

Texas Tidbits

August 3, 2007

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Texas Tidbits

Scholarships awarded to two All-State musicians. The Baptist General Convention of Texas recently awarded its first Texas Baptist All-State Choir and Band college scholarships to two students—Whitney Newman of Frisco and Camille Hurst of Midlothian. Newman will attend Baylor University this fall. At Frisco High School, she was a member of the varsity track, softball, wrestling and cheerleading teams. She also was a four-year member of the All-Region Band and Orchestra and was named first chair French horn player for the Texas All-State Band. Newman also served more than 200 community service hours, including work through First Baptist Church in Frisco. Hurst will attend Hardin-Simmons University this fall. At Midlothian High School, she was involved in the student council, a cappella choir, concert choir and was a National Merit Commended Scholar. She was a first chair member of the All Region Choir and was a member of the All-State Treble Choir. Hurst participated in numerous mission trips, served the homeless at Dallas Life Foundation and ministered through Project PROMISE (People Recognizing Others' Misfortunes Thus Inspiring Social Equality).

Board nominating committee meeting set. The committee to nominate Executive Board directors for the Baptist General Convention of Texas will meet Aug. 16 at 10 a.m. in the Landes A Conference Room of the Baptist Building, 333 N. Washington, Dallas. Vice Chair, Dan Curry, pastor of

South Oaks Baptist Church in Arlington will preside.

TOGETHER: Jesus' agenda still the answer today

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TOGETHER: Jesus' agenda still the answer today

When you go to church on Sunday morning, do you expect to hear from Jesus as to how he sees the world and what he plans to do about it?

On a Sabbath morning long ago, Jesus showed up for church in his hometown. The elders handed him the scroll, and he rolled it out to the place where Isaiah was celebrating Jubilee, rehearsing with his hearers, "that the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations" (61:11). "For I, the Lord, love justice; I hate robbery and iniquity. In my faithfulness I will reward them and make an everlasting covenant with them" (61:8).



Executive Director
BGCT Executive
Board

But Jesus honed in on the opening lines, boldly applying them to himself, and revealed to those who eagerly listened how he understood himself and what he knew he had come to do.

Let's take time to hear again: "The Spirit of the sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

TV ministries not just for televangelists

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TV ministries not just for televangelists

By Deborah Potter

Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly

LAS VEGAS (RNS)—Television ministry used to be the province of a few prominent preachers like Pat Robertson and the late Jerry Falwell. But the business—and it is big business—definitely has come of age.

At this year's [National Association of Broadcasters](#) convention, the “technologies for worship” pavilion drew hundreds of religious broadcasters, and they are only part of the picture. Industry leaders say there are 10,000 TV ministries around the country, both big and small.



Participants
at the
National
Association
of
Broadcasters
convention
in Las Vegas
check out
broadcast
equipment.
Industry
officials
estimate
that some
10,000
churches
have
television
ministries.

Cybercolumn by Berry D. Simpson: Small voice

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CYBER COLUMN:

Small voice

The other Sunday morning, I told my adult Bible study class this story from our recent family reunion vacation to Northern New Mexico:

We drove into Camp Oro Quay, east of Albuquerque, late Friday night, only to discover one missing suitcase. I'd left Cyndi's suitcase in Angel Fire earlier that morning. Cyndi was pretty upset about it, but I couldn't tell whether she was more upset at me for not loading the suitcase, or at herself for not checking to make sure it was loaded, or at the fact it was so late at night and she wasn't asleep yet and now she had this to worry about.

Berry D. Simpson

I knew I'd loaded everything that was outside in the driveway beside my pickup, but I had no memory of seeing another suitcase anywhere.

When we went to bed, the communal thought was that Cyndi and I would drive back up to Angel Fire to get the suitcase Sunday morning after putting Drew and Katie on the airplane in Albuquerque, then drive back to Midland by way of Clayton and Amarillo. It would add about five hours to our drive home.

So we went to bed. I slept well for the first two-thirds of the night, but about 4, I woke up, fretting about the missing suitcase. I was worried about Cyndi not having a good time with her family while wearing the same clothes over and over. Some people in her family are always leaving things behind: bags, important papers, money, bills, checkbooks, car keys; I knew Cyndi didn't want to be included in that group. And I didn't want people to


think I was forgetful way, either. Of course, I had my clothes.


Storylist for 8/06/07 issue


August 3, 2007

Storylist for week of 8/06/07

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Waging Peace: Have Baptists Lost Their Prophetic Voice?

