# Healthcare crisis can be alleviated with church help

April 13, 2006
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## Healthcare crisis can be alleviated with church help

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

SAN ANTONIO—Christ calls his followers to make a difference in the health of people, healthcare expert Camille Miller stressed during the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission's annual conference.

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# Small groups can influence public policy

April 13, 2006
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# Small groups can influence public policy

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

SAN ANTONIO—All the tools are available to Christians who want to influence politics, said Ross Ramsey, editor of a publication on Texas government and politics.

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# Listen to the â□□deep cryâ□□ of â□□off-pitchâ□□ people

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

# Listen to the ‘deep cry’ of ‘off-pitch’ people

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

SAN ANTONIO—The same God who hears the perfect-pitch songs of blue

whales expects Christians to hear the “deep cry” of hurting people, Bill Leonard reminded participants at the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission’s annual state-wide conference.

**Christian Life Commission meeting**

- Healthcare crisis can be alleviated with church help
- Small groups can influence public policy
- Listen to the 'deep cry' of 'off-pitch' people
- Subtle racism exists, researcher says
- Global warming poses 'severe' threat

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# Subtle racism exists, researcher says

April 13, 2006
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## Subtle racism exists, researcher says

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

SAN ANTONIO—Racism still exists, even if people do not admit they are racist, a Duke University research professor told a Texas Baptist conference.

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# Global warming poses â□□severeâ□□ threat

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

## Global warming poses ‘severe’ threat

**By Marv Knox**

*Editor*

SAN ANTONIO—With the planet warming faster than it has in 10,000 years, “global warming is the most severe, important issue facing humankind,” environmentalist Karl Rábago insisted.

# 2nd Opinion: Biblical Gospels repudiate Judas

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

## 2nd Opinion:
## Biblical Gospels repudiate Judas

**By David Garland**

I am fully convinced the manuscript of the so-called *Gospel of Judas* is authentic, but so what? Sensationalized blurbs breathlessly trying to pump sales of new books about this manuscript tease the potential buyer: “If Judas had not betrayed Jesus, Jesus would not have been handed over to the authorities, crucified, buried and raised from the dead. Could it be that without Judas, the Easter miracle would never have happened?” Such questions are poppycock.

Before addressing the question that is most often asked, “Why did Judas betray Jesus?” we need to ask, “What did Judas betray?

# DOWN HOME: Season of hope, grass & pin oaks

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## DOWN HOME:
## Season of hope, grass & pin oaks

The next couple of weeks should tell the tale: Will my yard look more like an oasis or a desert?

You should be grateful the first man was named “Adam” and not “Marv.” Otherwise, in addition to Original Sin, all of humanity would have been stricken with Original Brown Thumb.

Many times, as I’ve sweated in the various yards surrounding the various homes where my family has lived, I’ve thought about Adam’s curse. He would make his living by the sweat of his brow, and he would struggle to make things grow. I’ve got the sweating part down, and as far as making things grow, well that’s a struggle.

# EDITORIAL: Two steps to change Texas for better

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

## EDITORIAL:
## Two steps to change Texas for better

We have seen the future, and it is brown.

State Demographer Steve Murdock recently consulted Baptist General Convention of Texas institutional presidents. He sketched a paint-by-the-numbers portrait of Texas Today and Texas Tomorrow. Not too long ago, our state achieved a nonmajority culture; Anglos now comprise less than 50 percent of the population, and no ethnic group holds a majority. Eventually, however, Hispanics will become the majority. With the pace of Hispanic growth rapid but uneven, statisticians such as Murdock can't predict exactly when that moment will occur, but they seem to keep moving the date nearer and nearer.

Even as Murdock spoke to Texas Baptist leaders about our population shift,

Congress debated federal laws that regulate immigration, a key force driving demographic change. We've discussed immigration reform in this space before. Frankly, Texas Baptists—like the rest of the country—don't agree on this vital issue. But we can pray for consensus on at least two points: People of faith, particularly working through their churches, never should face prosecution for ministering to hurting and needy people, even illegal immigrants. And shame on us if we continue to allow people to die in the backs of tractor-trailers.

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# Casinos not the solution for school financing

April 13, 2006
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## Casinos not the solution for school financing

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

DALLAS—Texas legislators looking for revenue to fund public schools better not bet on casinos, the director of an Austin-based think tank told the Texans Against Gambling board of directors.

# Members join pastor on 1,000-mile walk

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

## Members join pastor on 1,000-mile walk

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

HOUSTON—Pastor Ed Hogan has lost about a dozen pounds since he started walking 10 miles a day, but he's more interested in talking about what he has gained from the experience—a closer walk with God and church members.

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# Compromise immigration

# reform legislation stalls in Senate

April 13, 2006
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## Compromise immigration reform legislation stalls in Senate

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

WASHINGTON—Just one day after celebrating a “huge breakthrough,” the U.S. Senate rejected an immigration reform bill brought forward by leaders of both parties.

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# Christian Womenâ□□s Job Corps expands to Mexico

April 13, 2006
Posted: 4/13/06

# Christian Women’s Job Corps expands to Mexico

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico—Woman’s Missionary Union of Texas recently held the first Christian Women’s Job Corps training outside the United States.