

Book Reviews

September 2, 2005

Posted: 9/02/05

Book Reviews

Gospel Tracks Through Texas by Wilma Rugh Taylor (Texas A&M University Press)

What did U. S. Christians learn about reaching people from the Russian Orthodox Church? The author says the use of converted railroad passenger cars to “chapel cars” in the 1880s on the Trans-Caspian railroad to reach the peoples of Eastern Siberia was the forerunner of 13 such rolling churches used in the western part of this country between 1891 and 1940.

In *Gospel Tracks Through Texas*, Taylor describes in intricate detail the mission work of chapel car Good Will between 1895 and 1903 to reach lost souls, to minister to believers, and to aid or establish churches in railroad towns and cities.

Baptist Briefs

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Cartoon

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“He's
not
moving
to the
next
row. I
don't
think
we
gave
him
enough.
Do you
have
any
more
cash?”

in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

DOWN HOME: Driving lessons: Count blessings

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DOWN HOME: Driving lessons: Count blessings

It's a curse that reminds me of my blessings: Most days, the worst part of this job is getting to and from it.

Take this morning, please.

Somebody-the radio traffic reporters discreetly declined to say who-decided the construction crews working on the section of Highway 121 Bypass that crosses over Interstate 35W in Lewisville should keep on keeping on.

EDITORIAL: As hearts break, aid Katrina's victims

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EDITORIAL: As hearts break, aid Katrina's victims

Which image tormented you the most in the wake of Hurricane Katrina? Brothers in Gulfport, walking through sticks that once framed their apartment. An old woman in a boat, evacuating her home. An elderly person sitting on a cot in the Superdome with a gaping hole in the roof behind her. People crouched on their rooftops, shingled islands in a muddy sea. Or floodwaters engulfing huge swatches of New Orleans, where life will not be “easy” for a long, long time.

I'm still haunted by the news clip of a distraught man describing the last time he saw his wife. Their home split between them. He tried in vain to pull her to safety, until she told him she was slipping away and he needed to take care of their children. The story overwhelmed both the widowed father and the reporter who interviewed him. By the time the clip was over, they both were weeping, along with millions of us whose hearts broke with his.



If Katrina didn't break your heart, don't worry about suffering cardiac arrest. You don't have a heart in your chest. But for all of us who love New Orleans and its Creole charms, who have been mesmerized by the Gulf Coast's pristine beaches, who have even the remotest ability to empathize with suffering, Katrina is a tragedy of epic, heart-rending proportions.

Texans help tent church needing permanent facility

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Guellele
Church
in Addis
Ababa,
Ethiopia,
meets
under a
tent.

Texans help tent church needing permanent facility

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

In 1984, hungry Ethiopians gathered beneath a large tent to get some much-needed food. More than 20 years later, hundreds of people regularly find their spiritual needs met under the same canvas roof.

Hunger farm aims to raise consciousness

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For close
to 30
years, the
World
Hunger
Relief
farm has
operated
as a
learning
laboratory
for people
of all
ages.

Hunger farm aims to raise consciousness

By George Henson

Staff Writer

ELM MOTT-A 42-acre farm seven miles north of Waco seeks to combat hunger around the world-not so much by raising crops as by raising consciousness.

A baseball mascot's faith-straight from the horse's mouth

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Jim Tennison
poses at
Ameriquest
Field with
promotional
giveaways
depicting
Rangers
Captain and
Dinger the
Dinosaur-both
of whom he
has
portrayed.
(Photo by Ken
Camp)

A baseball mascot's faith-straight from the horse's mouth

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

ARLINGTON-Jim Tennison can offer only a nonverbal Christian witness when he's in uniform at his workplace, but it's not due to timidity. It's because horses don't talk.

Ministry seeks to rescue potential victims of sex trafficking

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Summer
camps run
by Texas
Baptist
volunteers
are the
highlights
of the
year for
many
Moldovan
orphans
like these
girls.
(Photos by
Marla
Rushing)

Ministry seeks to rescue potential victims of sex trafficking

By Craig Bird

Baptist Child & Family Services

CHISINAU, Moldova—Homeless teenaged girls vulnerable to victimization by the international sex slave trade are the focus of a new ministry of Children's Emergency Relief International.

Nation Building one life at a time

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Nation Building one life at a time

By Jenny Pope

Buckner Benevolences

About 108 million orphans live in Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America, and the number grows exponentially each year due to the international AIDS epidemic, global aid experts insist.

Buckner
Orphan Care
International
responds to
basic human
needs with
Christian
compassion
such as
providing
food, diapers
and medical
care for
Guatemalan
(left) and
Russian
orphans.
(Photos by
Scott Collins
& Misty
Keasler)

Doors open to Christian business

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Doors open to Christian business

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS-The authentic witness of Christian laypeople who conduct business in a global market-in contrast to covert operations by clandestine missionaries who enter closed countries under the guise of “shell businesses”-represents a key strategy for 21st century missions, a Texas Baptist missions leader insists.

Enter in front door

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Enter in front door

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Why sneak in the back door when the front entry works just fine?