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- [Churches keep peace within by focusing on troopsânot on the war](#)
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- [BWA creates young leaders network](#)
- [Young women challenged to live the âamazing life' on mission with God](#)
- [Baptist Briefs](#)
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- [Most Muslims worldwide say suicide bombings unjustified](#)
- [Religion still âmarginalized' in foreign policy](#)
- [TV ministries not just for televangelists](#)
- [Faith changes little over a lifetime, research reveals](#)
- [Faith Digest](#)



• [Books reviewed in this issue:](#) *Sitting Strong: Wrestling with the Ornerly God* by Jeanie Miley, *Find it in the Bible for Women: Lists, Lists, and More Lists* by Bob Phillips and *For God's Sake, Shut Up! Lessons for Christians on How to Speak Effectively and When to Remain Silent* by Brian Kaylor.



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- [Church corruption, financial scandals live on long past Bakkers](#)
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- [African American Fellowship honors past, looks to future](#)
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Some Christian readers bewitched by Potter, wild about Harry

August 3, 2007
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Some Christian readers bewitched by Potter, wild about Harry

By Matt Kennedy

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—J.K. Rowling isn't likely to repeat John Lennon's mistake. She probably won't compare the record-setting popularity of her Harry Potter books to that of Jesus Christ, but the global reach of the title character's adventures is undeniable.

The last book in the series by British author Rowling is currently the best-selling book in the world. The seven-book series has sold an amazing 325 million copies worldwide since 1997, making it the biggest children's book series ever.

RIGHT or WRONG? Gambling

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RIGHT or WRONG? Gambling

My husband won a trip to Las Vegas. If we set a strict limit on how much money we bet, would it be wrong if we gambled a little bit while we are there?

BGCT presidential election will make historyâ€"regardless

August 3, 2007
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BGCT presidential election will make history—regardless

By Marv Knox & Ken Camp

Baptist Standard

Whatever the outcome, the 2007 Baptist General Convention of Texas presidential race will be historic.

Texas Baptists will elect their first female president, or they will choose their first president not endorsed by Texas Baptists Committed in more than 20 years.

Rising evangelical star Jason Christy leaves trail of fraud, associates say

August 3, 2007

Posted: 8/01/07

Rising evangelical star Jason Christy leaves trail of fraud, associates say

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (ABP)—When young, charismatic Christian publisher [Jason Christy](#) was tapped two years ago to lead the powerful Christian Coalition, the group’s leaders praised him for his ability “to inspire and encourage people of faith to action.” But Christy’s business dealings—both before and after his one-month affiliation with the Coalition—instead have inspired former customers and co-workers to file lawsuits charging Christy with defrauding their Christian businesses.

Christy, 36, who apparently had no previous public-policy experience, persuaded the Christian Coalition in 2005 to place him in one of the most visible and powerful positions in evangelical life. But before the coalition’s leaders officially turned over the reins of their 1.2 million-member national lobbying group, they learned of a trail of legal and financial problems that has followed Christy from coast to coast.



Jason Christy
with Paul
Crouch Jr.,
vice president
of
administration
for Trinity
Broadcasting
Network, who
has called him
“the right man
at the right
time for
Christian
grass-roots
activism.”
Others accuse
him of
defrauding
Christian
businesses.
Photos of
Christy with
other
evangelical,
media and
political
celebrities are
on *The
Church
Report's*
website [here](#).

BaptistWay Bible Series for August 12: Faith not dependent on circumstance

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BaptistWay Bible Series for August 12

Faith not dependent on circumstance

- Habakkuk 3:1-2, 12-19

[By Kade Curry](#)

Bible Studies for Life Series for August 12: Handling discouragement

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Bible Studies for Life Series for August 12

Handling discouragement

- 1 Kings 19:1-13a; 15-18

[By David Harp](#)

Explore the Bible Series for August 12: Worship guided by love

August 3, 2007

Posted: 8/01/07

Explore the Bible Series for August 12

Worship guided by love

- Malachi 1:1-14

[By Kathryn Aragon](#)

First Baptist Church, Duncanville

In the mid-1300s, the Black Death spread across Asia and Europe, killing approximately 75 million people, perhaps two-thirds of the population at

that time. It was a viral wave that crashed into two continents, changing the world forever. Imagine for a moment how the world might have changed if it had been an epidemic of love instead of an epidemic of death.