

# Baptist volunteers spread cheer by ‘Serving Irving’

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/30/07

## Baptist volunteers spread cheer by ‘Serving Irving’

**By Leann Callaway**

*Special to the Baptist Standard*

IRVING—For more than a decade, members of Oak View Baptist Church in Irving have spent Thanksgiving “Serving Irving.” Willow Bend Baptist Church in Plano also helped this year to provide more than 2,000 traditional Thanksgiving meals to apartment complexes throughout the city.

Sergio Matassa, Oak View’s minister of missions, coordinated the outreach ministry. Six teams of volunteers helped with the project.

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Volunteer  
Alyssa Raley  
serves meals  
to a family on  
Thanksgiving  
at The Raible  
Place  
Apartments in  
Irving.  
(Photos/Leann  
Callaway)

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# **Thanksgiving feast serves nearly 2,000**

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Approximately  
560 members  
of the  
Brownwood  
community  
enjoyed the  
24th annual  
Community  
Thanksgiving  
Feast held at  
HPU.  
Additionally,  
1,305  
individuals  
had the meal  
delivered to  
their home  
that day.

## Thanksgiving feast serves nearly 2,000

BROWNWOOD—More than 130 volunteers served 1,976 meals to friends and family in Brownwood area at the 24th annual Community Thanksgiving Feast on Thanksgiving Day at the [Howard Payne University](#) Mabee Center.

“Howard Payne University’s Mabee Center was filled, as 560 guests enjoyed the traditional Thanksgiving meal prepared by the university’s Sodexo Food Service,” said Bill Fishback, coordinator of the event for the past 15 years and assistant vice president for business and human resources at HPU. Last year, 620 people were served at the Mabee Center and 1,305 meals were delivered to families in the community.

The staff of HPU's Sodexo Food Service donated their time preparing the food so others can enjoy the Thanksgiving meal.

"We have the best university food service anywhere," said Fishback. "Don Green and his staff did another outstanding job preparing the food for our friends and neighbors. And then, many of them go home and do the same thing for their own families."

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## Texas Tidbits

November 30, 2007

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## Texas Tidbits

**Couple gives \$5 million to Baylor.** [Baylor University](#) received a \$5 million gift from Clifton and Betsy Robinson of Waco. The gift will establish the C. Clifton Robinson and Betsy Sharp Robinson Endowed Scholarship Fund in the Honors College at Baylor. The scholarships will provide need-based financial assistance for academically gifted incoming freshmen, as well as some current Baylor students, who will be known as Clifton and Betsy Robinson Scholars. Scholarship recipients will study in any of the four Honors College programs—Baylor Interdisciplinary Core, the Honors Program, University Scholars and the Great Texts Program —established when the Honors College was created in 2002.

**Music scholarship established at HSU.** Francis McBeth recently established an endowed scholarship at [Hardin-Simmons University](#) to benefit sophomore, junior or senior theory composition majors in the School of Music. McBeth, a former Cowboy Band member and 1954 Hardin-Simmons graduate, served 40 years on the faculty at Ouachita Baptist University, and he was the conductor of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra in Little Rock from 1968 to 1972. He received the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Medal of Honor in 1999, and he was appointed the Composer Laureate of the State of Arkansas.

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## **TOGETHER: Gratitude to God prompts giving**

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/30/07

### **TOGETHER: Gratitude to God prompts giving**

In this wonderful time between Thanksgiving and Christmas, our hearts are filled with gratitude for our families and friends, for our churches and the gospel, for our work and time to rest, for our country and our world.

Counting your blessings always is a good thing to do.

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Executive Director  
BGCT Executive  
Board

In my life, this has been the time that I have thought more carefully about giving than at any other time of the year. Perhaps you are the same way. I have no doubt that much of that has to do with Christmas and the giving of gifts to family and friends. But it also has to do with giving mission offerings so that the “best gift I give is to Jesus.” After all, it is his birthday that I celebrate. So making sure the most expensive gift I give is to advance his name and the good news of the Redeemer’s kingdom always has seemed to me to be the right thing to do.

The best motivation for giving always is gratitude. We give because God first gave to us. He gave us life and bountiful provisions in creation. He has given us new life and a sense of significance in salvation. We celebrate creation and redemption, earth and heaven, new life now and eternally. We marvel at the fullness and richness of God’s bountiful love. We find courage to press on in life’s most difficult trials. And we have learned in years of giving that we never have out-given God.

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# Critics: Doctrinal standard leaves evangelical society 'exposed'

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/30/07

## Critics: Doctrinal standard leaves evangelical society 'exposed'

**By Hannah Elliott**

*Associated Baptist Press*

SAN DIEGO (ABP) - To its critics, the current doctrinal standard of the Evangelical Theological Society leaves the group indecently "exposed."

And two of the society's members have submitted a proposal to tighten the document into a more specifically evangelical declaration of theology—something a Catholic couldn't sign in good conscience. But other society members worry it may signal the beginning of an inquisition at an already-turbulent period in the society's life.

