Movieâ□□s themes experienced by church that produced it

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/29/06

Facing the Giants, a film made by Sherwood Baptist Church of Albany, Ga., has played to audiences in more than a million people in 650 theaters and is now available on DVD.

Movie's themes experienced by church that produced it

By George Henson

Staff Writer

ALBANY, Ga.—"Nothing is impossible with God" is a recurring theme throughout *Facing the Giants*, a feature-length independent movie created by Sherwood Baptist Church.

Now the same theme is evident in the life of the church, where leaders plan to use proceeds from the movie's upcoming release on DVD to fund a sports outreach facility.

Texas Baptist Men seek to provide pure Water of Life

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/29/06

Texas Baptist Men seek to provide pure Water of Life

By Barbara Bedrick

Texas Baptist Communications

ZACATECAS, Mexico—Many children in villages throughout much of the Mexican state of Zacatecas cannot drink water without swallowing arsenic and heavy metals. But Texas Baptist Men volunteers are seeking to correct that problem, one community at a time through their Agua de Vida—Water of Life—project.

Texas Baptist Men volunteers test and purify water in Zacatecas, Mexico. The men's work in Mexico is saving the lives of people whose only source of drinking water was contaminated.

Much of the water supply in central Mexico contains heavy levels of arsenic. Thousands of indigenous people live with this danger, but children are the most vulnerable because their immune systems are not fully developed. Toxins in the water can cause skin lesions, cancer, neurological damage and even death.

UMHB student adds German flavor to Texas Christmas

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/29/06

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor international student Kim Jobke stands between her American mother and sister decorating their Christmas tree while her host father looks on.

UMHB student adds German flavor to Texas Christmas

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

TEMPLE—Kim Jobke knows about celebrating Christmas with her American host family. She should. The German native, an international student at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, has celebrated with them for five years.

In Berlin, where her parents live, they open presents on Christmas Eve.

Volunteer builders ramp up efforts to assist the disabled

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/29/06

Volunteer builders ramp up efforts to assist the disabled

By George Henson

Staff Writer

PARIS—Mike Bradley and his band of volunteers enjoy building wheelchair ramps to help homebound people escape houses in which they feel imprisoned due to disability. And the builders hope the ramps become highways to heaven for some people.

Immanuel Baptist Church's ramp-building ministry first came to mind through a study of the New Testament story of a man lowered through the

roof by his friends so he might meet Jesus, Bradley noted.

Volunteers from Immanuel Baptist Church in Paris seek to offer homebound local residents freedom by building wheelchair ramps for their houses.

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 7: Why am I here?

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/29/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for January 7

Why am I here?

• *Genesis 1:1-30*

By Kenneth Lyle

Small-church pastors challenged to make a difference

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/28/06

At the conclusion of a recent WorldconneX conference for smaller church pastors, Ridge Adams, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dublin, takes his turn leading the group to pray for a people group his church is seeking to reach for Christ.

Small-church pastors challenged to make a difference

By David Williams

WorldconneX

WAXAHACHIE—God must love small churches since he made so many of them. That was the message pastors of small churches heard at a recent conference conducted by WorldconneX, Texas Baptists' missions network.

Titled "More Than You Think You Are," the meeting at Lakeview Conference Center in Waxahachie was billed as "a new conversation for the smaller-church pastor."

BaptistWay Bible Series for January 7: Believing in Jesus as the Resurrection & the Life

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/28/06

BaptistWay Bible Series for January 7

Believing in Jesus as the Resurrection & the Life

• John 11:1-13, 17-27, 38-44

By David Wilkinson

Explore the Bible Series for January 7: God will guide his people past obstacles

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/28/06

Explore the Bible Series for January 7

God will guide his people past obstacles

• Nehemiah 4:1-23; 5:1-19; 6:1-19; 7:1-73

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

There were six attempts to stop Nehemiah's work: Sanballat and Tobiah mocked Nehemiah; the enemy threatened a military attack; Sanballat and Geshem attempted to lure Nehemiah outside of Jerusalem to Ono; Sanballat threatened Nehemiah with false charges; Shemaiah, Noadiah and others were paid to prophesy falsely and discredit Nehemiah; and Tobiah had spies in Jerusalem and wrote Nehemiah letters in order to frighten him.

