

# **IMB isolationism contrary to missions trend, experts say**

April 28, 2006  
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## **IMB isolationism contrary to missions trend, experts say**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

DALLAS—At a time when collaboration and cooperation characterize Christian missions, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board appears to be moving toward isolation and exclusion, some veteran missionaries and missiologists insist.

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## **BJC chief refutes "top 10 lies" about church & state**

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# **BJC chief refutes ‘top 10 lies’ about church & state**

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

ABILENE—Americans are besieged by lies about the relationship of church and state, Brent Walker insisted during the Maston Christian Ethics Lectures at Hardin-Simmons University’s Logsdon School of Theology, April 10-11.

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## **Five commandments for religious Americans in political life**

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## **Five commandments for religious Americans in political life**

ABILENE—Religious Americans should follow five commandments as they “enter the fray of political life,” Baptist Joint Committee Executive Director

Brent Walker advised.

Walker presented his commandments as part of the Maston Christian Ethics Lectures at Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon School of Theology.

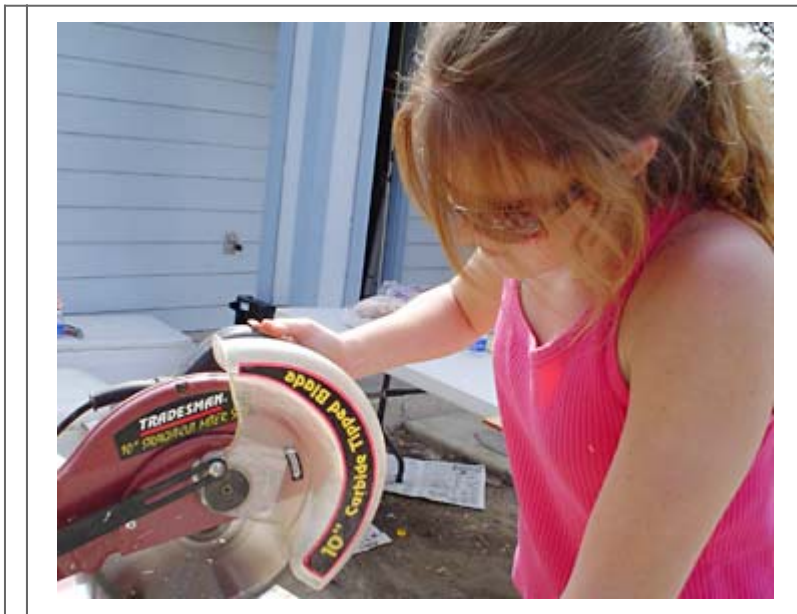
The commandments are:

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## ETBU students build in Laredo

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**East Texas Baptist University** student Matt Gillum of Aledo (left) works on a Habitat for Humanity project in Laredo during ETBU's spring break. Other ETBU students served in Chicago and in Monterrey, Mexico. East Texas Baptist University student Hannah Parker of Atlanta, Texas, (right) gives up her spring break to help a Habitat for Humanity Project in Laredo.

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## Many 'religious' people seldom attend church

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## Many 'religious' people seldom attend church

**By David Barnes**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Americans are among the world's most religious people, but a new study indicates more than one-third of all adults in the United States rarely attend any religious service.

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# **Moldovan orphans warmed by individual, corporate generosity**

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Hats hand-knitted by 82-year-old Hazel Hilton were distributed at two orphanages in Moldova as well as this small church in a poor community outside the capital of Chisinau.

# **Moldovan orphans warmed by individual, corporate generosity**

**By Craig Bird**

*Baptist Child & Family Services*

SAN ANTONIO—An 82-year-old woman's last mission project and employees of a large Christian music company teamed up to keep Moldovan orphans warm in the midst of the country's worst winter in 70 years—proof that both the “widow's mite” and big corporate donations can work together to do good.

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## **BGCT launches probe of church-planting funds in the Valley**

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## **BGCT launches probe of church-planting funds in the Valley**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

DALLAS—The Baptist General Convention of Texas has enlisted an independent accountant to investigate possible mishandling of church-starting funds in the lower Rio Grande Valley.

