

Micah Challenge sets goal of cutting worldwide poverty in half by 2015_101804

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Micah Challenge sets goal of cutting worldwide poverty in half by 2015

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

NEW YORK (ABP)—Christian leaders from around the world are launching a major anti-poverty initiative this month in New York City with an ambitious goal—to cut worldwide poverty in half by 2015.

New NAMB church-starting guidelines won't impact BGCT, officials maintain_101804

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New NAMB church-starting guidelines won't impact BGCT, officials maintain

DALLAS—Guidelines adopted by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board that require members of new churches to affirm biblical inerrancy and male-only deacons will not impact church-starting efforts funded through the Baptist General Convention of Texas, Executive Director Charles Wade insists.

“Texas Baptists have their eyes firmly set on a path that leads to hundreds of new churches in coming years,” Wade said. “Our church starters will continue to help open congregation doors under the same standards and requirements that we have used for years.”

Mission board trustees voted Oct. 6 to approve a 34-page document titled “Ecclesiological Guidelines to Inform Southern Baptist Church Planters.”

"Our church starters will continue to help open congregation doors under the same standards and requirements that we have used for years."

**—BGCT
Executive
Director
Charles Wade**

On the Move_101804

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On the Move

Dwight Foster has resigned as pastor of Primera Iglesia in Goliad.

♦ **Greg Horn** to Bois D'Arc Creek Cowboy Church in Fannin County as interim pastor.

♦ **Jerry Hutchings** has resigned as pastor of Oaklawn Church in Texarkana.

Poll: Good news, bad news for U.S. Muslims_101804

October 15, 2004

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Poll: Good news, bad news for U.S. Muslims

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-A new survey commissioned by an Islamic civil-rights group offers both good news and bad for American Muslims.

Teens choose friends over ministers in making ethical choices, poll says_101804

October 15, 2004

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Teens choose friends over ministers in making ethical choices, poll says

WASHINGTON (RNS)-Teenagers who want help making ethical decisions are about six times more likely to seek out their friends than to ask a minister for guidance, a poll shows.

Eighty-three percent of teens said they would turn to their friends for help in making such choices, followed by their parents (68 percent), teachers

(27 percent), the Internet (24 percent) and clergy (14 percent).

The poll also showed that almost one-third of teens surveyed think they have to “bend the rules to succeed.”

BGCT leaders maintain proposed changes won't narrow participation_101804

October 15, 2004

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BGCT leaders maintain proposed changes won't narrow participation

By Marv Knox

Editor

Reorganization of the Baptist General Convention of Texas would not “narrow the tent” of participation, BGCT leaders insisted.

African-American Christian women urged to intercede for the nation_101804

October 15, 2004

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African-American Christian women urged to intercede for the nation

HOUSTON-College student Andrea Punch grew up believing missionaries were white-haired women serving God in Asia. That stereotype vanished this summer when Punch became a missionary in Cuba.

Punch, a student at Baylor University, spoke during the first Sisters Who Care conference for African-American women, held recently at First Metropolitan Baptist Church in Houston.

She challenged participants to go home and get busy, because God has called each of them to be missionaries wherever they live.

Debra Berry

Texas Baptist Men hope disastrous season is winding down_101804

October 15, 2004

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Texas Baptist Men hope disastrous season is winding down

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Texas Baptist Men's disastrous fall finally is starting to slow down.

Texas Baptist volunteers continue ministry to hurricane victims in Grenada_101804

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Texas
volunteers
join in
prayer
with
Christians
in
Grenada
before
leaving
Grand
Anse
Baptist
Church to
serve in
various
areas of
the island.

Texas Baptist volunteers continue ministry to hurricane victims in Grenada

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada-Texas Baptist Men's disaster relief ministry may be nearing its end in Florida, but it is in full swing on the island of Grenada.

Court hears cases concerning display of Ten Commandments_101804

October 15, 2004

Posted: 10/15/04

Court hears cases concerning display of Ten Commandments

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-The Supreme Court has agreed to wade into one of the day's most explosive church-state issues-whether displays of the Ten Commandments on public buildings ever can be constitutional.

Texas Tidbits_101804

October 15, 2004

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Texas Tidbits

Child care offered for BGCT. Free child care will be provided for out-of-town messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting Nov. 8-9 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio. Care for young children-infants through 5-will be offered on-site in Ballroom A by the Texas Baptist Men Child Care Unit. The unit is licensed and certified by the state, and all workers have passed training courses and criminal background checks. The service will be offered Monday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., 12:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. On Tuesday, the times are 6:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Reservations are required. Parents will be responsible for their children's meals, but snacks will be served during their stay. For reservations, contact Tracy Barber, TBM childcare director, by Oct. 29 at (972) 782-8418 or tracy@bartandtracy.com. A registration packet will be mailed to parents.

Resolutions requested. Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual meeting who wish to present resolutions for consideration are encouraged to submit the resolution in writing prior to the convention, said Dan Treviño, chair of the resolutions committee. The deadline for submitting resolutions at the convention is 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 8. But to allow adequate consideration by the committee and because of printing deadlines to include the resolutions in Tuesday's convention Bulletin, Treviño encourages early submission. Resolutions must be signed by an elected messenger, with church name included. Proposed resolutions may be submitted to Dan Treviño, Harlandale Baptist Church, Box 14278, San Antonio 78214.

Baylor honors Amarillo couple. Baylor University recently named Randy and Stacy Sharp of First Baptist Church in Amarillo as "parents of the year." The university recognized the Sharps during a halftime ceremony at

a Baylor Bears football game during parents' weekend. The Sharps both graduated from Baylor, receiving their bachelor's degrees in business administration in 1976. Their eldest daughter, Meridith Sharp Genuchi, received her bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's of accountancy in 2002. Their other three children currently attend Baylor: Austin, a senior majoring in business and environmental studies; Troy, a junior business major; and McKay, a freshman business major.

TOGETHER: Convention needs to be reorganized_101804

October 15, 2004

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TOGETHER: Convention needs to be reorganized

This year, the Baptist General Convention of Texas has taken a close look at itself. We've looked at what we're doing and what we can, by the grace of God, do in the days and years to come.

It has been a productive process, leading to development of new statements regarding our mission, vision, values and priorities. These will guide us.

Those statements, however, will be worthless if we do not become more effective and intentional as a kingdom enterprise. With that in mind, in

coming months we will restructure our staff and the way we do our work.
Everything will be geared to serving churches better.

CHARLES
WADE
Executive
Director
BGCT
Executive
Board