

# Explore the Bible Series for August 20: Old age has its own rhythms

August 10, 2006

Posted: 8/10/06

**Explore the Bible Series for August 20**

## Old age has its own rhythms

- Ecclesiastes 11:7-12:14

**By James Adair**

*Baptist University of the Americas, San Antonio*

After an examination of life from a variety of perspectives and inquiries into such issues as the possibility of knowing God's will, the proper approach to life and the value of character, the book of Ecclesiastes ends with a poem on youth and old age (11:7-12:8), followed by an epilogue (12:9-14).

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## Congreso de la Frontera brings

# families together\_51903

August 10, 2006

Posted: 5/19/03

## Congreso de la Frontera brings families together

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mexico—More than 400 pastors, their spouses and children from both sides of the Texas-Mexico border reconnected and strengthened their families at Congreso de la Frontera in late April.

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## Arizona foundation executive convicted

August 10, 2006

Posted: 8/04/06

## Arizona foundation executive convicted

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

PHOENIX (ABP)—In what has been described as the largest case of fraud targeting a religious group, the former top executive and legal counsel for the Baptist Foundation of Arizona were convicted on multiple fraud-related counts.

A Maricopa County, Ariz., Superior Court jury convicted former foundation President William Crotts and Thomas Grabinski, the group's former top lawyer, each on three counts of defrauding investors and one count of knowingly operating an illegal operation. They will be sentenced in September.

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## **Church's foster care focus enriches Chester family**

August 10, 2006

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Cheyenne, age 12, has found a foster home with Stephanie (left) and Terry Chester of Orchard Road Baptist Church in Lewisville, and everyone concerned is looking forward to the day when her adoption by the Chester family will be finalized.

Peggy Starkey (right), a Child Protective Services specialist with the CHILD (Congregations Helping in Love and Dedication) program, helped bring the new family together.

# Church's foster care focus enriches Chester family

**By George Henson**

*Staff Writer*

LEWISVILLE—It may be unusual for a church to focus its ministry on foster care, but 12-year-old Cheyanne certainly is glad one North Texas church has done just that.

Orchard Road Baptist Church in Lewisville has made foster care the cornerstone of its ministry, and Cheyanne is the first child taken in by a family there. And soon, when she calls Terry and Stephanie Chester “Mom” and “Dad,” it will be official. Permanent adoption papers are making their way through the system.

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## Mission East Dallas: A gift of healing

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Posted: 8/04/06

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Doris  
Hinton,  
Mission  
East  
Dallas  
volunteer,  
registers  
a patient  
at the  
ministry's  
medical  
clinic.  
(Photos  
by Angela  
Best)

## **Mission East Dallas: A gift of healing**

**By Angela Best**

*Communications Intern*

DALLAS—Francisco suffers from high blood pressure and diabetes, but he has no insurance to help cover costs of treatment and medication.

Even so, he is on his third visit to the Mission East Dallas medical clinic, where he receives both treatment and medication at no cost. “I was looking for somebody to help me

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# Mission Lubbock worker seeks to transform lives

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## Mission Lubbock worker seeks to transform lives

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

LUBBOCK—An abandoned church sanctuary may seem like an odd place for people to try on shoes, select clothing and pick out kitchenware. But Judy Cooper sees it as a vast improvement over where the ministry to Lubbock's low-income multi-housing residents started.

Cooper heads Mission Lubbock—a multi-housing ministry she launched in April 2005, patterned after the successful Mission Arlington model. She runs the ministry from the facility Carlisle Baptist Church occupied until last fall, when the struggling congregation closed its doors and gave its property to the association.

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# **Forney volunteers successfully evacuated from Lebanon**

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Amy and Ron Byrd embrace as a prayer of thanksgiving is offered before a bus delivers them to their home church, First Baptist in Forney. She was part of a team from the church that was stranded in Lebanon when war broke out. She and the rest of the volunteer team had just arrived at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport after being evacuated from Lebanon. (Photo by Bill Bangham/BP)

# **Forney volunteers successfully evacuated from Lebanon**

**By Angela Best**

*Communications Intern*

FORNEY—A volunteer missions team from First Baptist Church in Forney that had to be evacuated from Lebanon testified they found God's peace in the midst of chaos and confusion.

"God can bring peace when it feels like there is no reality of that," said team member Amy Byrd.

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# **Sloan recommended as Houston Baptist University president**

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# **Sloan recommended as Houston Baptist University president**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

HOUSTON—Robert Sloan, chancellor and controversial former president of Baylor University, appears poised to assume the presidency of Houston Baptist University.

The HBU presidential search committee recommended Sloan at a special called meeting of the university' board of trustees Aug. 1, and the board will reconvene Aug. 8 to vote on the recommendation.

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## **Anti-poverty advocates call for change**

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## **Anti-poverty advocates call for change**

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Christian anti-poverty advocates are promoting a “Covenant for a New America” that calls for policy changes to build consensus across the political aisle and across denominations.

The document outlines three “fundamental commitments”:

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# Around the State

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## Around the State

- Two hundred and seventy-seven students at Howard Payne University received academic honors for the spring semester. One hundred and twelve students were named to the President's List by virtue of their 4.0 grade point average, 97 were named to the Dean's List, and 68 students earned honor roll recognition.

### **Anniversaries**

- Randall Bradley, fifth, as minister of music at Calvary Church in Waco, July 22.

- Steve Vernon, 15th, as pastor of First Church in Levelland, Aug. 20.

- South Plains Church in South Plains, 100th, Sept. 10. The church actually was organized on July 27, 1906, but chose the later date for the celebration. People with pictures or other items of interest can send them to the church at P.O. Box 98, South Plains 79528. A meal will follow the morning worship service. The afternoon has been set aside for fellowship and remembrances. Joe Weldon is pastor.

### **Deaths**

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# Love for God, love of the game motivate Texas author

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## Love for God, love of the game motivate Texas author

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

Hugh Poland—a Kentucky-born catcher who broke into the big leagues in 1943 when World War II drained the talent pool—played with four teams before the Cincinnati Reds released him May 28, 1948.

“So far as I can tell, he’s no relation to me,” explained a different Hugh Poland, author of *Steal Away: Devotions for Baseball Fans*. “I’m not a former ballplayer. I’m a minister of music.”



Texas  
Baptist  
music  
minister  
Hugh  
Poland  
uses  
baseball  
stories  
to  
deliver  
spiritual  
truth.

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# Book Reviews

August 10, 2006

Posted: 8/04/06

## Book Reviews

***C.S. Lewis's Case for Christ: Insights from Reason, Imagination and Faith*** by Art Lindsley (InterVarsity Press)



An abundance of good books are available on that late Anglican layman whom many classify as “one of the greatest minds of the twentieth century.”

Art Lindsley draws from C. S. Lewis' various books, letters and lectures to condense the Narnian's thoughts and theology into a 200-page gem. In the process, we learn some of Lewis' obstacles to faith as an atheist and how he answered those tough questions after coming to faith in Christ. The problem of evil and suffering, myth and religion, rationalism, belief in miracles, and the purpose of imagination in faith each get chapters.



What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to [books@baptiststandard.com](mailto:books@baptiststandard.com).

Having read most of Lewis' writings, I especially enjoyed reading Lindsley's take on what Lewis would say (or actually did say) about the important contemporary topics of postmodernism, moral relativism and religious pluralism.