

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 24: Jesus stands ready to heal

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BaptistWay Bible Series for December 24

Jesus stands ready to heal

- John 5:1-24

By David Wilkinson

Cybercolumn by Jeanie Miley: The Tie that binds

December 15, 2006

Posted: 12/15/06

CYBER COLUMN:

The Tie that binds

By Jeanie Miley

On the first Sunday of Advent, I sat in my regular place in the sanctuary of my church, looking around at all of the people who form my community of faith and anticipating the coming Christmas season with eagerness and joy. I know some of the people with whom I have gathered for worship really well, and they know me. Others are still strangers to me, even after all these years, and I often wonder if that is simply choice or if it is, somehow, a kind of failure.

Jeanie Miley

I've served on various committees with many of these people, and we have met for prayer and projects, banquets and business meetings, fellowship dinners and the usual funerals, weddings and baby dedications that mark the passage of time and the meaning of community.

RIGHT or WRONG? Conflict mediation

December 15, 2006

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RIGHT or WRONG?

Conflict mediation

We've had some relational breakdowns in our congregation. Some have suggested that we contact a conflict-mediation expert. Does that idea have merit?

AIDS summit challenges Baptists to âbreak the silenceâ

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David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World, underscores the connection between poverty and the global HIV/AIDS pandemic during the "Breaking the Silence: Compassion for an HIV Positive World" summit, held in conjunction with the CBF general assembly in Atlanta. (Photo by Mark Sandlin)

AIDS summit challenges Baptists to 'break the silence'

By Carla Wynn

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

ATLANTA (ABP)—Baptists and other Christians responded slowly and poorly 25 years ago to the advent of AIDS, but God has been in the trenches from the start, said David Beckmann, president of Bread for the World, a Christian advocacy group.

"God is in the midst of this," Beckmann told more than 400 people gathered in Atlanta June 21-22 for an HIV/AIDS summit, dubbed "Breaking the Silence: Compassion for an HIV-Positive World." The event was scheduled in conjunction with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship general assembly.

Texas Tidbits

December 15, 2006

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Texas Tidbits

Academy receives donated computer system. San Marcos entrepreneur Pat Price donated a new computer system to [San Marcos Baptist Academy](#) recently. Price, an academy alumnus, serves on the school's fund-raising

council. The computer and 17-inch, flat-screen monitor will replace an older system and will be used primarily for video editing purposes.

BUA names search committee. Teo Cisneros, pastor of Templo Jerusalem in Victoria, will chair a presidential search committee for [Baptist University of the Americas](#). BUA trustees named a search committee to nominate an interim president and initiate a nationwide search for a successor to [Albert Reyes](#), who has been named president of Buckner Children & Family Service. Search committee members who will serve with Cisneros are Debbie Ferrier of San Antonio, Francis Barrera of Plainview, John Bobo of Hurst and Doug Diehl of San Antonio. The board also named a council of advisers that includes Baldemar Borrego, president of the Hispanic Baptist Convención; Frank Palos, interim director of Hispanic ministries with the Baptist General Convention of Texas; Robert Rodriguez, BGCT second vice president; Alcides Guajardo, immediate past-president of Convención; Robert Cepeda, chairman of the BGCT Executive Board's missions, evangelism and ministries committee; Alfonso Flores of San Antonio; Keith Bruce, director of BGCT institutional ministries; Irma Alvarado, president of Hispanic Woman's Missionary Union; Rudy Camacho, a former president of Convención; and Delia Vela, president of the Convención Minister's Wives Conference.

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December 15, 2006

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- [Angel House workers minister to Chinese children with cerebral palsy](#)

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- [Lutherans offer belated apology to Anabaptists](#)

- [MySpace lets youth ministers peek into teenagers' lives](#)

- [NBC puts seasoning back in Veggies](#)

- [Pro-lifers blast Warren for inviting Obama](#)

- [Fisherman finds letters sent to God](#)

- [Studies shed light on religion's role in American life](#)

- [Poverty trumps hot-button issues with most voters](#)

- [Star Wars Force followers claim more Jedi than Jews in Great Britain](#)



- [Reviewed in this issue:](#) *When a Congregation is Betrayed: Responding to*

Clergy Misconduct by Beth Ann Gaede, *The Embrace of a Father* by Wayne Holmes and *The Tender Scar: Life After the Death of a Spouse* by Richard L. Mabry.



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Previously Posted

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Book cancellation shows Baylor troubles not over

December 15, 2006

Updated: 12/15/06

Book cancellation shows Baylor troubles not over

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Baylor University reversed plans to publish a book about its recent history—a work critics called a defense of the school's previous administration and defenders called a valuable interpretive analysis of issues facing Christian higher education.

The announcement came one week after former Baylor President [Herb Reynolds](#) sent a sharply critical e-mail to the volume's editors, but university officials insisted their concerns predated that decision by at least five months.

	
Schmeltekopf	Hankins

Love given, received at Cornerstone outreach

December 15, 2006

Updated: 12/15/06

Love given, received at Cornerstone outreach

By Barbara Bedrick

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS—The gift of love is lighting up the lives of two Carrollton volunteers, but their gift of time has blessed dozens of other people.

Deidra Stribling and Carl Wafer, who are engaged to be married, volunteer with community outreach programs at [Cornerstone Baptist Church](#), an inner-city Dallas congregation—programs from which they benefited just one year ago.

Carl Wafer
and Deidra
Stribling met
last
Thanksgiving
at a
community
outreach
meal for
needy people
sponsored by
Cornerstone
Baptist
Church in
Dallas. This
year the
couple—who
are engaged
to be
married and
attending
church
regularly
—worked as
volunteers at
the event.

Baylor prof says Schaeffer remained a fundamentalist

December 15, 2006

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Baylor prof says evangelical godfather Schaefer returned to fundamentalism

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Many evangelical scholars agree [Francis Schaeffer](#) was the single greatest force that propelled evangelicals into political action—ultimately putting George W. Bush in the White House. But some question whether he rightly is described as a fundamentalist.

While some scholars think Schaeffer, the popular author and theologian who helped a generation of evangelicals move toward the public square, left fundamentalism behind during his lifetime, Baylor University professor [Barry Hankins](#) is reticent to concede that point.

Pieces coming together for McAllen church

December 15, 2006

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Pieces coming together for McAllen church

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

MCALLEN—Pastor Thomas Whitehouse views life like a jigsaw puzzle.

“Individually, (the pieces) may be all jaggedy, but together they are beautiful,” he said.

Bone marrow donation provides the gift of life

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Bone marrow
donor Jennifer
Hammons
teaches a
class at the
University of
Mary Hardin-
Baylor.
(UMHB Photo)

Bone marrow donation provides the gift of life

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—One person's whim became another family's answer to prayer when Jennifer Hammons gave a little of herself to an unknown girl an ocean away.

Hammons, a University of Mary Hardin-Baylor graduate and adjunct teacher, became a bone marrow donor.

Wreaths help single mothers

turn their cottages into homes

December 15, 2006

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A Family
Care
resident
shows off
her
wreath
during
the Texas
Baptist
Children's
Home
annual
wreath
party..

Wreaths help single mothers turn their cottages into homes

By Miranda Bradley

Children at Heart Foundation

ROUND ROCK—For single mothers in [Texas Baptist Children's Home](#) Family Care program, a Christmas wreath represents more than a seasonal decoration. It's a vehicle to help them reclaim their identities.

For the past nine years, the Family Care program has provided an opportunity for single mothers to express their creativity. During its annual wreath-making party, the program provides dinner, childcare and a variety of bows, ornaments, trinkets and baubles to adorn each evergreen ornament.