

Calvary Waco bridges gap between church, community

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A student leads volunteers and children in a “get to know you” game.

Calvary Waco bridges gap between church, community

By Laura Frase

Communications Intern

WACO—Sharyn Dowd drives down a street lined with debilitated and deteriorating houses, testifying to the neighborhood’s poverty. But three houses particularly stand out, marked by perfectly clipped lawns, white picket fences, sidewalks and streetlamps.

A woman smiles and waves at her. The woman works a rather rough-looking yard in an attempt to beautify it.

Well-drilling innovation brings water to Kenyan villages

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Volunteers
and local
Kenyan
water
technicians
manually
drill a
bore-hole
well.

Well-drilling innovation brings water to Kenyan villages

By Matthew Waller

Special to the Baptist Standard

RABONDO, Kenya—A Baptist missionary's new drilling technique has been cutting the cost of water wells in third-world countries from several thousand dollars to \$100, all while teaching the people there how to drill for themselves. And now the technology has come to Kenya.

Terry Waller, a missionary to Bolivia through World Concern and Southland Baptist Church of San Angelo, went to Kenya recently at the request of Lifewater International, a Christian organization addressing water issues in developing countries. With five other volunteers, Waller drilled two wells and trained eight local water technicians in Rabondo, a community in western Kenya.

Offering of Letters addresses hunger

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Offering of Letters addresses hunger

By Kelly Knox

Special to the Baptist Standard

WACO—Two-thirds of the people in the world live in extreme poverty, and Lake Shore Baptist Church in Waco wants lawmakers to alleviate their suffering.

For 20 years, Lake Shore has teamed up with Bread for the World, a faith-based advocacy organization seeking justice for the world's hungry and impoverished.

Texan places first at national tournament

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Texan places first at national tournament

By Elizabeth Staples

Communications Intern

Jessica Jones of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano won first place in the National Invitational Speakers Tournament in Birmingham, Ala., the fourth consecutive year the winner of the Baptist General Convention of Texas Speakers Tournament took top honors at the national level.

Jones represented the BGCT at the national tournament, along with Iwalani Caines from Westside Baptist Church in Killeen, who won first place in the state junior high Bible Drill division, and Jacob Eunice, a member of Northside Baptist Church in Del Rio, who won first in the senior high Bible Drill division.

EDITORIAL: SBC: Many changes, very little change

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EDITORIAL: SBC: Many changes, very little change

The Southern Baptist Convention held its most significant meeting in years this summer. But not much has changed in the way the SBC relates to Texas Baptists.

To be sure, the 2006 annual meeting in Greensboro, N.C., featured many changes:

- **Political malfunction.** For only the second time since fundamentalists set out to take over the convention in 1979, the presidential candidate hand-picked by the small group of political power brokers did not win. In fact, the brokers split, and both of their candidates lost. Frank Page, a South Carolina pastor backed by upset-minded youngish (“young” is a relative term in the SBC) pastors, defeated Arkansan Ronnie Floyd, endorsed by three seminary presidents, and Tennessean Jerry Sutton, an insider close to the convention’s bureaucratic elite in Nashville.
- **Young bucks outflank old bulls.** Those youngish pastors powered Page’s candidacy with their blogs—columns disseminated on the Internet. They trumped the SBC’s tightly regulated public relations arm, Baptist Press, which previously controlled information distributed to convention loyalists. The blogs gave them a tool to find each other, communicate their concerns and rally broad support.



ABP urged to pursue 'information integrity'

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ABP urged to pursue 'information integrity'

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP) — Rob Nash, one day after being elected global missions coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, urged about 300 Baptists at an Associated Baptist Press banquet to pursue “information integrity” on their way to becoming “citizens of the world.”

In his first public address since election by the CBF Coordinating Council, Nash urged listeners June 22 in Atlanta to become aware of their place in

the world.

Around the State

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Howard Payne University has dedicated the Bettie and Robert Girling Center for Social Justice, an undergraduate multidisciplinary initiative involving the departments of social work, sociology, psychology, legal studies and criminal justice. The center will be housed in the restored Coggin Academy Building, which has been designated by the State Historical Survey Committee as the oldest educational building in constant use in Texas. Participants in the ribbon-cutting ceremony were Howard Payne University President Lanny Hall; Robert Girling IV, son of donors Bettie and Robert Girling; Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott; Katherine Girling-Odom, daughter of the Girlings; and Robert Hardin, chair of the HPU board of trustees.

