

Pastors face stresses, challenges of corporate CEOâ€™s

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Pastors face stresses, challenges of corporate CEO's

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS) —[New Hope Baptist Church](#) Pastor Gregory Clarke sometimes feels like the CEO of a major corporation—or more than one.

“I’m president of three corporations, superintendent of the school and pastor of the church,” Clarke said. Make that two campuses, with a combined membership of 3,000 people.

The business side of religion:

- Pastors face stresses,
challenges of corporate
CEOs
- [Congregations embrace
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- [Endowments provide
churches a financial safety
net](#)

Gregory
Clarke is
pastor of
New Hope
Baptist
Church in
Birmingham,
Ala., and has
many of the
same duties
as a CEO.
(RNS photo
by Steve
Barnette/*The
Birmingham
News*)

Congregations embrace the business side of religion

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Congregations embrace

the business side of religion

By Greg Garrison

Religion News Service

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (RNS)—Generating as much as \$25 million a year through 105 ministries, [Briarwood Presbyterian Church](#) touches the world like a multinational corporation.

“Fifty cents of every dollar goes outside the church—whether it’s Campus Outreach or Bangladesh,” said Bruce Stallings, Briarwood’s executive pastor. “We are able to support missions all around the world.”

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Bryan Gunn,
minister of
administration
at Shades
Mountain
Baptist Church
in Birmingham,
Ala., is a
former
accountant. He
said, "There's a
need to step up
to a higher
level of
professionalism
and
accountability
within
churches."
(RNS photo by
Mark
Almond/The
Birmingham
News)

Cartoon

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News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

African-American rally focuses on worship & thanksgiving

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A choir sings during the worship service at a BGCT-sponsored rally for African-American Baptists. (Photo by Jenny Pope)

African-American rally focuses on worship & thanksgiving

By Jenny Pope

Buckner International

LEWISVILLE—Hundreds of African-American Texas Baptists gathered at Westside Baptist Church to worship God and give thanks for the growth of African-American churches in the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

“We haven’t gotten to where we want to be, but we’re further than we used to be,” said Oscar Epps, founding pastor of Community Baptist Church in DeSoto.



Battle of the Bands winner

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