Former WMU President Huis Coy Egge dead at 95

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/27/06

Former WMU President Huis Coy Egge dead at 95

Former Woman's Missionary Union of Texas President Huis Coy Egge died on Christmas Eve. She was 95.

Huis Coy Egge

Mrs. Egge, a native of Logansport, La., was a charter member of Broadway Baptist Church in Houston, was a member of First Baptist Church in Corsicana from 1978 to 1997 and most recently was a member of First Baptist Church in Friendswood.

She was president of Texas WMU from 1976 to 1980 and was affiliated with the missions organization most of her life.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Clarence W. Coy, and her second husband, Elvis H. Egge.

Volunteersâ love encourages Moldovan women

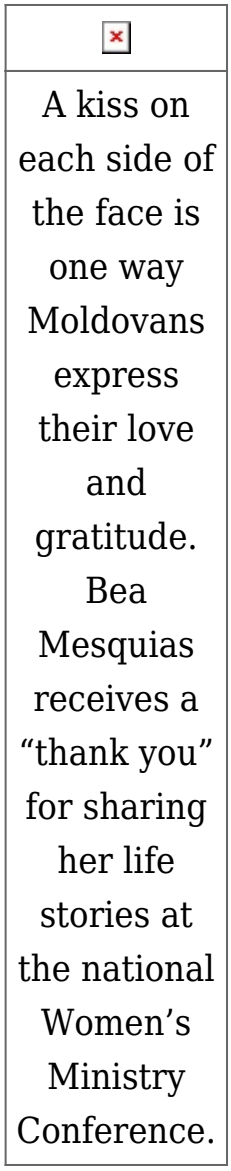
December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/26/06

Texas volunteers, Debra McCammon (from Mesquite), Lori Hudson (from Skidmore) Bea Mesquias (from Harlington), and Jerri Warren (from Texarkana), join close to 1,000 women in praying for Moldova.

Volunteers’ love encourages Moldovan women

Dressed in a borrowed winter coat, a Texas Baptist volunteer slowly approached a family working outdoors. They watched her curiously. She obviously was a stranger to their village but had a warm and loving face that made them want to stop and chat.

Susan Edwards of Dallas flashed a smile. Caught off-guard, the family smiled back. There’s not much to smile about in this small, central European country. Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe. In villages outside of the capital, Chisinau, unemployment is well over 90 percent. Most survive like this family, from food grown in their yard.



A kiss on each side of the face is one way Moldovans express their love and gratitude. Bea Mesquias receives a “thank you” for sharing her life stories at the national Women’s Ministry Conference.

Without a common spoken language between them, Edwards simply patted the woman’s hand and pulled out a Russian Bible. With the simple gesture, she offered this family a chance to find a reason to smile.

Edwards, along with five other Texas volunteers, spent a week offering hope and encouragement to Moldovan women through an ongoing International Initiatives partnership between Woman's Missionary Union and the Moldova Baptist Union.

Georgia church votes to purge piggy name

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/26/06

Georgia church votes to purge piggy name

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

LAWRENCEVILLE, Ga. (ABP)—A Baptist church in a rapidly growing part of Georgia is no longer sitting high on the hog, thanks to a recent name-changing vote.

And some longtime members of the 152-year-old congregation, as well as residents of the surrounding community, have raised a stink about it.

Pastors rank among top 10 on ethics list

December 29, 2006
Posted: 12/23/06

Pastors rank among top 10 on ethics list

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—Americans may trust their pastors almost as much as they trust their nurses.

That's according to a recent USA Today/Gallup Poll. For the sixth year in a row, nursing topped the list as the most ethical occupation in America, according to a survey of public perceptions of honesty and ethical standards for 23 occupations.