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# State resolutions focus on alcohol, gambling, homosexuality, abuse

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/30/07

## State resolutions focus on alcohol, gambling, homosexuality, abuse

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

WASHINGTON (ABP)— Sins of the flesh—specifically concerning liquor, gambling and sex—were among the most popular subjects of resolutions passed by Baptist state conventions this fall.

Although many state conventions avoided resolutions on controversial issues of any kind during their annual meetings, a handful addressed issues such as hate-crimes legislation involving protections for sexual orientation, the sexual abuse of minors, and the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

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# Storylist for 12/03/07 issue

November 30, 2007

## Storylist for week of 12/03/07

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- [Preaching: Stand and Deliver](#)



- [Baylor and Texas Baptist Men bring clean water to Mongolian town](#)
- [Ghana minister to Texans: 'We need help'](#)
- [Church greeter has firm grip on thousands of names](#)
- [Lewisville volunteers share pure water and Living Water in Guatemala](#)
- [Howard Payne coeds mentor girls at juvenile correctional facility](#)
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## **Preaching: Stand and Deliver**

- [Preaching: Stand and Deliver](#)

- [Integrity demands preachers avoid pulpit plagiarism](#)

- [Lectionary helps some Baptist preachers feed their flocks a 'balanced diet'](#)



- [Oklahoma Baptists vow to continue ministering to illegal immigrants](#)

- [State resolutions focus on alcohol, gambling, homosexuality, abuse](#)

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- [Critics: Doctrinal standard leaves evangelical society 'exposed'](#)

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- [Groups say hunger stats, food prices up](#)

- [Conservative Christians show growing acceptance of divorce](#)

- [Baptist bell-ringer tolls for Episcopal weddings, funerals](#)

- [Need help understanding the Old Testament? Ask an African Christian](#)

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- [BaptistWay Bible Series for December 2: Let me introduce Jesus](#)
- [Bible Studies for Life Series for December 2: Recognizing the Savior](#)
- We're sorry, but the Explore the Bible lesson for Dec. 2 is not be available this week.
- [Bible Studies for Life Series for December 9: Getting ready for the Savior](#)

### **Previously Posted:**

- [British Baptists: 'Sorry about slavery'](#)
- [Louisiana Baptists pass measure taking full control of institutions](#)
- [South Carolina Baptists OK move toward 50-50 CP split](#)
- [Oklahoma Baptists vow to continue ministering to illegal immigrants](#)
- [Georgia Baptist resolution criticizes Baptist blogs](#)
- [California Baptists adopt budget, reject measure related to Baptist Faith & Message](#)
- [Words of Hope ministry changes outlook for people with AIDS](#)
- [Ugandan Baptist pastor counsels people with AIDS](#)
- [Ecumenical group wants to mobilize Christians to abolish genocide](#)
- [Will neurotheology cause faith to wane? Not likely, experts say](#)
- [N.C. Baptists cut WMU funding, loosen ties with colleges](#)
- [No clear winners in contested Tennessee Baptist Convention](#)
- [Virginia Baptists change budget for educational entities](#)
- [Baptists offer relief to Bangladesh after killer cyclone hits](#)
- [Child dies following accident involving TBM volunteers in Mexico](#)
- [Former pastor returns money to congregation; church agrees to give funds to BGCT](#)

- [See articles from the previous 11/19/07 issue here.](#)
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# **RIGHT or WRONG? The loudmouth**

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/30/07

## **RIGHT or WRONG? The loudmouth**

**A member of our church consistently becomes rowdy—talking too much and loudly—during our business meetings. His behavior is extremely distracting, and some members have quit attending because they know he'll be there. Something needs to change, but how?**

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## **Bible Studies for Life Series for**

# December 2: Recognizing the Savior

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/28/07

**Bible Studies for Life Series for December 2**

## Recognizing the Savior

- Isaiah 53:1-12

[By Steve Dominy](#)

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## British Baptists: ‘Sorry about slavery’

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/28/07

### British Baptists: ‘Sorry about slavery’

SWANWICK, England—Baptists in Britain have apologized for their role in the slave trade.

The Council of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, at its recent meeting in

Swanwick, England, passed a resolution of apology.

“We offer our apology to God and to our brothers and sisters for all that have created and still perpetuate the hurt which originated from the horror of slavery,” the resolution said.

The council, which made the transatlantic slave trade the main focus of its meetings, further repented “of the hurt we have caused, the divisions we have created, our reluctance to face up to the sin of the past, our unwillingness to listen to the pain of our black sisters and brothers, and our silence in the face of racism and injustice today.”

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# **BaptistWay Bible Series for December 2: Let me introduce Jesus**

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/16/07

**BaptistWay Bible Series for December 2**

## **Let me introduce Jesus**

• Mark 1:1-20

**[By Andrew Daugherty](#)**

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# **Bible Studies for Life Series for December 9: Getting ready for the Savior**

November 30, 2007

Posted: 11/28/07

**Bible Studies for Life Series for December 9**

## **Getting ready for the Savior**

- Luke 1:5-25; 57-80

**[By Steve Dominy](#)**