

# **EDITORIAL: 'How can you call yourself a Christian & vote like that?'\_80904**

August 6, 2004

Posted: 8/06/04

## **EDITORIAL: 'How can you call yourself a Christian & vote like that?'**

A young Texas Baptist minister recently encountered congregational conflict when a member of his church insisted affiliation with the minister's political party comes complete with a ticket to hell. Meanwhile, an older minister in another state created a furor when he apparently endorsed a presidential candidate from the pulpit.

This is only going to get worse.

Both major political parties have hired staff and launched initiatives to recruit conservative, church-going Christians to their cause. The presidential election is too close to call, and control of Congress is up for grabs. Both parties see Christians as the fulcrum upon which important outcomes will tilt. So, they're launching all-out efforts to win these voters to their side. The effort is so intense the IRS already has warned both parties not to influence churches to engage in political activity that would jeopardize their tax-exempt status.

**Hard as it is  
for the most  
partisan  
among us to  
comprehend,  
many voters  
affiliated with  
both parties  
have picked  
their political  
position  
precisely  
because of  
their Christian  
beliefs.**

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# **LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Aug. 15: God participates in every facet of every life\_80904**

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Aug. 15

# God participates in every facet of every life

2 Kings 20:1-21

**By David Morgan**

*Trinity Baptist Church, Harker Heights*

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## LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Aug. 22: Applying God's word leads to renewed passion\_80904

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Aug. 22

## Applying God's word leads to renewed

# passion

2 Kings 21:123:25

**By David Morgan**

*Trinity Baptist Church, Harker Heights*

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## **LifeWay Family Bible Series for Aug. 15: Christians need to follow God's word and grow\_80904**

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**LifeWay Family Bible Series for Aug. 15**

## **Christians need to follow God's word and grow**

1 Peter 13-16, 22-25; 2:1-3,

11-12

**By Rodney McGlothlin**

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# **LifeWay Family Bible Series for Aug. 22: Humility is the posture for service to God, others\_80904**

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**LifeWay Family Bible Series for Aug. 22**

## **Humility is the posture for service to God, others**

1 Peter 2:13-14, 17-21; 3:1-4,

7-9; 5:5-7

**By Rodney McGlothlin**

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## **WMU mission volunteers reach**

# out to Pittsburgh\_80904

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## **WMU mission volunteers reach out to Pittsburgh**

Members of Zion Hills Full Gospel Church join hands to pray with volunteers from Texas, Georgia and North Carolina during FamilyFEST, a volunteer missions effort in Pittsburg, Pa., coordinated by Woman's Missionary Union. WMU volunteers from 12 states served at 15 ministry sites in Pittsburgh this summer during MissionsFEST and FamilyFEST events. About 165 volunteers, including 27 families, participated in backyard Bible clubs, surveys, block parties, light construction, landscaping, repairs, prayerwalking and cooking at a children's camp. Some volunteers, such as 18-year-old Morgan Worsham of Conroe (left) planted and picked vegetables on an eight-acre farm for the Pittsburgh Food Bank. She worked with her grandmother, Jeanette Cliett of Pasadena. MissionsFEST and FamilyFEST in Pittsburgh were a partnership between national WMU, Pennsylvania/South Jersey WMU, Appalachian Regional Ministry and the Baptist Association of Southwestern Pennsylvania. For more information on future WMU FamilyFEST or MissionsFEST opportunities, visit [www.wmu.com](http://www.wmu.com), or call (205) 991-4097.



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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# Floods prompt outpouring of ministry\_80904

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Members of  
The Oaks  
Baptist  
Church in  
Grand Prairie  
and Texas  
Baptist Men  
volunteers  
discuss  
where  
dehumidifiers  
will be most  
helpful after  
floodwaters  
deluged parts  
of North  
Texas.

## Floods prompt outpouring of ministry

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

BALCH SPRINGS—Debbie Christner stood on her porch as rushing water encroached on her home. It had happened before, and the water always receded before it flooded the house. But this time was different. The water did not slow down.

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# Casino impact studies ignore social costs, researchers say\_80904

August 6, 2004

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## Casino impact studies ignore social costs, researchers say

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

Independent researchers maintain a recently released study on the economic impact of casinos in Texas trumpets casinos' benefits without fully considering costs to taxpayers.

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## Gambling industry has money, but opponents insist they have hope\_80904

August 6, 2004

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# **Gambling industry has money, but opponents insist they have hope**

**By Kirsten Pasha & Greg Warner**

*Associated Baptist Press*

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (ABP)-In the Bible, casting lots-which many consider gambling-was a way for God's sovereignty to reign through randomness. Now gambling is drawing lots-lots of people, that is.

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## **God's Man in Texas\_80904**

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# **God's Man in Texas**

Hugh Feagin

(Phillip

Gottschall) and

Bill Jenkins

(Jeremiah

Mears) appear

in "God's Man

in Texas," a

play by David

Rambo

chronicling the

challenges

faced by a

young mega-

church pastor

when he is

named heir-

apparent to the

largest Baptist

church in the

Southwest.

Directed by

Rene Moreno,

the play will be

performed at

Circle Theatre

in Fort Worth

through Sept.

11. For more

information,

call (817)

877-3040.

# **No second term for Hall as BGCT president; cites need for diversity\_80904**

August 6, 2004

Posted: 8/06/04

## **No second term for Hall as BGCT president; cites need for diversity**

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

DALLAS—Ken Hall has announced he will not seek a second one-year term as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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# Volunteers are 'hands and feet of Jesus' to Valley families\_80904

August 6, 2004

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Local children make  
a mad dash at the  
start of a ballgame  
during Vacation  
Bible School  
recreation time at  
the Progreso  
Community Center.

The  
Buckner/Cooperative  
Baptist Fellowship  
KidsHeart teams  
often worked closely  
with community  
centers and schools  
to provide activities  
for children. (Russ  
Dilday Photo)

# Volunteers are 'hands and feet of Jesus' to Valley families

**By Scott Collins**

*Buckner News Service*

PROGRESO-A pile of discarded shingles lay in the summer sun outside Alicia Pena's home. The roof had been stripped down to its rotted plywood.