came into existence as state conventions agreed to work with the Southern Baptist Convention in raising funds for missions, evangelism, Christian education and benevolence. Since 1925, the Baptist General Convention of Texas has been a generous contributor-often the most generous of any state convention-to Southern Baptist ministries across the nation and world.

---

CHARLES  
WADE  
Executive  
Director  
BGCT  
Executive  
Board