

# Foster parents heard God's call to service on the radio

May 26, 2006  
Posted: 5/26/06

The Bamfords volunteered as foster parents, impressed by the STARRY program's emphasis on restoration and healing to the children and their caregivers.

## Foster parents heard God's call to service on the radio

**By Miranda Bradley**

*Children at Heart Ministries*

AUSTIN—When Rabecca and Scott Bamford decided they wanted to make an impact on young lives by becoming foster parents, they believe God used a radio commercial to lead them to just the right place.

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## **IMB trustees elect former staffer as chair**

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## **IMB trustees elect former staffer as chair**

**By Hannah Elliott**

*Associated Baptist Press*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (ABP) —International Mission Board trustees elected John Floyd, a former top administrator of the Southern Baptist agency, as board chairman—raising questions about a possible conflict of interest.

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# Texas Baptist Forum

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## Texas Baptist Forum

### **Margins of society**

The author of the "Faith & immigration" letter (May 15) misunderstands the theology of Jesus. The people Jesus most identified with were those who lived on the margins of society. The lepers, prostitutes, sinners, tax collectors, poor and women were all people who lived at these margins. In fact, many of these people were those who broke Roman and Jewish laws and traditions. They were the outcasts, the untouchables and the illegals.

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Letters are welcomed. Send them to [marvknox@baptiststandard.com](mailto:marvknox@baptiststandard.com); 250 words maximum.



*“Occasional drop-bys and clunky dropping of biblical references aren’t going to do the trick. These voters weren’t born again yesterday.”*

**Ruth Marcus**

Columnist, explaining why Democratic efforts to court evangelical voters may not work (washingtonpost.com)

*“If we would have followed that principle, the very men who turned this denomination back to biblical inerrancy would not have been qualified to have served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention or ... in any leadership position whatsoever at all.”*

**Ronnie Floyd**

Southern Baptist Convention presidential nominee, regarding a blue-ribbon SBC committee’s recommendation that elected convention officers be chosen from churches that give at least 10 percent of undesignated offerings through the Cooperative Program (BP)

*“By all means, let us argue. But let us remember we are not enemies. ... I have not always heeded this injunction myself, and I regret it very much.”*

**John McCain**

Arizona senator, at Liberty University, patching up his relationship with university Chancellor Jerry Falwell, whom he labeled among “agents of intolerance” during the 2000 presidential campaign (*The Washington Times/RNS*)

The keepers of the margins were the Pharisees and the Saducees. These were the ones who made the rules and kept the rules in relation to the marginalized. They were so concerned with these laws and rules that they lost touch with the importance of relationships.

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# **Couples need preparation for wedding & marriage, pastors say**

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## **Couples need preparation for wedding & marriage, pastors say**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

ATHENS—Like many pastors, Kyle Henderson finds great fulfillment in conducting weddings and preparing couples for marriage. And he treasures thank-you notes he receives from couples—particularly the ones he refused to marry.

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# Retirement community residents find love in golden years

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Jim and Ruby Finney walk hand-in-hand into their sunset years together after finding each other at Calder Woods, a Buckner Benevolences retirement community in Beaumont.

## Retirement community

# residents find love in golden years

**By Jenny Pope**

*Buckner Baptist Benevolences*

BEAUMONT—Jim Finney and his new bride, Ruby, are like any other newlywed couple—they take long walks holding hands, watch sunsets from their favorite park bench and go on frequent dates to the theater and local restaurants.

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## **LOVE AND MARRIAGE: Long-married couples share the secret of success**

May 26, 2006

Posted: 5/26/06

## **Long-married couples share the secret of success**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

HOUSTON—It not only takes a village to raise a child; it also takes a village to make marriage successful, some long-married Baptist couples agreed.

Bill and  
Ruth  
Osborne  
are among  
139  
couples  
Tallowood  
Baptist  
Church in  
Houston  
recently  
recognized  
as having  
been  
married  
50 years  
or longer.  
(Photos by  
Ken  
Camp)

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**Texas Baptists provide oasis in**

# **northern Mexico desert**

May 26, 2006

Posted: 5/26/06

## **Texas Baptists provide oasis in northern Mexico desert**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

Deported immigrants and needy Mexican nationals find an oasis—a place of rest and regrouping—in the middle of the desert, thanks to Texas Baptists.

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**Friendâ€™s death inspires  
summer missionaryâ€™s  
commitment**

May 26, 2006

Posted: 5/26/06

# Friend's death inspires summer missionary's commitment

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

CROCKETT—Ginny Moers found a mission in the wake of tragedy.

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# New media introduce Christian music to new markets

May 26, 2006

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# New media introduce Christian music to new markets

**By Beau Black**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Not long ago, illegal downloads flattened CD sales and sent the music industry into a panic. But that seems forgotten now, or nearly so, as Christian labels and artists and their mainstream counterparts

are looking to technology to revolutionize how they reach listeners.

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# **Protect religious liberty, Pinson urges grads**

May 26, 2006

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## **Protect religious liberty, Pinson urges grads**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

WACO—Young ministers bear the responsibility for protecting the precious gift of religious liberty from some in the rising generation who would trade freedom for conformity, Bill Pinson told graduates of Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary.

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# Contested presidential race highlights differences in SBC

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## Contested presidential race highlights differences in SBC

TAYLORS, S.C. (ABP)—Ronnie Floyd, pastor of the largest Southern Baptist church in Arkansas, and Frank Page, a South Carolina pastor with a record of strong financial support of the denomination's budget, each will be nominated for Southern Baptist Convention president at the June 13-14 annual convention.

Floyd is the favorite of the SBC's established leadership, which has controlled the presidency 27 years. Page was recruited by a group of Southern Baptist young conservatives who say the convention's establishment is excluding too many people.

The group also criticized Floyd for his church's weak support of the Cooperative Program, the SBC's central budget that supports the denomination's ministries and agencies.

	
Ronnie Floyd	Frank Page

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# Protect religious liberty, Pinson urges grads

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## Texas Tidbits

**Leeper appointed Baylor chief of staff.** Baylor University President John Lilley has appointed Karla Leeper chief of staff, effective June 1. Leeper, associate professor and acting chair of the department of communication studies at Baylor, will succeed interim chief Michael Morrison, who returns to teaching duties at Baylor Law School. Leeper is a graduate of the University of Iowa. She earned a master's degree and a doctoral degree from the University of Kansas.

**Levrets receive missions award.** Hardin-Simmons University's Logsdon School of Theology named Fred and Marylou Levrets recipients of the 2006 Jesse C. Fletcher Award for distinguished service in missions. The Levrets—both former Hardin-Simmons students—served 29 years in Africa as missionaries with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.