

Around the State_12405

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Around the State

Youth across America will use Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 6, to collect money to help hungry and hurting people in their communities through Souper Bowl of Caring. In addition, many groups will collect money to provide aid for the tsunami and earthquake victims in Southern Asia. Youth collect money in large soup pots and then donate the funds to a charity in their community to help people living in poverty. In 2004, 12,750 groups collected more than \$4 million for soup kitchens, food banks and other charities. To learn more, call (800) 358-7687 or go to www.souperbowl.org.

- ◆ Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon School of Theology will hold a special missions emphasis Feb. 10. **Denton Lotz**, executive director of the Baptist World Alliance, will speak at 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. He also will give a brief response at 2:45 p.m. and take part in a panel discussion at 3:45 p.m. **Don Sewell** of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, **Stan Parks** of WorldconneX and **Dellanna O'Brien** of Woman's Missionary Union will share their vision of partnering with BWA. There is no cost for the luncheon, but reservations must be made by calling (325) 670-1287.



A group of fourth-to-sixth grade children from The Heights Church in Richardson recently took toiletry items and gift bags to God's Food Pantry in Plano. The children also spent several hours packaging individual portions of food staples such as rice, beans and flour. The community outreach project was part of the church's Boot Camp program which meets on Wednesday evenings to teach basics of Christian living.

♦ **Diana Garland** has been named the first dean of the School of Social Work at Baylor University. Currently chair of social work, she will begin her term as dean in August. **Wallace Daniel**, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will step down in May after nine years as head of Baylor's largest academic unit to return to research and teaching, as will **Robert Yinger**, dean of the School of Education the past seven years. **David Garland** has resigned as associate dean of academic affairs at George Truett Theology Seminary after serving in that capacity since 2001.

- ♦ Dallas Baptist University will hold its Patriot Weekend for prospective students and their families Feb. 11-12. The cost for students for the weekend is \$25 and includes lodging and meals, as well as meals for their parents. For more information, call (214) 333-5360.
- ♦ **Alvin Petty**, pastor of Calvary Church in Friona, will teach a class at Clovis Community College titled "The Jesus of the DaVinci Code." The class will be held Feb. 14, 21 and 28 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (505) 769-4760. ♦
- ♦ Houston Baptist University will hold an open house Feb. 17 at 7 p.m. for prospective students and their families. For more information, call (281) 649-3211.
- ♦ The 84th Annual Panhandle-Plains Pastors' and Laymen's Conference will be held Feb. 21-22 at Wayland Baptist University. Featured speakers will be **Chris Seay**, pastor of Ecclesia in Houston; **Joel Gregory**, author, preaching professor and former pastor; **Jesse Rincones**, pastor of Alliance Church in Lubbock; **Ed Seay**, pastor of First Church in Magnolia; and **Tommy Brisco**, dean of Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon School of Theology. For more information or to register, call (806) 291-1165.
- ♦ The first doctoral graduates in Hardin-Simmons University's history recently received their degrees. Eleven students earned the doctor of physical therapy degree including **Shireen Azeemuddin**, **Jeff Borcik**, **Melissa Brown**, **Jonathan Conrad**, **Alice Fahmy**, **Jennifer Garard**, **Lindsey Henson**, **Bradley Hicks**, **April Maine**, **Annabell Montoya** and **Holly Wilson**.
- ♦ **Shirley Walker**, associate professor of social work at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, has published a book, *Women Without Children, Who Are They? A Life Journey*. The book, based on a research study she conducted, discusses women who chose to be childless and women who are

childless for other reasons. The book sheds light on common societal assumptions, stereotypes and generalizations about childlessness and provides deeper understanding of the needs, concerns and issues affecting childless women.

- ◆ **Ray Denson** has been named the recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Alumnus Award at Houston Baptist University. Also honored was **Monica Hedges**, who received the Meritorious Service Alumnus Award.
- ◆ **Ronald Hardin** has been named chairman of the board of trustees at Howard Payne University. The retired insurance executive has been first vice chairman the past two years and has completed seven years as a trustee. He is a member of First Church in Wichita Falls.
- ◆ **Dan Williams**, founding president of the Texas Baptist Laity Institute in Dallas, has joined Generis Partners in Atlanta, Ga., as a stewardship strategist.

