

# **Josue Valerio to lead BGCT missions section**

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## **Josue Valerio to lead BGCT missions section**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

DALLAS—Josue Valerio, an associational director of missions and former campus minister and missionary, has been named team leader of the missions section within the Baptist General Convention of Texas Missions, Evangelism and Ministry area.

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## **Youth Revival Movement honored at Truett**

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Baylor University students prayed for revival for 90 straight nights during the spring of 1945. The results were felt around Texas, throughout the South and even to Hawaii.

## Youth Revival Movement honored at Truett

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

WACO—Participants in revivals that began at Baylor University and spread across the nation six decades ago looked back in gratitude and forward with expectation as they gathered on the campus where it all began.

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# **Around the State**

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Mobberly Church's Elevation building has been named Metal Architecture magazine's 2006 winner in the interior category in its annual design awards competition.

The Longview church's 26,000-square-foot Elevation building was constructed to reach the youth of the community. It includes classrooms, informal gathering areas, a cafe, a covered outdoor sport court and a large meeting room, complete with stage and seating for 600 people, that already has become a popular venue for concerts and worship services. The building was designed by Fitzpatrick.Butler Architects.

## **Around the State**

- Baylor University's Hankamer School of Business will host a business ethics forum titled "Five Years Later: Leadership Lessons from Enron and Andersen" Nov. 1-3. The forum will begin Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. with a panel discussion, and events will continue through Friday afternoon.
  - The annual Miss Mary Hardin-Baylor Pageant will be held Nov. 3-4 at 7 p.m. This year's theme is "Rock the Runway." Friday evening will be the talent competition, with Saturday featuring the evening gown and interview portion. General admission is \$10 for both nights or \$7 for one night.
  - Tye Newkirk has been named director of student activities at East Texas Baptist University.
  - Rebecca O'Banion has been named director of alumni relations at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. She is a 1993 graduate of the school and current president of the alumni association.
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## **DOWN HOME: Never too late to do something new**

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## **DOWN HOME:**

### **Never too late to do something new**

When you get to be my age (late-late-late young adult; OK, middle aged), you don't get to do many things for the first time.

But last week, I did something I've never done before.

Months ago, I received an invitation to preach in chapel at [Howard Payne University](#), one of our Texas Baptist schools, in Brownwood.

I quickly accepted, although some people would question my logic.

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## **EDITORIAL: Who will you trust on Election Day?**

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### **EDITORIAL:**

#### **Who will you trust on Election Day?**

[Election Day](#) is upon us. Have you decided how you're going to vote? Whether you vote early or stand in line on Election Day, what's important is that you study the issues, compare the candidates and vote your conscience. In a year when U.S. troops are risking their lives so others may

enjoy the benefits of freedom, Americans should not scorn and diminish those benefits by failing to vote.

We might expect Texas to produce a big turnout this time around, especially for an off-year election. Featuring four significant, well-financed candidates, the governor's race has been more interesting than any Texas political contest in a long time. Independent candidates Kinky Friedman and Carole Keeton Strayhorn ensure that. Friedman brings his mix of humor and ambiguity to the fray. You can't help but wonder, "Is this guy for real, or is he playing out a long, expensive, elaborate joke?" Strayhorn adds irony. Here's a lifelong political insider and government veteran running as an outsider. Oh, and don't forget Chris Bell and Rick Perry, who have run as what they are—the Democratic and Republican candidates.



The gubernatorial race should remind us of a fact stated by ethicist/author [Tony Campolo](#): [“God is not a Republican or a Democrat.”](#) In Texas this year, Campolo would have to add: “God is not an independent, either.”

Most of us see this as obvious. But a significant number of our fellow citizens don't get it. Often, they're Christians who seem to believe the only moral issues are abortion and homosexual marriage. They say (and I'm not making this up), “I don't see how you can call yourself a Christian and vote for a Democrat.” Occasionally, someone will come down on the other side, singling out justice and care for the poor as paramount issues and questioning whether a person can follow Jesus' commands to care for the

“least of these” and still be a Republican.

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# Churches’ Hurricane Katrina response offers lessons

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## Churches’ Hurricane Katrina response offers lessons

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

BATON ROUGE, La.—Churches and other places of worship that served as “the true first responders” when [Hurricane Katrina](#) hit the Gulf Coast last year learned lessons about disaster preparedness that could benefit all faith communities, researchers at Louisiana State University have concluded.

In particular, improved disaster response coordination and communication within and between churches would help faith communities avoid costly and ineffective duplication of services, surveyed congregations told researchers.



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# Texas Baptist Forum

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## Texas Baptist Forum

### All Saints' Day

Halloween candy's appearance on supermarket shelves usually coincides with the arrival of crisp autumn mornings, gaining an hour of sleep and an array of costumes. Halloween is an annual staple of our nation's economy and a fixture on the calendar. Not all Christians embrace the custom, but its presence is nearly impossible to ignore.

Christians often ignore the day after Halloween—[All Saints' Day](#).

• [Jump to online-only letters below](#)

Letters are welcomed. Send them to [marvknox@baptiststandard.com](mailto:marvknox@baptiststandard.com); 250 words maximum.

