

Texas Baptist Forum

December 5, 2006

Posted: 12/01/06

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BGCT follow-up

If our Baptist General Convention of Texas leadership is the best we have, God help us.

How can intelligent people [interpret](#) *Robert's Rules of Order* by saying the Executive Board is above the convention itself, especially when the body is in session? Where is the Christian example from our leadership when they shut down a messenger who was given his rightful time to speak to his own motion, only to embarrass and denigrate him in front of the audience—especially when everything looked orchestrated?

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

Letters are welcomed. Send them to marvknox@baptiststandard.com; 250 words maximum.



"I feel like an older groom who has been married before. I know what I'm in for, but I'm so excited about the honeymoon, I can't think straight."

Robert Sloan

At his installation as president of Houston Baptist University, reflecting on his 10-year presidency of Baylor University

"If there are some who are concerned about the viability of the (National Association of Evangelicals), it's based on their ignorance, not reality. ... This is like a plane crash. When a plane crashes, you're sad and it's big news, but you don't abandon the airline industry. You recognize that's the safest way to travel."

Leith Anderson

Interim president of the National Association of Evangelicals, responding to criticisms the resignation of former President Ted Haggard due to sexual immorality has exposed weaknesses in the organization (*Christianity Today/RNS*)

"The problem is not the Quran or the Torah or the Bible. Indeed, I have often said that the problem is never the faith; it is the faithful and how they behave toward each other."

Kofi Annan

United Nations secretary-general Kofi Annan (*The New York Times/RNS*)

We lost monies in having parliamentarians who ruled with an iron hand and allowed no freedom of expression at all.

CYBER COLUMN by Brett Younger: Shoe business

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CYBER COLUMN: Shoe business

By Brett Younger

Every five years or so, whether I need to or not, I go to the cheapest shoe store I can find to buy a new pair of everyday shoes. My old pair was beyond old. I avoided puddles with my left foot because of the hole in the sole. The insoles were missing, so they slipped up and down like flip-flops.

When I told Carol it was time for new shoes, she sent Caleb along to buy tennis shoes. I was confused when he stayed in the aisle where I was until I realized that my 12-year-old now shares my shoe size. Caleb also picks shoes by the same criteria—the first ones we try on with which we can live. He quickly selected midnight navy/metallic silver Overplay Nikes that cost more than all the Keds I ever wore.



Brett
Younger

Evangelicals told blogs best way to shape public opinion

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Posted: 12/05/06

Evangelicals told blogs best way to shape public opinion

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Evangelical leaders shouldn't fear expressing their beliefs in the blogosphere or be afraid of a potential Mormon president, conservative law professor and radio talk-show host Hugh Hewitt recently told a group of evangelical theologians.

Hewitt, speaking in Washington after a midterm congressional election that swept many religious conservatives from power, said the next year will

have “enormous significance” when it comes to faith and politics.

RIGHT or WRONG? Forgiveness vs accountability

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RIGHT or WRONG? Forgiveness vs accountability

In many sermons, two terms—accountability and forgiveness—are mentioned as if they are separate Christian virtues. Am I missing the point in thinking they are two sides of the same coin?

UMHB students challenged to see missions up close

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UMHB students challenged to see missions up close

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—As Holley Greeson stood in the middle of a crowd of University of Mary Hardin-Baylor students seated on the floor eating chicken curry and rice with their right hands, she spoke about the culture of India—and issued an invitation.

“We hope you’ll come to visit us,” she said.

Holly Greeson speaks about her experiences as a missionary in India during the Mission Emphasis Fair at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Steppin' Out involves Baylor volunteers in service

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Members
of the
Baylor
University
chapters
of Kappa
Chi Alpha,
Delta
Delta
Delta and
Phi Kappa
Chi
participate
in Steppin'
Out,
working
on the
home of a
Waco
resident.

Steppin' Out involves Baylor volunteers in service

WACO—A record number of students and community organizations participated in Steppin' Out, Baylor University's biannual service day. Three thousand students and 80 student and community organizations worked together to serve in various locations throughout the Waco area.

Steppin' Out's mission is to enhance student involvement in community service. Its goal is to create community awareness, interaction and collaboration between Baylor and the surrounding community.



Baylor University students painting a house as part of the Steppin' Out community service day are (top) Corey Fleeman of Hurst, (below) Sally Neeley of Mineola and (left) Jenny Lee of Fort Worth.

"Service is a lifestyle, and our hope is that students walk away from Steppin' Out with a desire to continue to serve the community," said Andrew Ginakis, a steering committee member for the service day.

Boomers, Busters see sex differently

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Boomers, Busters see sex differently

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

VENTURA, Calif. (ABP)—If a recent survey is correct, there is a bigger generation gap between [Baby Boomers](#) and [Baby Busters](#) than most people care to admit, especially when it comes to opinions about sex.

Church opens its doors to students after school

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Church opens its doors to students after school

By George Henson

Staff Writer

CHRISTOVAL—Doug Hurt believes ministry involves meeting needs. Because his church shares that commitment, the children of Christ-oval now have a place to go after the school day ends.

“We’re primarily a bedroom community, and most of the people who live here drive in to San Angelo to work,” Hurt explained.

Romanian child-development center fits couple well

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John and
Phyllis
Carrier,
along with
Buckner
international
program
director
Randy
Daniels,
spend time
with a foster
care group
home in
Tarneveni,
Romania.

Romanian child-development center fits couple well

By Jenny Pope

Buckner

John and Phyllis Carrier of [Wilshire Baptist Church](#) in Dallas are both over 60. They're retired, in good health, and part of an army of seniors looking to make a difference by offering their time and years of professional experience to do some good.

The Carriers, both former educators and international travelers, found a perfect fit when they volunteered as educational consultants for [Buckner](#) in Romania. For three months, they helped research and develop a detailed

plan for construction and operation of a child development center in the gypsy-populated region of [Tarneveni](#).



Phyllis Carrier comforts a mother and child during her long-term missions stay with Buckner in Romania.

Explore the Bible Series for December 10: God offers ways to overcome obstacles

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Explore the Bible Series for December 10

God offers ways to overcome obstacles

- Ezra 4:1-6:22

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

The people of Judah began to rebuild the temple, and everything was progressing according to plan. Samaritan opposition to the rebuilding project developed. Conflict reared its ugly head, stalling a project that seemed to be going so well. Ezra 4 can serve as preparation for the opposition that will inevitably come in our lives.

Lutherans offer belated apology to Anabaptists

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Lutherans offer belated apology to Anabaptists

By Daniel Burke

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The [Evangelical Lutheran Church in America](#) has

expressed “deep and abiding sorrow” for the persecution of [Anabaptists](#) nearly five centuries ago in Europe.

The ELCA’s church council, which issued the apology at its recent biennial meeting, hopes it will soothe relations between the Lutherans and present-day Anabaptists, including the [Mennonite Church USA](#).

Angel House workers minister to Chinese children with cerebral palsy

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Angel House workers minister to Chinese children with cerebral palsy

By Celeste Pennington

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

GUANGXI PROVINCE, China (ABP)—More than 1.7 million Chinese children under the age of 13 have cerebral palsy.

Because of poverty, limited medical services and China’s laws limiting each family to one child, these children often are abandoned to starvation, isolation and an early death.

Angel
House
director
Kate Wang
Fang, right,
works with
Xiao Yu as
her mother
participates
in training.
(Jay Paul
Photo)