

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

racers 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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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](#)

Old First Orange parsonage burns

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Old First Orange parsonage burns

By George Henson

Staff Writer

ORANGE—The parsonage of Old First Orange Baptist Church burned last weekend, destroying the home and its contents, but no one was hurt in the blaze.

Harris, who has been pastor of the church 12 years, said the fire appeared to start in the utility room, but an official cause has not been determined.

Bible Studies for Life Series for Sept. 9: Feeling anxious about the future

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Bible Studies for Life Series for September 9

Feeling anxious about the future

- Daniel 2

[By Steve Dominy](#)

Explore the Bible Series for September 9: God's sinless son

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Explore the Bible Series for September 9

God's sinless son

- Matthew 3:1-4:16

By Travis Frampton

Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene

"A voice of one calling: 'In the desert prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God'" (Isaiah 40:3). Matthew, Mark and Luke each use this well-known verse to introduce John the Baptist and the story of the baptism of Jesus. In order to understand the significance of this verse for Jesus' baptism and the beginning of his ministry, the words of the voice crying out in Isaiah should receive close attention.

Activists urged to focus on future, not fundamentalism

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Activists urged to focus on future, not fundamentalism

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—God has blessed Texas and kept its Baptist state convention free from fundamentalist control largely through the efforts of Texas Baptists Committed, but conditions have changed, *Baptist Standard* Editor Marv Knox told an assembly of the moderate Baptist group in Dallas.

While fundamentalism could rise again, it no longer presents “the preeminent threat” to the Baptist General Convention of Texas, he stressed.