

Hall: 'Still a lot for me to do' at Buckner

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Hall: 'Still a lot for me to do' at Buckner

By Marv Knox

Editor

The selection of Albert Reyes to lead [Buckner Children & Family Services](#) signals not only a decisive personnel change, but also a shift in vision and focus for Buckner International, Ken Hall insists.

Now, Buckner is poised to present Christ—not only spiritually, but also physically—to the world's poorest children, said Hall, president of Buckner International, which encompasses not only ministry to children and their families, but also care for senior adults, as well as fund-raising support for the ministries.

Ken Hall

Bloggers to ask Executive Board to protect voting rights of messengers

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Bloggers seek to launch movement

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

MESQUITE—Some participants called the meeting the start of a movement, and others labeled it the launch of an organization. Whatever form it may take, a small group of Texas Baptists met to discuss ways to fund some [Baptist General Convention of Texas](#) ministries to which their churches are committed—but not necessarily support a state convention in which they feel they have no voice.

Three Baptist bloggers—[Kevin Holmes](#), pastor of [Edgemont Park Baptist Church in Mesquite](#); [Rick Davis](#), pastor of [First Baptist Church in Brownwood](#); and [David Montoya](#), pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mineral Wells—convened the group Jan. 16 in Mesquite.

Pastor sees end of one congregation as âNew Beginningâ

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Eugene Nail
(left),
outgoing
pastor of
Midfield
First
Baptist
Church,
stands in
the
sanctuary
of the new
home for
New
Beginnings
Baptist
Church, led
by Pastor
Angulus
Wilson
(right).
(RNS photo
by Jerry
Ayres/*The
Birmingham
News*)

Pastor sees end of one

congregation as ‘New Beginning’

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS)—Midfield First Baptist Church, which had dwindled to about 40 mostly elderly, white worshippers, recently held its last service in the church building it had called home for nearly 50 years.

A week later, it handed over the keys—and its \$1.8 million property—to a predominantly African-American congregation—New Beginnings Baptist Church—in a property giveaway that gives new meaning to the church’s name.

Around the State

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Around the State

- **J.B. Boren**, current dean of the Wayland Baptist University campus in Albuquerque, N.M., has been named dean of the campus in Amarillo, effective in February. He has served in Albuquerque since 2003.
- **The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor** awarded degrees to 156 undergraduate students and 19 master’s-degree students during winter commencement. Martha Farris, a 1942 graduate, presented the

commencement address and received an honorary doctor of humanities degree for her contributions to her community and the university. The Alpha Chi Award for the highest grade-point average was shared by Catherine Chadwell, Lauren Graber, Michelle Hodges, Brandi Mordan, Jelle Scheepstra and Barbara Wright.

Rainbow Church in Rye celebrated its 16th anniversary last month and also was able to pay off the church's indebtedness. Pastor Clyde Somers, pictured with his wife, Beverly, has led the church since it began.

- **Dallas Baptist University** has added four faculty members. They are Debra Collins, assistant professor of library science and library cataloguer; Evelyn Daniels, assistant professor of management; June Elms, assistant professor of kinesiology; and Dionisio Flietas, assistant professor of mathematics.

- **Karen Wiley** has been named director of the office of institutional research and effectiveness at East Texas Baptist University. Wiley has served the school more than 20 years, most recently as assistant professor of computer science.

Born-again bikers running full-throttle for Jesus

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Members
of the
Hellfighters
bikers
group in
Huntsville,
Ala.,
include
(left to
right)
James
Caffery,
Lynn
Caffery,
David
Bates,
Possum
Pierce,
Chris
Roberson,
Richard
Headrick,
Gina
Headrick
and Joanna
Roberson.

Born-again bikers running

full-throttle for Jesus

By Kay Campbell

Religion News Service

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (RNS)—The cruisers rumble into the parking lot in quick pairs. The riders dismount, shaking ponytails out of their helmets. They've got patches on their leather jackets, tattoos on their arms and eyes that have seen everything.

But these bikers have Jesus in their hearts and Bibles in their saddlebags.

Book Reviews

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Book Reviews

[The Way of the Wild Heart](#) by [John Eldredge](#) (Nelson Books)

The premise of John Eldredge's latest book is simple—"acting as a true Father, and you his true son, God is now raising you up as a son." Intentional training and initiation is the mode presented by which boys are raised into men. Like every book on men, Eldredge bemoans what is lacking in our churches today. But different from most other books is his plan to correct what has been lost.

Having once been adamantly against Eldredge's approach to men, I came to this book with my doubts. I still find his theological foundations to be weak at times but improved over *Wild at Heart*. God the risk taker of Wild at Heart gives way now to God the warrior in *The Way of the Wild Heart*. The constant hunt for a wound in need of healing also wears on me, but that may be because I am blessed with a great earthly father.



What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to books@baptiststandard.com.

This book probably was under many Christmas trees recently, and I believe that is a good thing. Eldredge's clarity in describing his understanding of the stages of manhood is helpful and thought-provoking. His openness with his own life as a son and as a father is engaging. Many fathers will benefit from the chapters following the description of each man-stage, which detail how to intentionally raise your own son.

