

NBC puts seasoning back in Veggies

December 1, 2006

Posted: 12/01/06

NBC puts seasoning back in Veggies

By Chansin Bird

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Fans of Bob the Tomato and Larry the Cucumber may notice a welcome change in the VeggieTales episodes aired on NBC's Saturday morning cartoon lineup—less editing of religious content than originally feared.

"The last batch of episodes are airing with very little editing," VeggieTales creator Phil Vischer said. "Not none whatsoever, but very nearly none whatsoever. Much less than earlier episodes."

Pro-lifers blast Warren for inviting Obama

December 1, 2006

Posted: 12/01/06

Pro-lifers blast Warren for inviting Obama

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—Members of Rick Warren's [Saddleback Church](#) in Southern California hosted a [two-day summit on the global AIDS crisis](#) in an effort to "serve the hurting like Jesus did." But the event was not without critics—including some conservative Christians.

The event, which began Nov. 30 and concluded on World AIDS Day Dec. 1, was slated to feature [Bono of U-2](#), [Bill and Melinda Gates](#), and [Sen. Barack Obama \(D-Ill.\)](#), among others.

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 10: Have a little talk with Jesus

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/30/06

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 10

Have a little talk with Jesus

• John 3:1-16

By David Wilkinson

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 10: Christian hope extends beyond here and now

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/30/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 10

Christian hope extends beyond here and now

• 1 Peter 1:3-13,18-21

By Kenneth Lyle

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 3: John reminds of Christ's eternal nature

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/28/06

BaptistWay Bible Series for December 3

John reminds of Christ's eternal nature

• John 1:1-18, 29-36, 43-45

By David Wilkinson

Explore the Bible Series for December 3: Seize the opportunities God provides

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/28/06

Explore the Bible Series for December 3

Seize the opportunities God provides

- Ezra 1:1-6; 3:1-3, 10-11

By Howard Anderson

Diversified Spiritual Associates, San Antonio

The Jews' return from Babylonian captivity seemed like a second exodus, sovereignly patterned in some ways after Israel's first redemption from Egyptian bondage. The book of Ezra begins with the decree of Cyrus for the Jews to return to Jerusalem (circa 538 B.C.), and chronicles the reestablishment of Judah's national calendar of feasts and sacrifices, including the rebuilding of the second temple (begun in 536 B.C. and completed in 516 B.C.).

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 3: Live out the gift of faith you have been given

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/22/06

Bible Studies for Life Series for December 3

Live out the gift of faith you have been given

• Hebrews 11:1-2,5-7,32-38; 12:1-2

By Kenneth Lyle

Cybercolumn by Berry Simpson: At home again

December 1, 2006

Posted: 11/27/06

CYBER COLUMN: At home again

By Berry Simpson

I just finished reading *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion, a powerful book that will haunt me (in a good way) for a long time. In fact, the reason it sat on my too-be-read shelf for over a year was because I'd heard enough about it to know it would have a big impact on me and I didn't want to read it until I was ready. But my friend Carol kept asking if I'd read it yet and I couldn't keep telling her I was waiting to start.

Berry D. Simpson

I can't write about most of what Didion said because I haven't experienced the losses she had—the loss of her spouse and the loss of control to help her family—and I just don't feel qualified. I don't think I'm grown up enough to write about all of that. But I can write about this—something she said about being at home. She wrote: "In California, we heated our houses by building fires. We built fires even on summer evenings, because the fog came in. Fires said we were home, we had drawn the circle, we were safe through the night. I lit the candles."

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BGCT annual meeting coverage

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The business side of religion:

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• [Books reviewed in this issue are:](#) *Whose Bible is it?* by Jaroslav Pelikan, *The Serving Leader: Five Powerful Actions That Will Transform Your Team, Your Business and Your Community* by Ken Jennings and John Stahl-Wert and *Making the Blue Plate Special: The Joy of Family Legacies* by Florence Littauer, Marita Littauer and Lauren Littauer Briggs



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Missions network participants rally in Arlington

December 1, 2006

Updated: 11/21/06

Missions network participants rally in Arlington

By Barbara Bedrick

Texas Baptist Communications

ARLINGTON—Seven Texas Baptist churches sponsored a statewide missions rally Nov. 12 to champion a movement toward local-church mission work.

“Missions is messy,” said Dennis Wiles, pastor of [First Baptist Church in Arlington](#). “It’s like a plate of food at a family reunion, but it’s as community-minded as Starbucks.”

Dennis Wiles, pastor of First Baptist Church in Arlington, leads a statewide missions celebration.
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Fire destroys encampment auditorium

December 1, 2006

Updated: 11/21/06

Fire destroys encampment auditorium

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

SPICEWOOD—Fire destroyed the auditorium at the [Highland Lakes Camp and Conference Center](#) Nov. 18.

The fire devastated the building, twisting steel beams, imploding chairs and burning the stage. Its cause still is under investigation.

All that's left of the auditorium at Highland Lakes conference center.
