

Investors with moral agenda are bullish on faith-based mutual funds

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Investors with moral agenda are bullish on faith-based mutual funds

By G. Jeffrey MacDonald

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Religious activists with a moral agenda for corporate America used to rely primarily on consumer boycotts and sympathetic lawmakers to get Wall Street's attention. But now their toolbox is growing—and there's a lot more money in it.

Over the past decade, America's market for religious investment products has grown by more than 3,500 percent, according to data from fund tracker [Morningstar](#).

North Carolina WMU decides to leave convention's control

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North Carolina WMU decides to leave convention's control

CARY, N.C. (ABP)—The Woman's Missionary Union of North Carolina board has voted to remove the missions organization from the North Carolina Baptist Building—and the state convention executive director's attempt to assert authority over its staff.

The dramatic move culminates 16 months of tension between the state WMU and the rightward-shifting Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

Conflict between the missions-promotion group and the North Carolina convention has simmered since April 2006, when the WMU leadership voted to change the term that described its relationship with the convention from "auxiliary" to "cooperative partner."

At that time, it also assumed final authority in its own personnel matters, although it committed to stay aligned with Baptist State Convention personnel policies.

Congregations aid flooded church in Oklahoma

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Congregations aid flooded church in Oklahoma

By Carla Wynn Davis

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

CHICKASHA, Okla.—Members of [Cowboy Country Church](#) in Chickasha, Okla., put hours of work into transforming an old building into their new church home. But after worshipping there just one Sunday, the building became uninhabitable.

The new church became infested with mold after flooding from Tropical Storm Erin, which blew through Chickasha Aug. 18-19.

Louisiana College to open law school named for SBC

fundamentalist leader

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Louisiana College to open law school named for SBC fundamentalist leader

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

PINEVILLE, La. (ABP)—Baptist-affiliated [Louisiana College](#) will establish a new “biblical” law school named after Paul Pressler, the Texas appeals-court judge better known for leading the fundamentalist takeover of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The college hopes to open the Judge Paul Pressler School of Law in 2009, said Joe Aguillard, president of the 1,000-student school. The school wants to have as many as 40 students in the first year and grow to 300, he said.

Race: The final frontier

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The Crossing
Baptist
Church in
Mesquite is
among a
growing—but
still relatively
small—number
of churches
learning to
incorporate
multi-cultural
features in its
worship
services.

Race: The final frontier

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

When Anglos, Hispanics, African-Americans and Nigerians gather in the same place on Sunday morning, planning worship presents challenges.

“Its a lot more than just a question of hymns or choruses,” said Charlie Brown, pastor of [The Crossing Baptist Church](#) in Mesquite.

BOOKS: When All God's Children Get Together â A Memoir of Race and Baptistsâ

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BOOKS: 'When All God's Children Get Together' A Memoir of Race and Baptists

By Marv Knox

Editor

Baptists can change, and reconciliation is possible, Emmanuel McCall testifies in his new book, [*When All God's Children Get Together: A Memoir of Race and Baptists*](#).

McCall's book provides a travelogue of the journey Baptists in the South took during the past 50 years. It's a trek that transported them from segregation to repentance, from mutual mistrust to reconciliation.

That journey parallels McCall's ministry—from when he enrolled as the only African-American student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1959, to when he stepped down as the Southern Baptist Convention's race-relations leader in 1991, to his participation in bringing Baptists across the races together to affirm the New Baptist Covenant next year.



Opportunities, challenges confront increasingly multi-ethnic congregation

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Opportunities, challenges confront increasingly multi-ethnic congregation

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Soon after Pastor Bruce Troy arrived at [Gaston Oaks Baptist Church in Dallas](#), he challenged a group in the congregation to answer one question: “What would you do if God put 100 people on your doorstep?”

Three years later, Troy observed: “That’s exactly what he’s done. They just don’t speak English.”

Minorities are flocking to multi-ethnic campus groups for Christian fellowship

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Minorities are flocking to multi-ethnic campus groups for Christian fellowship

By Matt Kennedy

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—Anglo students continue to primarily populate college evangelical organizations, but ethnic minority students have started to join them in increasing numbers.

Two of the nation's largest parachurch campus evangelical organizations, [Campus Crusade for Christ](#) and [InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA](#), stress building ethnically diverse communities in their mission statements. And recent statistics cited in the San Francisco Chronicle and Christianity Today suggest their goals for diversity slowly are starting to become a reality.

Race: The Final Frontier

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 - [Aging minister recalls price paid for recognizing God's image in all people](#)
 - [BOOKS: When All God's Children Get Together-A Memoir of Race and Baptists](#)
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Baptists mark centennial of social work education for churches

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Mallory Homeyer, a student in the Baylor University School of Social Work, ministers to orphans during a mission trip to Guatemala.

Baptists mark centennial of social work education for churches

By Vicki M. Kabat and Franci Rogers

Baylor University

Looking back, Mallory Homeyer recalls how her desire to help other people was nurtured during her early years at First Baptist Church of Kenedy, where her mother was deeply involved in Woman's Missionary Union.

"From a young age, the faces of the WMU women in my church were the faces of missions for me," she said. "I grew up wanting to model my life after them," she said.

Texas Tidbits

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Texas Tidbits

TBM offers relief to Erin victims. [Texas Baptist Men](#) dispatched two clean-out teams, a shower unit and recovery group to two West Texas towns flooded by the remnants of Tropical Storm Erin. Clean-out teams from Amarillo and Lubbock, a recovery team from Waxahachie and a shower unit from O'Donnell headed to Merkel and Hamlin. The Ellis Christian Disaster Relief Box Unit took 2,000 moving boxes to help flood victims collect the items they would like to save. About 250 homes in Hamlin and 30 in Merkel were affected by flooding that occurred as a result of the remnants of Tropical Storm Erin. Texas Baptist Men disaster relief efforts can be supported by sending a check designated "disaster relief" to Disaster Relief, Texas Baptist Men, 5351 Catron, Dallas 75227 or via credit card by calling (214) 828-5351.

Ethics lecture program endowed at Howard Payne. A gift from Gary and Molli Elliston of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas has enabled Howard Payne University to establish a distinguished lecture program focusing on the significance of Christian ethics, beginning in the 2008 spring semester. The Ellistons endowed the Currie-Strickland Distinguished Lecture Series in honor of David Currie, executive director of Texas Baptists Committed, and in memory of Phil Strickland, director of the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission. "On an annual basis, this lecture will provide a special opportunity to students, faculty and the general public to consider the importance of Christian ethics in the workplace, in the classroom, in ministry, in national and world affairs and in the minds of Christians as they make decisions in their daily lives," Howard Payne President Lanny Hall said.

UMHB â Welcome Weekâ includes community service

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UMHB 'Welcome Week'

includes community service

By Jennifer Sicking

University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

BELTON—Two [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor](#) students brushed paint on a stucco stairwell outside of the Temple Public Library, while other team members inside washed windows and dusted bookcases.

Elsewhere, students filled potholes, painted walls, sorted clothes and generally lent a helping hand throughout Belton and Temple.



University of
Mary Hardin-
Baylor
freshmen
Mandi
Sanders of
Austin and
Amanda
Morgan of
Round Rock
help sort
stuffed
animals and
wraps at the
Children's
Advocacy
Center in
Belton as part
of their
community
service
during the
Welcome
Week
activities at
the
university.

BaptistWay Bible Series for September 9: No excuses, no exceptions

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BaptistWay Bible Series for September 9

No excuses, no exceptions

- Romans 1:18-32; 2:1-13

[By Andrew Daugherty](#)