

Fire-eating evangelist knows how to draw crowds_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

Fire-eating evangelist knows how to draw crowds

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Standard

NASHVILLE, Tenn.-When people say Brad Goad is “on fire for the Lord,” they aren't kidding.

Evangelist Graham falls, undergoes hip replacement surgery in Florida_11204

January 9, 2004

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Evangelist Graham falls, undergoes hip replacement surgery in Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.-(ABP) Evangelist Billy Graham underwent partial hip replacement surgery last week in Jacksonville, Fla.

While he was in Jacksonville for a routine checkup at the Mayo Clinic, he reportedly fell in his hotel room on the hospital grounds.

When he could not get out of bed the next morning, Graham was checked into St. Luke's Hospital.

Iraqi pastor looks ahead to bright future, not back to prison_11204

January 9, 2004

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Iraqi pastor looks ahead to bright future, not back to prison

By Sara Horn

LifeWay Christian Resources

BAGHDAD, Iraq (BP)-It would be hard to imagine a time Maher Abdul Mageed hasn't smiled. The Iraqi pastor lights up a room, whether it's in his church or at the hospital where he helps translate for Iraqi patients.

Pastor sees prayer as a black-and-white matter_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

Pastor sees prayer as a black-and-white matter

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

KIRBYVILLE-Prayer is as simple as black and white for Charles Burchett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Kirbyville.

Texas Baptist Forum_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM: Christian worldview

When I hear someone speak of a need to return to a “Christian worldview,” I shudder. The concept sounds good but is interpreted in too many ways to be helpful to the Christian community.

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Usually, it is a term loaded with political overtones, promoted by those who have little or no Baptist orientation and belief. It tends toward being a dark cloud seeded with crystals of thought from formerly state-sanctioned church movements. The problem is that although it looks good, the rain of spiritual reform never reaches the ground.

Many of those who perpetuate this concept come from denominations that were birthed as state churches, and their desire is to create some kind of “theocracy” that unfortunately is really government by their own theology. If enacted, such a government would make the outside of man subject to some standard of conformity but do nothing for the heart of man.

Church's 'Moon Rock' concert benefits foreign missions_11204

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Church's 'Moon Rock' concert benefits foreign missions

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

IRVING-A group of First Baptist Church young adults raised more than \$1,000 for international missions. All they needed was a little Moon rock.

Joy multiplied with nursing home shopping network_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04



The
Woman's
Missionary
Union at
First
Baptist
Church in
Wimberly
multiplied
Christmas
joy for
nursing
home
residents
by setting
up a free
“store”
where
residents
picked out
gifts again
this year.

Joy multiplied with nursing home shopping network

By George Henson

Staff Writer

WIMBERLEY-The elderly woman's eyes lit up as she saw the baby doll on

top of a pile of plush animals. She scooted across the room as quickly as her paddling feet could pull her wheelchair, never taking her eyes from her prize.

On the Move_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

On the Move

Cody Bloyd to Fellowship at Field Store in Waller as youth minister.

♦ **Dusty Daniel** has resigned as youth minister at First Church in Stanton.

♦ **Jamie Long** to Fellowship Church in Lubbock as minister to children.

Russian seminary leader seeks churches to adopt

students_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

Russian seminary leader seeks churches to adopt students

By Marv Knox

Editor

ABILENE—A Russian Baptist leader has come to Texas, looking to complete the formula for effective ministry in his homeland.

Samaritans want to share vision of peace with other people in Middle East_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

Samaritans want to share vision

of peace with other people in Middle East

By Michelle Gabriel

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-The Samaritan Israelites-a people despised in the biblical era as unclean and decimated by centuries of violent conflict but who have adopted a policy of total disarmament-want to share their peaceful vision with other countries in the Middle East by building an international peace center.

Religious community challenged to stand against international sex trade_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

**Religious community challenged
to stand against international sex**

trade

By Karen Long

Religion News Service

CLEVELAND-Sister Clare Nolan recently stood before a packed audience at the City Club of Cleveland and asked her listeners to think about some numbers: Somewhere between 700,000 and 2 million women and girls are taken beyond their national borders and forced into prostitution each year.

Survey explores connection between students & God_11204

January 9, 2004

Posted: 1/09/04

Survey explores connection between students & God

LOS ANGELES (RNS)-The proportion of college students who attend worship services drops from more than half to less than a third between freshman year and junior year, according to a study at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The Spirituality in Higher Education survey found 52 percent of students frequently attend services before entering college, but that segment

dropped to 29 percent by the third year of college. Seven in 10 students said they had attended at least one service in the past year.

The findings are part of a survey of 3,680 students at 46 colleges and universities.