

Randles named BGCT evangelism director

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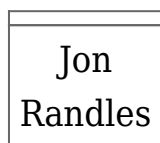
Randles named BGCT evangelism director

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Jon Randles—an evangelist, campus Bible study leader, motivational speaker and former Texas pastor—has been named evangelism director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Randles assumes his new duties on the BGCT missions, evangelism and ministries staff effective June 1.



Cybercolumn by Brett Younger:

About Alice

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CYBER COLUMN: About Alice

By Brett Younger

I used to alternate between reading “Christian” books and “non-Christian” books, but I don’t do that anymore. The problem with the practice is that “Christian” books often suffer by comparison. Too many are passionless and dull—the opposite of what a book that has anything to do with Christ should be. *About Alice* will never be on the shelf of any Christian bookstore, but it’s passionate, funny and sacred. It’s also the saddest, loveliest story I’ve read in a long time.

About Alice is Calvin Trillin’s heartbreaking portrait of his wife Alice—who died in 2001 after a long struggle with lung cancer. I didn’t cry when I read *About Alice*. At least not the second time through. Not much anyway.

Brett Younger

Carter meets with SBC

bloggers, who welcome gesture

May 24, 2007

Updated: 5/20/07

Carter meets with SBC bloggers, who welcome gesture

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP) — Some of the Southern Baptist Convention's most prominent bloggers reacted positively to a summit they held with former President Jimmy Carter May 17 in Atlanta.

Carter and the leaders discussed building a broad range of Baptist support for an unprecedented gathering of Baptists in North America, set for next year in Georgia's capital city. The "[Celebration of a New Baptist Covenant](#)" is scheduled for next January.

Giuliani explains views on abortion, gays at HBU

May 24, 2007

Updated: 5/18/07

Giuliani explains views on abortion, gays at HBU

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

HOUSTON (ABP)—The front-runner among potential Republican presidential nominees used a speech at [Houston Baptist University](#) to explain his views on abortion rights and other controversial social issues.

But the moderately pro-choice, pro-gay-rights positions former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani staked out in his appearance at the Texas Baptist school still may prove problematic as he attempts to convince social conservatives that he's their best choice.

Rudy
Giuliani
speaking
at
Houston
Baptist
University.
Watch a
[video clip](#)
[of his](#)
[speech](#)
[here.](#)

Successful churches provide meaning and belonging

May 24, 2007

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Successful churches provide meaning and belonging

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Successful congregations do two things well; they provide people with meaning and with a sense of belonging, said religious researcher Kevin Dougherty.

“To succeed, a church must provide meaning. It must make a compelling case there is something worth believing—worth sacrificing for,” said Dougherty, assistant professor of sociology at Baylor University and a researcher in the school’s [Institute for the Studies of Religion](#).

Trial date set in first of five

Missouri Baptist lawsuits

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/18/07

Trial date set in first of five Missouri Baptist lawsuits

By Vicki Brown

Associated Baptist Press

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (ABP)—A Missouri judge has set a date for the first jury trial in the cases of five statewide Baptist institutions embroiled in an [ongoing legal battle](#) with the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Jury selection in the convention's lawsuit against Windermere Baptist Conference Center is set to begin on Oct. 23, with the trial scheduled to run through Oct. 31.

Women caught in the crosshairs of global debate over families

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/18/07

Women caught in the crosshairs of global debate over families

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

WARSAW (ABP)—Critics of the [World Congress on Families](#) called it homophobic and unrealistic. Supporters saluted the recent congress—the fourth such global gathering, which played to a sympathetic audience in conservative Poland—for proclaiming the family unit as the only hope for economic and spiritual growth in Europe.

In each case, women are caught in the crosshairs of the debate—portrayed either as saviors of civilization or victims of conservative dogma.

BaptistWay Bible Series for May 27: Ministering inside while reaching outside

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/18/07

BaptistWay Bible Series for May 27

Ministering inside while reaching outside

- Acts 19:8-10; 20:18-35

[By Leroy Fenton](#)

Bible Studies for Life Series for May 27: Being a peacemaker requires effort

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/18/07

Bible Studies for Life Series for May 27

Being a peacemaker requires effort

- Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 5:23-24; Colossians 3:12-15

[By David Harp](#)

Explore the Bible Series for May 27: Adopting an eternal mindset

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/18/07

Explore the Bible Series for May 27

Adopting an eternal mindset

- 2 Peter 3:3-12, 14, 17-18

[By Kathryn Aragon](#)

First Baptist Church, Duncanville

The typical mindset is that God allows suffering so we will learn more about him, but God sometimes works in ways we don't expect. As an example, during our seminary years, he reversed my family's fortunes and made his word come alive. You see, we lived in a \$6 million mansion during our two years in seminary.

British Baptists take action on migrants, human trafficking

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/16/07

British Baptists take action on migrants, human trafficking

By **Hannah Elliott**

Associated Baptist Press

BRIGHTON, England (ABP)—Baptists in Great Britain are calling on their government and churches to do more for migrant workers and to oppose human trafficking around the world.

The resolution came at the May 4-7 Baptist Assembly in Brighton, the largest European Baptist event of the year. More than 2,000 were expected to attend the four-day event involving the Baptist Union of Great Britain and the BMS World Mission.

IMB policies on baptism, 'prayer language' softened

May 24, 2007

Posted: 5/16/07

IMB policies on baptism, 'prayer language' softened

By **Robert Marus**

Associated Baptist Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (ABP)—Controversial policies for missionaries on baptism and speaking in tongues were slightly softened—but not revoked—by trustees of the Southern Baptist Convention’s [International Mission Board](#) May 8.

The trustees, meeting in Kansas City, approved an ad hoc subcommittee report of the board’s missionary personnel committee, which had spent more than a year studying the issues.