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# **Lilley installed as Baylor president**

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Baylor  
University  
Chancellor  
Robert  
Sloan  
presents  
the  
university's  
presidential  
medallion  
to newly  
inaugurated  
President  
John Lilley  
while  
regents  
Chair Will  
Davis looks  
on.

## Lilley installed as Baylor president

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

WACO—Humility and civility offer common ground where faith and reason can exist in harmony—whether in a nation or on a Christian university campus, speakers stressed at the inauguration of John Lilley as Baylor University's 13th president.



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# **Texas Senate honors Strickland**

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## **Texas Senate honors Strickland**

AUSTIN—The Texas Senate praised former Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission Director Phil Strickland April 27 for his years of advocacy in the Texas government.

Strickland, who served the Texas CLC nearly 40 years, died in February. He devoted much of his life to improving the quality of life to Texas children, lawmakers noted.

Sen. Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound, introduced a resolution that communicated condolences to the Strickland family. It passed unanimously.

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## **Around the state**

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## **Around the state**

- Tickets are on sale for the third annual “Singin’ with the Saints” Southern gospel concert for senior adults. It will be held May 18 beginning at 9:45 a.m. in Howard Payne University’s Mims Auditorium. The featured performers will be the Dove Brothers Quartet from Bladenboro, N.C. Other groups will be 4 X Grace from Brownwood and the Brazos Boys Quartet from Abilene. Humorist Lou Brown also will entertain. Tickets are \$15, and the price includes lunch. To order, call (800) 950-8465.
- Former members of the steering team for Texas Week at Falls Creek are invited to attend the June 2 evening worship service at the Oklahoma Baptist assembly. Recognition is slated for Texas Baptists who have planned the special emphasis since it was launched in 1963. The 2006 Texas Week, May 29-June 3, marks the end of the tradition, due to increased demand by Oklahoma churches for the use of the conference center. For details, contact Dale Berry at (940) 567-3741.



Seven Howard Payne University football players and two coaches recently helped rancher Raymond Lane rebuild his property in Carbon. Lane lost his home, farm equipment, livestock and miles of fence in fires that struck the area in January. After receiving instructions on how to avoid rattlesnakes, the players put up half a mile of fence to aid Lane in his ongoing effort. Participating in the day's labor were players Jordan Bullard, Dan Pike, Danny Preslar, Marcus Snell, J.T. Norman, Kyle Mossakowski and Jonathan Jones, along with coaches Mike Redwine and Dale Meinecke.

- Ray Martin has been named associate vice president for student life and

dean of students at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. In addition to continuing his responsibilities as dean of students and providing leadership to campus activities, residence life and health services, he also will supervise the director of campus recreation, and the offices of community service and campus organizations.

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# **Baptists and Jews share love of liberty**

April 28, 2006  
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## **Baptists and Jews share love of liberty**

**By John Pierce**

*Baptists Today*

MACON, Ga. (ABP)—Baptists and Jews, both having suffered historically as minority faiths, share a strong commitment to religious liberty, Rabbi David Saperstein said during an inaugural Mercer University lecture series.

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# Book Reviews

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## Book Reviews

**“All Churches Great and Small: 60 Ideas for Improving Your Church’s Ministry”** by Kirk Farnsworth and Rosie Farnsworth (Judson Press)

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Co-pastors Kirk and Rosie Farnsworth, of The Gathering Church in Kingston, Wash., present a thoughtful work on the advantages and strategies of a small church. They build upon a questionable—perhaps flawed—foundation. It is their unwavering opinion that small churches are better churches, assuming larger churches are marred by bureaucracy and the unbiblical standards of numbers, facilities and programs.

**Off the Bookshelf**  
What’s everyone reading anyway?

What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to [books@baptiststandard.com](mailto:books@baptiststandard.com).

Moving beyond this disposition, the authors introduce 10 “life-transforming activities” that apply to small congregations—shepherding, gathering, covenanting, ministering, studying, worshipping, praying, giving, living in

the Spirit, and witnessing. With each chapter, the authors offer multiple “ideas for improving your church’s ministry.” These 60 ideas are practical and helpful.