

BaptistWay Bible Series for Sept. 26: God gives strength, mercy enough to persevere_92004

September 16, 2004

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Sept. 26

God gives strength, mercy enough to persevere

2 Corinthians 4:1-15

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

BaptistWay Bible Series for Oct. 3: Live knowing you will have to

give an account_92004

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Oct. 3

Live knowing you will have to give an account

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

BGCT first vice president nominee encouraged by signs of progress_92004

September 16, 2004

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BGCT first vice president nominee encouraged by signs of progress

By Marv Knox

Editor

DALLAS—Michael Bell, longtime pastor of Greater St. Stephen First Baptist Church in Fort Worth, will be nominated for first vice president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas when it meets Nov. 8-9.

Six children of Baptist leaders among casualties from Russian hostage crisis_92004

September 16, 2004

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Six children of Baptist leaders among casualties from Russian hostage crisis

BESLAN, Russia (ABP)—At least six children of Baptist leaders were killed when a hostage standoff in a Russian school ended violently Sept. 3, according to Baptist groups from the region.

The two-day crisis in the southern town of Beslan came to a climax when Russian commandos stormed the school following an explosion, according to news sources on the scene. Russian authorities have said that at least 338 people-many of them schoolchildren-were killed in the massacre, and hundreds remain missing.

Baptist World Alliance leaders familiar with the situation said the tragedy hit the local Baptist church in Beslan hard. Pastor Sergey Totjiev and his wife, Bela, lost two children, and one son remains hospitalized with a severe eye injury.

Kindergartner reads her favorite Bible stories to nursing home residents_92004

September 16, 2004

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Kindergartner reads her favorite Bible stories to nursing home residents

By Renee Busby

Religion News Service

FAIRHOPE, Ala. (RNS)-Hannah Denham has been practicing her reading. But she doesn't always sit at home in her room to read her favorite stories. Instead, she shares them with strangers.

Detours lead to linkage between churches in Waco, Boulder_92004

September 16, 2004

Posted: 9/17/04

Detours lead to linkage between churches in Waco, Boulder

By Sarah Farris

BGCT Summer Intern

BOULDER, Colo.-Life had taken a wrong turn. A minister with a passion for unreached people was called to work in Waco with Baylor University students. And a Rocky Mountain girl who wanted to attend Colorado University ended up at Baylor.

Baptist Briefs_92004

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Baptist Briefs

Transition murky at Habitat. Millard Fuller, who founded the world-renowned Christian housing ministry Habitat for Humanity International with his wife, Linda, in 1976, will end his service as president next year. But Fuller and Habitat directors have been in conflict for several months over how and when the leadership transition will take place. While retaining the title of president and chief executive officer, Fuller, who turns 70 in January, said he has been forced into a "figurehead" role since former board chairman Paul Leonard Jr. was sent to the Americus, Ga.-based headquarters in June as managing director. Former President Jimmy Carter, a longtime Habitat volunteer and personal friend of the Fullers, brokered an agreement that called for Fuller's retirement in January 2005. But Fuller has sought to extend his term as Habitat's president and CEO until later in 2005 when the completion of the 200,000th house built by the worldwide ministry is expected to occur. Board leaders have offered Fuller the opportunity to preside over the dedication of that historic milestone, but not in the role of CEO.

Olford dies at 86. Biblical expositor Stephen Olford died at age 86 after suffering a massive stroke. He was a member of Bellevue Baptist Church in suburban Memphis, Tenn. He founded the Stephen Olford Institute for Biblical Preaching in 1980 to promote verse-by-verse biblical preaching and practical training for pastors, evangelists and lay leaders.

Criswell College installs president. Jerry Johnson was installed as the sixth president of Criswell College in Dallas last week. The 40-year-old Malakoff native was the unanimous choice of trustees last December and began serving in February. Johnson, a 1986 Criswell graduate, came to Criswell College from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he was dean of the seminary's Boyce College. Criswell College is affiliated with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.

Church benefits as families give up cable TV_92004

September 16, 2004

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Church benefits as families give up cable TV

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN SABA—When challenged to give sacrificially to build a new sanctuary, some families at First Baptist Church of San Saba decided to give up ESPN, CNN and HBO.

Hope floats at First Baptist Church, Canyon Lake_92004

September 16, 2004

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Volunteers from First Baptist Church in Canyon Lake offer free drinks to vacationing tubers on the Guadalupe River, explaining that God freely offers salvation as a gift, just as the church freely provides the refreshing drinks.

Hope floats at First Baptist Church, Canyon Lake

By Craig Bird

Special to the Baptist Standard

CANYON LAKE-Every summer, the Guadalupe River becomes an international waterway. Mike Bates thinks that makes it a prime location to tell folks about a God who loves the whole world.

Members of Canyon Lake church develop varied ministries_92004

September 16, 2004

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Members of Canyon Lake church develop varied ministries

By Craig Bird

Special to the Baptist Standard

CANYON LAKE-Giving away bottles of water and soft drinks to sunburned tubers may be the most unusual outreach project at First Baptist Church in Canyon Lake, but it is certainly is not the only one.

Cartoon_92004

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| <p>I wasn't satisfied just changing the bylaws. No, I had to change the order of worship, too.</p> |
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[See second cartoon here.](#)



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.

ANOTHER VIEW: The '50s weren't what they used to_92004

September 16, 2004

Posted: 9/17/04

ANOTHER VIEW:

The '50s weren't what they used to be

By Tom Ehrich

Four parents serve dinner at our church's youth group meeting.

I observe hesitant sixth-graders looking panicked, hopeful seventh-graders withering before 11th-graders, older boys and girls connecting while middle-schoolers choose his-or-her tables.