## Out ((Loud))

*“Your love for our family has helped to provide the healing we so desperately need. Gifts you’ve given have touched our hearts in a way no words can describe. Your compassion has reached beyond our family, beyond our community, and is changing our world, and for this we sincerely thank you.”*

### **Marie Roberts**

Widow of Charles Roberts, who killed five girls in an Amish schoolhouse Oct. 2, in an open letter to Pennsylvania’s Amish community (RNS)

*“I figured, you don’t take it with you.”*

### **Donald Saltz**

Philanthropist, who donated \$5 million—one of the largest individual donations to a house of worship in the United States in years—to his synagogue in Washington, D.C. (Washington Post/RNS)

*“The devil has long since concluded that he’s not really going to be able to defeat the Lord in open matters of conflict ... so he infiltrates from the inside. Our people have been misfed and misled.”*

### **William Shaw**

President of the National Baptist Convention, USA, criticizing “prosperity gospel” (RNS)

While All Saints' Day is not found on the secular calendar, it is an important date on the Christian calendar. For centuries, Christians have paused to celebrate, remember and learn from the exemplary lives of faithful saints and martyrs. Such cultivation of collective memory rewards the living with lessons from the dead. Giving a voice to those Christians who paved our way is an inextricable ingredient of the Christian tradition.

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## On the Move

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## On the Move

- **Joban Baeza** to Cranes Mill Church in Canyon Lake as youth minister.
  - **John Bell** to First Church in Bridgeport as associate minister of music from Trinity Church in Lewisville, where he was associate pastor/worship and music.
  - **William Brackney** has resigned as pastor of Blue Ridge Church in Marlin.
  - **Bill Bryant** to First Church in Sargent as pastor.
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# Network reaffirms call for ‘culture of life’

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## Network reaffirms call for ‘culture of life’

**By Adelle Banks**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A network of evangelical and Catholic leaders, reaffirming its call to build up a “culture of life,” has issued a new statement that links the biblical principle of loving one’s neighbor to care for the unborn, the frail and the dying.

“The direct and intentional taking of innocent human life in abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide and embryonic research is rightly understood as murder,” declares the new statement, [“That They May Have Life” from Evangelicals and Catholics Together](#).

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**Motion: ‘Pastor, ask her to**

# marry youâ€”

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## Motion: 'Pastor, ask her to marry you'

**By George Henson**

*Staff Writer*

MERIDIAN—Pastor Drew Dabbs' marriage proposal was one for the books—the church business meeting minutes' books.

Peggy McDowell, a member at Spring Creek Baptist Church in Meridian, had been bragging on her pastor and his girlfriend, Emily Snowden, whom she was convinced would make a fine pastor's wife. She lamented to a friend that Dabbs hadn't yet asked Snowden to marry him.

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Pastor  
Drew  
Dabbs  
proposes  
marriage  
to Emily  
Snowden  
following  
a motion  
approved  
in a  
business  
meeting  
at Spring  
Creek  
Baptist  
Church  
in  
Meridian.

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## Texas Tidbits

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# Texas Tidbits

**Finalists chosen for BGCT Battle of the Bands.** Twelve Texas Baptist performing groups have been selected as finalists for the Battle of the Bands at the Dallas Convention Center during the Baptist General Convention of Texas' [Weekend Fest](#) Nov. 11-12. The bands and their sponsors are Beyond Riches, Georgetown Baptist Church in Pottsboro; The Flipside, First Baptist Church in Irving; GP1, Primera Baptist Church in Fort Worth; Iconoclast, Casa View Baptist Church in Dallas; Inspired by Eden, South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena; Jonathan Stege Band, First Baptist Church in Lubbock; Look to the Sky, North Pointe Baptist Church in Hurst; Luminaria Rock, Coastal Bend Fellowship in Kingsville; Nameless, Central Baptist Church in Buna; The Opera Stage, Primera Iglesia Bautista in Dallas; 30 Coin Ransom, Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio; and Trae Castles Band, Connect Church in Arlington. The grand-prize winner will receive studio recording time and a spot on YEC fx band line-up in July 2007.

**Baylor regents OK tuition increase.** At their October meeting, [Baylor University's board of regents](#) authorized an 8 percent tuition increase—raising the annual cost to \$22,200 for a student taking 12 hours or more per semester in 2007-2008. The general student fee will increase 6.07 percent to \$2,270 for next year. Room and board rates for undergraduates will increase by 5.02 percent and 3.61 percent, respectively. In total, a freshman entering Baylor in fall 2007 will pay 6.98 percent more in tuition, fees, room and board than a freshman entering this year. Tuition for graduate students will increase by 7.93 percent. Truett Seminary students will experience a 7.96 percent increase. Law students in fall 2007 will see a 7.52 percent increase.

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# **TOGETHER:  â€œWe do our business out in the openâ€œ**

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## **TOGETHER: ‘We do our business out in the open’**

Our convention is committed to open communication and careful, thorough discussion of matters that concern our churches and our Baptist mission in Texas and beyond.

Last December, I finally realized concerns that had been raised with me from time to time regarding our church-starting practices in the Rio Grande Valley required a [more thorough investigation](#) than I had been able to achieve through the normal staff channels available to me.





Executive Director  
BGCT Executive  
Board

Then, early this year, Palo Pinto Baptist Association called for our Executive Board to investigate the matter. After discussing the situation with board and convention officers, we agreed we would engage an experienced attorney from the Valley to get to the bottom of this. Her report will be presented to our board on Tuesday, Oct. 31, at the Baptist Building in Dallas.

There will be time for a thorough presentation by the attorneys and for questions from Executive Board members. The Baptist Standard will report on the findings and the board discussion in next week's issue.