

Annuity Board renamed GuideStone, will offer services outside SBC circles_62804

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INDIANAPOLIS (BP)-Messengers to the 2004 Southern Baptist Convention approved recommendations to change the Annuity Board's name to GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention and to expand its products and services to evangelical ministry organizations outside the SBC.

The recommendation to change the board's name, its articles of incorporation and SBC bylaws require two successive votes of the convention, but a provision authorizing the board to do business as GuideStone for one year pending a second affirmative vote at the 2005 convention was included and approved. The same process was used when LifeWay Christian Resources changed its name a few years ago from the Baptist Sunday School Board.

“The name change and the opportunity to expand the scope of our work will further undergird our efforts to enhance the financial security of the pastor at the crossroads and other Southern Baptist ministers and employees we serve,” said SBC Annuity Board President O.S. Hawkins.

Franklin Graham's vision a student evangelist in every public school class_62804

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Franklin Graham's vision: a student evangelist in every public school class

By Jennifer Davis Rash

The Alabama Baptist

INDIANAPOLIS—One child in every public school class witnessing for Jesus. That's the vision Franklin Graham shared during his address at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Indianapolis.

Churches seek to make amends

for persecuting Anabaptists_62804

June 25, 2004
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Churches seek to make amends for persecuting Anabaptists

By Rich Preheim

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-In the early 16th century, groups of European Christians started splitting from the Roman Catholic Church in what is now known as the Protestant Reformation. But while Protestants and Catholics were at odds, they had one thing in common: Anabaptism had to be eliminated.

Around the State_62804

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<p>New NAMB missionaries with ties to Texas</p>
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	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘
Carla Clements	Jonathan Pettigrew	Christine McFadden	Jeff McFadden	Denise Dodson	William Dodson

Around the State

✘ Faculty from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor's College of Fine Arts won first and second places in the 2004 Barclay Literary Arts and Music Composition Competition. Under instrumental entries, **Stephen Crawford**, associate professor/director of bands and instrumental activities, placed first for his composition, "Remembering Tomorrow," and also received a merit award for excellence. **Lon Chafin**, associate professor of music, placed second for his composition, "Urban Sketches," and also received a merit award for excellence. In the vocal entries, **John Pinnos**, music instructor, placed second for his composition, "The Minstrel Boy."

✘ Two faculty members in the Hardin-Simmons Kelley College of Business have received promotions. **Charles Walts**, assistant professor of accounting and finance and director of the master of business administration program, was named associate dean for the college of business. He joined the faculty in 1995. **William Curtis**, associate professor of finance and economics, has been named director of internships and placement.



Don Ashmore (left) was elected president of the Hardin-Simmons University staff council. Ashmore, associate vice president for finance and management and controller, succeeds Travis Seekins who completed his term of service. A 1978 graduate of the university, he joined the school's staff in 2001.

Other officers pictured are John Neese, secretary, and Dorothy Kiser, vice president. Neese is athletic director and Kiser is registrar and associate vice president for student records and registration.

(Charles Richardson Photo)

✘ **James McGlothlin**, pastor of Lakeside Baptist Church in Dallas 18 years, has been named church relations representative in the office of church and community relations of Buckner Baptist Benevolences. In his new duties, McGlothlin will cultivate and maintain contact with congregations, develop church-related programs that relate to the ministries of Buckner and serve as minister-at-large for Buckner. He will be based in Fredericksburg. McGlothlin had served on the Buckner board of trustees since 1988 and was vice chairman from 1995 to 1997. He also previously had served as pastor of churches in Galveston, Galena Park, Rosebud, Morgan Mill and Talpa. He may be reached to speak about Buckner at (800) 442-4800, extension 8103 or by e-mail at jmcglothlin@buckner.org.

Camp offers Asian teenagers chance to make connections_62804

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Camp offers Asian teenagers chance to make connections

By Mary Crouch

Texas Baptist Communications

WACO—A youth camp at Baylor University offered Asian Baptist young people opportunities to make connections with new Christian friends, according to organizers.

Baylor benefactor calls for reforms, wants open forum at regents' meeting_62804

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Baylor benefactor calls for reforms, wants open forum at regents' meeting

By Sandi Villarreal

Associated Baptist Press

WACO, Texas, (ABP)—After a year of controversy at the world's largest Baptist university, one of Baylor University's biggest benefactors has written a letter to the Baylor board of regents criticizing President Robert Sloan's leadership and calling for an open forum to discuss the issues at the July board meeting.

Baylor names faculty compensation task force_62804

June 25, 2004
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Baylor names faculty compensation task force

By Lori Scott Fogleman

Baylor University

WACO—Baylor University President Robert Sloan has created a task force on the impact of faculty and staff compensation and appointed 17 faculty and staff members to carry out its work.

Bible drill, speaker competitions help participants

learn lasting lessons_62804

June 25, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

Bible drill, speaker competitions help participants learn lasting lessons

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN ANTONIO—National Bible drill and speaker competitions ingrain biblical lessons in the lives of young people and strengthen future leaders, according to organizers of and participants in the contests.

