

# **Volunteers develop longterm love for borderland\_92004**

September 17, 2004

Posted: 9/17/04

## **Volunteers develop longterm love for borderland**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

GEORGETOWN-Travelers to the Mexican border town of Acuña find families living hard lives in great need. And if timed properly, they also witness a group of Texas Baptist churches ministering to the people living “an hour and a half past the Great Commission,” mission volunteers in one Central Texas community say.

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## **Number of poor Americans lacking health insurance rises for third year\_92004**

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# **Number of poor Americans lacking health insurance rises for third year**

WASHINGTON (ABP)-The number of Americans living in poverty rose 3.4 percent last year, to 35.8 million people, while the number without health insurance climbed to 45.0 million, an increase of 1.4 million, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

It was the third straight annual increase for both categories.

About 12.5 percent of the population lived below the poverty line in 2003, an increase of 1.3 million from the 34.5 million in poverty in 2002. The number of children in poverty rose as well, to 12.9 million or 17.6 percent of those under 18 years old.

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## **Texas Baptist Forum\_92004**

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### **TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM Carter clarification**

In your Aug. 23 issue and at other times, I have noticed an incorrect description of my belief concerning abortion.

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E-mail the editor at *-Marv Knox*

[E-mail the editor at  
marvknox@baptiststandard.com](mailto:marvknox@baptiststandard.com)

As a Christian, I have never believed that Jesus Christ would approve abortions except, perhaps, to save the life of the mother.

Jimmy Carter

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## On the Move\_92004

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### On the Move

**Robert Arrubla** to Iglesia Nuevo Amanecer as pastor.

☒ **Carl Bilderback** has completed an interim pastorate at Hyde Park Church in Denison.

☒ **Andy Buchanan** to Calvary Church in Garland as pastor.

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# UMHB students ministered in Philippines\_92004

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## **UMHB summer missionary back from Philippines**

Christy Crothers of Temple worked this summer with children on Isla Verde, a small island in the Philippines. She was among more than 120 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor students who served as summer missionaries.

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.

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# **U.S. News ranks six Texas Baptist schools among top half in nation\_92004**

September 17, 2004

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## **U.S. News ranks six Texas Baptist schools among top half in nation**

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

This year's college rankings are in—at least according to U.S. News and World Report magazine—and six Texas Baptist schools are rated in the top halves of their respective categories.

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# **Adrian Rogers announces retirement plans\_92004**

September 17, 2004

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# Adrian Rogers announces retirement plans

CORDOVA, Tenn. (ABP)—Adrian Rogers, prominent pastor and standard-bearer for the Southern Baptist Convention's "conservative resurgence," announced he will retire in six months from the church he has led 32 years.

Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn. a suburb of Memphis, announced his plans to the congregation Sept. 12, his 73rd birthday.

"He said tonight that he was announcing his retirement; that he would continue to pastor for six months," said Mark Dougharty, Bellevue Baptist's associate pastor.

Adrian Rogers
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## Shepherd church committed to obedience, no matter what\_92004

September 17, 2004  
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# **Shepherd church committed to obedience, no matter what**

**By George Henson**

*Staff Writer*

SHEPHERD-Leaders of First Baptist Church in Shepherd believe the key thing about being a “key church” is obedience—even when obedience requires a double dose of persistence.

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# **After 57 years of service, Levelland church secretary files away memories\_92004**

September 17, 2004

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# **After 57 years of service, Levelland church secretary files away memories**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

LEVELLAND-When Charlene Shifflett started working at First Baptist

Church in Levelland, she struggled to figure out office machines. Little did anyone—including Shifflett—realize she would outlast the machines many times over and become the “backbone of the congregation.”

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## Texas Tidbits\_92004

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### Texas Tidbits

**Singles witness at state park.** About 150 single adults spent part of a holiday weekend sharing their faith with vacationers at Garner State Park in south central Texas. It was the final event of the Single Adult Labor Day Conference at nearby Alto Frio Baptist Encampment, sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Christian Life Commission. The singles divided themselves into teams—face-painting, bracelet-making, water-giveaway, prayer-walking—and spread out around the park. They ended the day by serving more than 500 hotdogs to visitors.

**UMHB ministers' forum slated.** The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor's College of Christian Studies will sponsor a monthly on-campus forum open to ministers of any denomination. Tony Martin, UMHB religion professor, will speak on wisdom literature of Israel at the first lunchtime forum, 11:45 a.m. Sept. 23. Participants may purchase lunch at the school's dining hall or bring their own. For more information about this or other College of Christian Studies programs, call (254) 295-5075.

**Kingwood congregation marks church-starting milestone.** Iglesia Bautista Hispana Woodridge in Kingwood recently was recognized as the 1,000th church start facilitated by the Baptist General Convention of Texas Church Multiplication Center since 2000. Eduardo Mecca is pastor. The congregation is tailored to reach middle- and upper-income Hispanics who prefer to worship in Spanish, a demographic few Texas Baptist churches are serving, said Abe Zabaneh, director of the center.

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## **TOGETHER: Give generously to support missions\_92004**

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### **TOGETHER: Give generously to support missions**

In this new century, Texas Baptists already have started 1,008 new churches. We are ahead of our goals and grateful to God for his blessings on our efforts to work with established churches in giving birth to new congregations all across our state. Hispanic church starts number 608 of these, and there have been new churches started in 18 different languages.

You are doing some of your best mission work when you give through the Texas Cooperative Program and the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions. We have increased our commitment to new church starts through

both of these missions-funding channels.

CHARLES WADE Executive Director BGCT Executive Board
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This year's Texas missions theme—"Plant ... Water ... Harvest"—comes from Paul's admonition to the Corinthian church that in God's economy of evangelism and missions, one person may plant a gospel seed, another may water the seed, but only God can give the harvest. But God does call us to plant and water, and he calls us to wait patiently for the harvest. At the appropriate time, God will send us into the fields to gather the harvest he has provided.

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# **Overseas transplants may promote human organ trafficking\_92004**

September 17, 2004

Posted: 9/17/04

# Overseas transplants may promote human organ trafficking

**By Mandy Morgan**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)-If Thomas Diflo, a doctor, hears his patients talk about going abroad to buy a kidney, heart or lung, he advises against it. If they do travel out of the country to purchase an organ, he will refuse to provide follow-up treatment.