Bush signs enhanced anti-trafficking bill

December 26, 2008
President Bush signed into law Dec. 23 the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, which will strengthen efforts to fight human trafficking in the United States and other countries.

Controversy over inaugural prayer is nothing new

December 26, 2008
President-elect Barack Obama's surprise pick of *Purpose Driven Life* author Rick Warren to give the invocation at his inauguration Jan. 20 isn't the first time the ceremonial prayer has created controversy.

Pastor calls for ‘un-blending’ of secular, sacred Christmas

traditions

December 26, 2008
A Baptist pastor in Kansas thinks he has a solution to the dilemma about whether it's more appropriate to say "Merry Christmas" or "Happy Holidays" in secular settings like department stores.

One adult in 10 is a caregiver, survey reveals

December 26, 2008
Eleven percent of the people who participated in a LifeWay Research survey said they or an immediate family member are the primary full-time caregiver to an elderly parent or a special needs child, a statistic also shown in two other national studies.

Religion shaped 2008 in big, dramatic ways

December 26, 2008
The unprecedented and extraordinary prominence of religion in the 2008 election was easily the year’s top religion story.

Christians have opportunities to shape lives through foster care

December 26, 2008

While Scripture advocates taking care of orphans and widows, the church has abdicated that responsibility to the state, some Christian child-advocates insist.

Mertonâ□□s legacy looms large four decades after his death

December 26, 2008

This month, many contemplative Christians—including an ever-growing number of evangelicals—are remembering the life of Trappist monk Thomas Merton, who died 40 years ago in a freak accident.

At 72, gospel musicâ□□s best-selling artist wonâ□□t slow down

December 26, 2008

Bill Gaither may not be an A-list celebrity in some circles, but over a half century he has sold 20 million recordings and 20 million DVDs—more than any other gospel performer. And his impact exceeds mere sales figures.

Faith Digest: Lutheran publisher announces cutbacks

December 26, 2008

Lutheran publishing house Augsburg Fortress is cutting back operations, closing nine bookstores in the United States, laying off more than 50 employees and declining to publish new books in its consumer-oriented line.

Historyâ□□s most notorious

rude host gets a bum rap

December 26, 2008
Christmas pageants everywhere dramatize a cold-hearted innkeeper, who shoos away the holy family to a lowly stable. Pointing to what he says is a mistranslation, one scholar is trying to rehabilitate the innkeeper's reputation.

Global downturn necessitates increased U.S. anti-poverty efforts

December 26, 2008
The global financial crisis makes it even more urgent that the United States not only take care of its own economy, but also redouble efforts to aid the world’s poorest, according to a new report and several development experts.

Studies show rise in greenhouse

gases in 2007

December 26, 2008

Greenhouse-gas emissions continued to rise in 2007, according to two new studies. But Southern Baptists are still divided over what, if anything, to do about it.