Baptist Briefs_62804

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Baptist Briefs

CBF marks 9/11 anniversary with missions projects. In memory of the victims of terrorist attacks on New York City and Washington, D.C., the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship will sponsor a day of mission projects Sept. 11. The Fellowship's young leaders network will organize 11 projects in 11

states to commemorate the date of the attacks. Each mission project will focus on peacemaking or rebuilding communities and relationships. For information about the Texas project, contact Rachel Sciretti in Waco at (254) 772-2910 or sciretti@hotmail.com.

Louisiana Baptist leaders announce retirement. Dean Doster, executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, and Lynn Clayton, editor of the Baptist Message, have announced their plans to retire. The announcements follow the recent resignation of Rory Lee, president of Louisiana College, who took a position as executive director of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village. Doster will retire Jan. 31, 2005, and Clayton plans to retire at the end of 2005 after having served more than 27 years as editor of the Baptist state newspaper.

Seminary president falls at SBC. Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., was hospitalized June 15 after falling through an opening in the stage at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. Akin was on stage for a presentation with other seminary presidents when he fell, according to Southeastern spokesman Jerry Higgins. Robert Stewart, the seminary's physician, examined Akin in a first aid room shortly after the accident. Stewart said Akin appeared to have suffered soft tissue damage to his left side and below his ribcage. Akin was later taken to a hospital, where X-rays showed no broken bones. He was released later the same day after other tests showed no damage to his spleen.

Child development center changes lives one family at a time_62804

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Buckner
Child
Development
Center at
Ryan's
Crossing in
Marshall has
enrolled
more than
50 children.

Child development center changes lives one family at a time

By Russ Dilday

Buckner News Service

Child development centers can change not only the lives of youngsters enrolled in them, but also the lives of parents—and sometimes even a community, says Michelle Dickeson, director of the Buckner Child Development Center at Ryan's Crossing in Marshall.

Buckner offers haven of hope at housing complex_62804

June 25, 2004

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Buckner offers haven of hope at housing complex

By Felicia Fuller

Buckner News Service

DALLAS-Like refugees from private wars, one by one they file in, their faces bearing silent witness to atrocities-hollow eyes, missing teeth and conspicuously concealed bruises. For Shirley Harrell, 40, the wounds hide in places only Christ can see.

San Antonio church sets sights on leading 1,000 people to

Christ a year_62804

June 25, 2004

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San Antonio church sets sights on leading 1,000 people to Christ a year

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SAN ANTONIO—Leaders of Buena Voluntad Baptist Church are calling members to put forth a small effort to make a big impact for the kingdom of God.

Leadership set a goal for the 250-member church of reaching 1,000 people for Christ each year from 2000 through 2005. That may seem to be a lot to ask, but when broken down, the goal is and has been attainable, said Pastor Victor Lopez.

To reach the target, each family needs to win a person a month to Christ, Lopez noted.

That can happen easily if they are living faithfully and sharing their beliefs in their daily lives—at work, the mall or the grocery store, he added.

"Once we saw the possibilities, we saw it really wasn't that much," Lopez said.

And the congregation has responded to the challenge. Since 2000, members have seen 800 to 1,000 people become Christians each year.

The converts are coming through all the ministries of the church—youth work, Sunday school, Woman's Missionary Union, Mexico missions and aid to the homeless—and through members sharing their faith regularly.

The primary source of people coming into the faith has been the congregation's efforts in the city jail, located within walking distance of the church facility. In the first part of this year, members have baptized 372 people in the jail.

Lopez leads four chapel services a week at the jail—two in Spanish, two in English. Up to 120 people attend those services. He and a deacon also visit a half-dozen to 10 prisoners a week, giving them Christian literature and Bibles. They discuss spiritual matters.

When individuals are released from jail, church members write them letters and place follow-up phone calls that encourage the former inmates to get involved in a church. And many plug into a congregation, Lopez said, citing some of the letters he has received.

"That makes me very happy," he said. "They tell me they are going back, following Jesus."

The pastor understands most people whom church members lead to faith in Christ will not attend Buena Voluntad. Some cannot because they are incarcerated. Others will choose to go to another congregation.

But Christians are commanded to share their faith, baptizing and making disciples as they go, Lopez insists.

Leaders continuously keep that notion in front of the congregation. A chart is posted on one of the walls of the sanctuary that declares the number of souls saved that year.

Former inmates who came to know Christ through the church's ministry

testify during services. During a recent service, a young man excitedly declared the pastor's continuous work led him to Christ and out of a life of crime, drugs and alcohol.

God is changing lives as his people are faithful to His command to share the gospel, Lopez said.

He looks forward to how God moves during the final 18 months of the drive to reach 1,000 people a year for Christ.

"The people are motivated," he said. "The bottom line is we want them to be soul winners-wherever they are."

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.