Around the State

- Bill Pitts, professor of religion at Baylor University, has been presented the Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contributions to Baptist history by the Baptist History and Heritage Society. He is a member of First Church in Waco.
- Howard Payne University has presented service awards to faculty and staff for their years of service to the university. Glenda Huff, director of student aid, received a pin denoting her 30 years of service. Noted for 25 years at the school were Cheryl Mangrum, associate director of admissions processing; Allen Reed, dean of the School of Fine Arts and professor of music; Evelyn Romig, dean of the School of Humanities and professor of English; and Ed Roth, interim dean of the School of Science and Mathematics and professor of biology. Honored for 20 years of service were Nancy Anderson, dean of libraries and professor of library science; Betty Broome, coordinator of trustee relations; and Nancy Jo Humfeld, professor of communication, director of theater and chair of the department of communication and theater. Serving 15 years are Patricia Banks, associate professor of music; Olga Carter, professor of sociology; Darla Collier, cashier; Justin Murphy, professor of history and director of the Douglas MacArthur Academy of Freedom; Elizabeth Wallace, professor of music; and Randy Weehunt, director of administrative computing. Ten-year employees include Tim Hickey, plumber; Mitzi Lehrer, assistant professor of education; Kyle Mize, director of publications; Robert Peters, dean of the School of Education and associate professor of education; Jose Romero, associate professor of mathematics; Harlan Scott, associate professor of biology and chair of the biological sciences department; and Lester Towell, associate professor of computer information systems.
- The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor has received the “Best of Show” award for its 2005-2006 “Go Far” marketing efforts. The award was

presented by the National Admissions Marketing Report. The campaign also received three awards from the Baptist Communicators Association.

- Four East Texas Baptist University professors have announced their retirements. Included are Sam Arguez, professor of modern languages; Linda Hudson, assistant professor of history; Frank Lower, professor of communication; and Claire Rodgers, professor of music.

Book reviews

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Book reviews

Renewing the City: Reflections on Community Development and Urban Renewal by Robert D. Lupton (Inter Varsity Press)

Robert Lupton's *Renewing the City* is a thought-provoking volume combining biblical insight with the challenge of community development and urban renewal.

Lupton tells the ancient story found in the book of Nehemiah. His storytelling is patterned after the Jewish tradition of Midrash. Lupton describes Midrash as "a combination of commentary, parable and poetic imagination." He uses the first part of the book to tell the story of Nehemiah in a way that is engaging and entertaining.

The second part of Lupton's book is devoted to community development

and urban renewal. Lupton is not content simply to tell the story of Nehemiah, allowing its lessons to hover as concepts completely divorced from any particular context or present-day challenge. Instead, Lupton takes concepts from the Nehemiah story and challenges the reader to apply them to real-life urban situations.



What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to books@baptiststandard.com.

Baptist Briefs

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Baptist Briefs

Baptist college association changes name. Members of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools voted recently to change the name of the 51-member organization to the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities. Executive Director Bob Agee said the change reflects the association's desire to expand its outreach to all colleges and universities that lay claim to their Baptist history and heritage. New board members elected during the meeting included Baylor University

Provost Randall O'Brien and Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Director Charles Wade.

Graham statue unveiled. Evangelist Billy Graham is larger than life for many Southern Baptists, and messengers present at the closing session of the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting learned that firsthand when they witnessed the unveiling of a 7-foot-tall statue of Graham. Mounted in front of a 17-foot-tall cross, the statue of Graham will stand in downtown Nashville, Tenn., near the SBC executive offices and LifeWay Christian Resources' corporate headquarters. At the foot of the cross are three nails and a stone inscribed with John 3:16. Pastor and sculptor Terrell O'Brien of Wyoming designed the statue, and Chris Fryer and Matt Samuelson— owners of CCL, a Christian construction management team in Atlanta—financed the project. Cliff Barrows, music and program director for the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, and William Franklin Graham IV, grandson of Billy Graham and son of Franklin, represented Graham at the unveiling.

Shoes for orphans sought

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Shoes for orphans sought

DALLAS—Buckner Orphan Care International is launching its eighth year of giving new shoes to children worldwide through its annual Shoes for Orphan Souls campaign.

Last year, Buckner collected more than 215,000 new pairs of shoes through nationwide shoe drives. The previous year, the organization reached a ministry milestone, topping 1 million new shoes given to children in more than 40 countries.

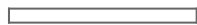
Also last year, Shoes for Orphan Souls helped more than 29,000 Hurricane Katrina and Rita evacuees.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to donate new shoes, along with \$2 for shipping, or cash gifts of \$25 to pay for shoes and distribution costs. Donated items should be for children ages 2 to 18. Due to customs regulations, only new shoes are acceptable.

Cartoon

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“Today,
I’m
preaching
from the
14th
chapter
of the
23rd
Chicken
Soup for
the Soul.”

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.

2nd Opinion: They die rejected, abandoned, alone

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2nd Opinion: They die rejected, abandoned, alone

By Kay Warren

Joana crawled toward me on her skeletal elbows and knees, each movement a painful reminder of the fact she was dying.

When I met her, this emaciated woman was homeless, living under a tree. She had unrelenting diarrhea, little food, no earthly possessions and only an elderly aunt who had taken pity on her to care for her needs.

Still, she roused herself to offer me, an American visitor to her part of Mozambique, a traditional greeting.
