

Snapshots of piety in America

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Snapshots of piety in America

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

WACO (ABP)—Americans may not be losing their religion after all, according to a new [Baylor University](#) study on faith in the United States. The results of the recently released study by Baylor's sociology department and [Institute for Studies of Religion](#) show, among other things:

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- **Snapshots of piety in America**
- [Americans hold four views of God, research shows](#)
- **View the entire Baylor University Religion Survey report as a pdf file [here.](#)**

- The majority of people not affiliated with any religion still believe in God, and one-third pray at least occasionally.

Americans hold four views of God, research shows

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Americans hold four views of God, research shows

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

WACO (ABP)—Americans believe in four different Gods—or at least view God in four distinct ways, a new study from Baylor University revealed.

Navy chaplain convicted for protest

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Navy chaplain convicted for protest

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

NORFOLK, Va. (ABP)—A Navy chaplain who has accused his superiors of violating his religious freedom has been convicted by a court-martial for appearing in uniform at a rally to protest military policy on chaplains.

A military jury in Norfolk, Va., recommended that [Lt. Gordon Klingenschmitt](#) be docked \$250 a month in pay for the next year and sent a letter of reprimand. The panel convicted him of violating a superior officer's orders by wearing his uniform at a March 30 press event in front of the White House.

Thailand coup's impact uncertain

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Thailand coup's impact uncertain

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

Representatives from three Baptist agencies declined to speculate what long-range impact a [coup in Thailand](#) could have on missions in the region, but they confirmed the safety of all field personnel in the country.

Spokesmen for the [Southern Baptist International Mission Board](#), [Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions](#) and [American Baptist Churches International Ministries](#) reported all their workers in Thailand had been contacted and were safe as of Sept. 20.

Committee approves amendment requiring more financial disclosure

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Committee approves amendment requiring more financial disclosure

By Robert Marus & Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—The Southern Baptist Convention [Executive Committee](#) approved an amendment to governing documents that urges SBC leaders toward greater financial responsibility. Southern Baptist messengers will

hear the recommendation at the [June 2007 annual meeting in San Antonio](#).

Father of 19â14 by adoptionâspeaks with authority

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Pat Williams, senior vice president of the Orlando Magic NBA team, gathers with his extended international family for a Christmas photo. Fourteen of his 19 children are adopted.
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Father of 19â€”14 by adoptionâ€”speaks with authority

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

When [Pat Williams](#) discusses fatherhood, he speaks with the authority experience brings. Williams, senior vice president of the [Orlando Magic](#) National Basketball Association team, has 19 children—14 of them adopted.

All 19, who range in age from 21 to 34, are grown and out of their parents' house now. But Williams insists a father never stops being a father.

Cottagemates reunited at TBCH Reunion after 40 years

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Neal Green
(center)
holds a
picture
taken when
he was in
the third
grade as a
resident of
Texas
Baptist
Children's
Home. He
was
reunited
with his
best
friends and
cottage
family (left
to right)
Butch
Duty, Dan
Kinney and
Doug
Zanders,
after 40
years of
separation
during the
2006 TBCH
Alumni
Reunion.

Cottagemates reunited at TBCH Reunion after 40 years

By Miranda Bradley

Children At Heart Foundation

ROUND ROCK—Clutching an old black-and-white photograph securely tucked in a plastic zipper bag, Neal Green got out of his car and set foot on the [Texas Baptist Children's Home](#) grounds for the first time in more than 40 years.

Focus on missions involvement highlights student event

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Focus on missions involvement highlights student event

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

ARLINGTON—More than 2,500 college students traveled across Texas to

learn how they could make a difference on their campuses this year in the name of Christ—and many of them started by making a difference in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex.

More than 1,000 participants in [Focus](#), a [Baptist General Convention of Texas](#)-sponsored event for college students, worked to repaint church walls, minister to children and meet physical needs of people in the area.

Amy Swainson
(front) and
Sacha Towery
from Monument
Baptist Church
paint the walls
of a church that
meets in an
Arlington
apartment
complex. The
project was part
of Focus, a
BGCT-sponsored
event for college
students. (Photo
by John
Hall/BGCT)

Acton School a hot commodity in business education

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Acton School a hot commodity in business education

By George Henson

Staff Writer

AUSTIN—The [Acton School of Business](#) may be little-known among Texas Baptists, but [Hardin-Simmons University's](#) Austin campus has become a hot commodity in the world of business education.

Diplomats need to know religion

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Diplomats need to know religion

By Kim Lawton

Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly

NEW YORK (RNS)—Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is breaking ranks with the conventional wisdom of her profession.

Diplomats traditionally were taught to keep far away from potentially controversial subjects like religion, she said. But now, Albright is making a high-profile plea that religion play a more prominent role both in the making of foreign policy and in the training diplomats receive.

Former
Secretary of
State
Madeleine
Albright,
seen here at
a recent
book-signing,
says religion
should play a
greater role
in foreign
affairs and
diplomacy.
(RNS photo
courtesy of
Religion &
Ethics
NewsWeekly)

Around the State

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Around the State

- Recording artist Randy Travis will bring an inspirational concert to the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Oct. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased in advance by calling (254) 295-5444.
- Reid Ryan, founder and CEO of the Round Rock Express and Corpus Christi Hooks minor league baseball clubs, will speak at the Oct. 9 11 a.m. chapel service at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

The Heights Baptist Church in Richardson went offsite for its “Aloha, with Love” Vacation Bible School.

The church held its VBS from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. each evening after the local water park closed for the day. The curriculum was centered on Bible stories with water themes. The church reported an increase in attendance of more than 100 children over last year, and was especially pleased to have reached more older children.

Pictured is Matthew McBrayer crossing a water obstacle course.

- Houston Baptist University’s College of Nursing will offer an international spirituality and health conference Oct. 12. Religious traditions and the relationship of these traditions to providing culturally sensitive nursing

care to members of a diverse community will be identified. Practices in relation to caring for the ill, birthing and dying process in Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist and Hindu faith traditions will be explained.

Associational changes take on a variety of forms

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By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

“The world is changing. Churches are changing. So, why would [Baptist associations](#) be any different?” some observers of Baptist life have asked.