Anniversaries

- ◆ **Randall Perry**, fifth, as pastor of First Church in Paris, Jan. 1.
- ◆ **Pedro Hernandez**, fifth, as pastor of Iglesia Rios de Agua Viva in Lubbock, Jan. 1.
- ◆ **Bob Dellinger**, fifth, as associate pastor of youth at Tabernacle Church in Ennis, Jan. 2.
- ◆ **Jackie Gestes**, fifth, as pastor of New Horizon Church in Lubbock, Jan. 2.
- ◆ **Carrol Williams**, 20th, as associate pastor for education at First Church in Huntsville, Jan. 27.

- ◆ **Randy Johnson**, 20th, youth minister at First Church in Richardson. He also is celebrating 30 years in youth ministry. The church will hold a reception in his honor Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Rob Merriman**, fifth, as university minister at First Church in Denton.
- ◆ **Darrell Opper**, 15th, as minister of music at Indian Hills Church in Grand Prairie.
- ◆ **Robert Davenport**, fifth, as pastor of Mount Sylvan Church in Mount Sylvan, Feb. 1.

Retiring

- ◆ **Norm Rushing**, as pastor of Community Church in Riviera. He served the Riviera church more than 17 years and was in the ministry 52 years. He also served churches in Brownsville, Coyonosa, Seminole and Realitos, where he was pastor of Bethany Church 11 years.
- ◆ **H.G. Barnard**, as pastor of Elmdale Church in Abilene, Jan. 1. He served the Abilene church 14 years and was in the ministry 35 years.

Deaths

- ◆ **Phil Shelton**, 63, Dec. 22 in Lubbock. A retired pastor, he was killed while helping a stranded motorist. He was in the Air Force more than 22 years, serving many of those years as a bivocational pastor. He entered full-time ministry following his military tenure, serving Prairie Valley Church in Campbell, among others. He is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Lori Kelley; son, Kevin; sisters, Patricia Gaw, Charlene Hardy, Jimmie Bailey and Jerry Summers; and six grandchildren.
- ◆ **Grayson Tennison**, 80, Dec. 31, in Fort Worth. A graduate of Howard

Payne University and Southwestern Seminary, he went to Brazil in 1949 as an appointee of the Foreign Mission Board. He transferred to Portugal in 1960. From 1976 until 1983, he was pastor of First Church in Jacksboro. He then returned to Portugal until his retirement in 1989. He was preceded in death by one brother. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Betty; sons, Gene and James; daughter, Laura Law; eight grandchildren; one great-grandson; brothers, Clifton, C.E. and Ike; and sister, Ramona Akins.

- ◆ **Jack Gray**, 89, Jan. 7 in Fort Worth. Gray was professor of missions emeritus at Southwestern Seminary. Prior to his seminary service, he was pastor at several small Oklahoma churches and then served in the U.S. Navy as a chaplain. After receiving his doctorate from Southern Seminary and serving churches in Oklahoma and Missouri as pastor, he joined the South-western faculty in 1956. He served there 28 years. He was preceded in death by his wife, Elsie. He is survived by his daughters, Noralyn Carpenter and Kristen Desbien; and one granddaughter.
- ◆ **Gerald Riddell**, 89, Jan. 12 in Houston. A graduate of Howard Payne University and Southwestern Seminary, he was a minister 67 years. He was pastor of churches in Texas and Mississippi until he and his wife, Virgie, were appointed as missionaries by the Foreign Mission Board. They served 36 years in Colombia, Chile and Bolivia. Following retirement, he was on staff at Hyde Park Church in Austin, and then was pastor of Simonton Community Church in Simonton and Pattison Church in Pattison. He was preceded in death by his wife, his son, Jerry, and his twin sister, Geraldine. He is survived by his sons, John, Jim and Joe; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
- ◆ **Ronald Prince**, 82, Jan. 15 in Tyler. A graduate of Howard Payne University and Southwestern Seminary, he was pastor of several churches, including First Church in Denison, First Church in Paris, First Church in Cleburne and University Church in Abilene. He served in leadership roles

at HPU, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Louisiana Baptist Convention. He also conducted crusades in Panama, the Philippines and Australia at the invitation of the Home Mission Board. Upon retirement in 1987, he became a member of First Church in Tyler. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Joye. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Roberta; son, Ronald; brother, Harry; sister, Evelyn; one granddaughter; and two great-grandchildren.

Events

- ◆ The Southeast Texas Bap-tist United Bible Conference will be held March 5 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Calvary Church in Beaumont. For more information on the cross-cultural and cross-racial event, call (409) 898-8797.
- ◆ First Church in Anson is taking prepublication orders of a book about its history in preparation for the church's 125th anniversary in May. The cost for the 325-page book is \$27, plus \$5 shipping. Orders must be received by Feb. 15. To order, call (325) 823-3681.

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.