

BaptistWay Bible Series for Oct. 17: Paul was faithful in ministry despite hardships_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

BaptistWay Bible Series for Oct. 17

Paul was faithful in ministry despite hardships

2 Corinthians 6:1-13; 7:2-4

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

Regents postpone indefinitely a call for Baylor president's resignation_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Regents postpone indefinitely a call for Baylor president's resignation

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO-Baylor University regents voted to postpone indefinitely a call for President Robert Sloan's resignation, and they unanimously rejected a request by the university's Faculty Senate to hold a facultywide referendum on Sloan's administration.

Time taking toll on church racist bombers couldn't destroy_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Time taking toll on church racist bombers couldn't destroy

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.-Carolyn McKinstry guided a visitor through the basement of the historic Sixteenth Street Baptist Church and pointed out some glaring cracks in the walls.

Directors approve name change for Baptist Joint Committee_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Directors approve name change for Baptist Joint Committee

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs will become the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty after the agency's directors approved a name change recently.

Baptist Briefs_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Baptist Briefs

Thomas accepts seminary post. Claude Thomas has resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church in Euless to serve as chaplain at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and special assistant to President Paige Patterson. He also will assist in the seminary's doctor of ministry degree program and student recruitment. Thomas earned two degrees from Southwestern Seminary and is former president of the seminary's National Alumni Association.

Virginia WMU rejects SBC position. Leaders of Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia have adopted a declaration endorsing the "diverse and unlimited" Christian vocations of women and rejecting both the Southern Baptist Convention's official opposition to women pastors as expressed in the 2000 Baptist Faith & Message statement and the refusal of the convention's North American Mission Board to endorse women as military and prison chaplains. The Virginia WMU trustees and board of advisers unanimously approved the "Declaration of the Dignity of Women" during their annual meeting. The full text of the declaration may be read at www.wmu-va.org.

Baylor researcher joins seminary faculty. William Dembski, associate research professor at Baylor University's Institute for Faith and Learning, has been named director of the new Center for Science and Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. Southern

Seminary President Al Mohler described Dembski as "a primary theorist of intelligent design, as well as a primary opponent of Darwinism and evolutionary theory." Dembski previously taught at Northwestern University, the University of Notre Dame and the University of Dallas.

Bush's faith more mainstream American than evangelical, insiders insist_100404

October 1, 2004

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Bush's faith more mainstream American than evangelical, insiders insist

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-While many of President Bush's opponents and critics alike have pointed to his evangelical Christian faith as his defining characteristic, several intimately acquainted with Bush recently told a gathering of journalists the president considers himself in the mainstream of American religious life.

SBC leader blasts BWA fund-raiser_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

SBC leader blasts BWA fund-raiser

NASHVILLE-A Baptist World Alliance fund-raising appeal directed to Southern Baptist Convention churches has drawn criticism from Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, who claims the effort violates longstanding denominational policy.

The policy in the SBC's business and financial plan specifies that "in no case shall any convention entity approach a church for inclusion in its church budget or appeal for financial contributions."

While BWA leaders voluntarily honored that policy when the SBC was affiliated with BWA, the two entities no longer have formal ties.

Presidential candidates experience, express faith differently_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

	
President George W. Bush, shown here at Union Bethel African Methodist Church in New Orleans, says he cannot separate his faith from his job as president.(RNS/John McCusker Photo)	Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry, shown here at Second Ebenezer Baptist Church in Detroit, considers his faith a deeply personal matter.(AP/Charles Krupa Photo)

Presidential candidates experience, express faith differently

By Mark O'Keefe

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—One candidate is from the Bible Belt and likes to tell how God redeemed him from a life of destructive drinking, which made him a better husband and public servant for such a time as this.

Book examines five views on church polity_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Book examines five views on church polity

By David Roach

Southern Baptist Seminary

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—What is the most biblical way to structure church government?

Muleshoe pastor to be nominated for BGCT second vice president_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Muleshoe pastor to be nominated for BGCT second vice president

By Marv Knox

Editor

DRIPPING SPRINGS—Stacy Conner, pastor of First Baptist Church in Muleshoe since 1991, will be nominated for second vice president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas this fall.

Focus on the Family joins call

for Procter & Gamble boycott_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

Focus on the Family joins call for Procter & Gamble boycott

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (RNS)—Focus on the Family Chairman James Dobson has encouraged listeners to his radio program to boycott Procter & Gamble products because of what he calls the company's "tacit endorsement of gay marriage," but the Cincinnati manufacturer says conservative groups are mistaken about its stance.

DOWN HOME: For good health, always wash up_100404

October 1, 2004

Posted: 10/01/04

DOWN HOME:

For good health, always wash up

Talk about a bad job.

The American Society of Microbiology hired people to hang out in airport bathrooms and keep track of the percentage of travelers who wash their hands after they're finished with everything else they do in the bathroom.

I heard about this on the radio. The reporter interviewed one of the “researchers,” who explained he tried to do his job inconspicuously. Like that's easy. He would be the person over by the wall, keeping an eye on the sinks, making tally marks in a notebook, trying not to look thoroughly disgusted.