Baptist Briefs

January 19, 2007

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Baptist Briefs

N.C. editor to join Campbell Divinity faculty. Tony Cartledge, editor of the [Biblical Recorder](#), newsjournal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, will join the faculty of [Campbell University Divinity School](#). Cartledge will assume his new duties as associate professor of Old Testament Aug. 15. Cartledge earned degrees from the University of Georgia, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Duke University. Prior to joining the staff of the Biblical Recorder, Cartledge served 26 years as pastor of churches in Georgia and North Carolina. Cartledge and his wife, Jan, are the parents of three children—Russ, Bethany (who died in 1994 at the age of 7) and Samuel.

Southern Seminary president released from hospital. [Southern Baptist Theological Seminary](#) President [Al Mohler](#) was discharged Jan. 10 from Louisville's Baptist Hospital East following a two-week hospitalization that included extensive abdominal surgery and a four-day stay in the intensive care unit due to blood clots in the lungs. He was admitted to the hospital Dec. 27 complaining of intense abdominal pain and underwent surgery the following day. While physicians reported the procedure went well and Mohler's abdominal issues were remedied, the development of blood clots led doctors to move Mohler to intensive care.

Cartoon

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“Is that
Sam
Larson
with an
‘e’ or an
‘o’? It’s
just a
vowel,
but it
could
make all
the
difference
in the
world.”

2nd Opinion: Longevity: Key to

student ministry

January 19, 2007

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2nd Opinion: Longevity: Key to student ministry

By Jeff Dooley

I was talking with Matt, a youth minister in Tennessee, asking him how he was doing in his first years of ministry. He said he was doing great and loving ministry. Matt and I began to reminisce. It seemed like just yesterday when he was one of my seventh-grade students in our youth group. We had a good time laughing about some of the teenage-boy pranks he and his buddies had pulled on some of our summer camp trips—some I am just finding out about many years later. I'm glad I did not know then what I know now.

I was standing on Waikiki Beach in Hawaii, conducting a beautiful wedding at sunset for Amanda, another former student who now is a recreation minister in Virginia. I was thinking to myself, "Where does the time go?"

How many student pastors get the opportunity to be part of the life of a student from middle school to marriage? I have come to realize these situations are rare in student ministry. I read the average tenure of a student pastor is 18 to 24 months. The frequently asked question to every student pastor is, "When are you going to pastor your own church?" I think people have finally stopped asking that question of me.

DOWN HOME: What's interesting to all those men?

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DOWN HOME: What's interesting to all those men?

Stuck in an airport the other day, with time to kill and legs to stretch, I walked the concourse. On about the third or fourth lap, a sign caught my eye from high on a wall above magazines in a bookstore.

"Men's Interests," the sign said. A tall rack of books blocked the magazines below the sign.

"Well, what are 'men' 'interested' in these days?" I asked myself. Curiosity piqued, I took a detour from my concourse-walking and stepped inside the bookstore to find out.

I could've guessed, and so could you.

EDITORIAL: A time and place for healing wounds

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EDITORIAL: A time and place for healing wounds

If you could watch a wound heal, would you do it?

If so, plan to travel to Atlanta in just about a year. Baptists of all races and ethnicities from across Canada, Mexico and the United States will convene to [celebrate a new covenant](#) of committed, compassionate cooperation. Participants will spiritually and emotionally mend a wound that has disfigured the body of Christ for generations.

About 200 years ago, missions fervor compelled Baptists in America to cooperate so they could spread the gospel across the continent and around the globe. By 1845, however, their differences over slavery tore them apart—a denominational precursor to the Civil War.



So, for at least 162 years, Baptists have divided over race. To some extent,

our churches and even conventions have integrated. But the wound inflicted by slavery has not healed enough so the four dominant African-American Baptist conventions and Anglo Baptists far and wide could come together for common passion and purpose.

Faith Digest

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Faith Digest

Carter book prompts resignations. Fourteen members of an advisory group to the Atlanta-based Carter Center [resigned in protest](#) over former President Jimmy Carter's recent book and statements on the Israeli-Palestinian stalemate. At the same time, the [Central Conference of American Rabbis](#), a group that represents nearly 2,000 Reform rabbis, canceled a visit to the [Carter Center](#) during the group's scheduled March convention in Atlanta. The resignations and cancellation were prompted by anger over a recently published book, [Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid](#), which is critical of Israeli policies toward the Palestinians, and remarks Carter has made defending the book. Last month, former Carter Center Director Kenneth Stein resigned as a center fellow, saying the book is biased and marred with factual mistakes. Carter has defended the book as fair and thorough.

Christ's return in 2007 "somewhat likely," poll says. Twenty-five percent of Americans believe it is at least somewhat likely Jesus Christ will return in 2007, a poll from the Associated Press and AOL News shows. The poll, conducted by the international polling firm Ipsos, found 11 percent of those surveyed said it is "very likely" Jesus will return this year. An additional 14 percent said it was "somewhat likely." Twenty-five percent of those polled said it was "not too likely," compared to 42 percent who said it was "not at all likely." Eight percent said they did not know or were not sure. While a quarter of Americans polled said it is at least somewhat likely Jesus will return this year, views varied depending on religious persuasion. For example, 46 percent of white evangelical Christians believe it's at least somewhat likely Jesus will return this year, while 17 percent of Catholics and 10 percent of those with no religion feel the same way.