

Underwood urges Baylor graduates to challenge authority

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Underwood urges graduates to think for themselves

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO-Bill Underwood ended his tenure as Baylor University's interim president by challenging graduates to think for themselves and respect the right of other people to disagree with them.

Church shows love to teenaged parents at Care Fair

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Young
mothers and
mothers-to-be
learn CPR at
a Care Fair
sponsored by
First Baptist
Church in
Farmers
Branch.

Church shows love to teenaged parents at Care Fair

By George Henson

Staff Writer

FARMERS BRANCH-More than 50 teenaged unwed mothers and mothers-to-be gathered at First Baptist Church in Farmers Branch for an aptly named Care Fair.

Mexican families enjoy new homes, thanks to Baptist efforts

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Texas
Baptist
River
Ministry
Director
Dexton
Shores
(left)
presents
the key to
a new
home to a
Mexican
family
victimized
by
Hurricane
Emily,
while
Associate
Director
Loren
Fast gives
them a
Bible.

Mexican families enjoy new homes, thanks to Baptist efforts

By John Hall

LA CAPILLA, Mexico-Baptist General Convention of Texas River Ministry leaders presented 11 families with keys to new homes that can help them begin their lives again after Hurricane Emily.

Storylist for week of 12/19/05

January 6, 2006

Storylist for week of 12/19/05

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- [Advent Adventure: Churches capitalize on movie-sparked Narnia-mania](#)
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• [Reviewed in this issue: • *The 13 Apostles* by Preston Alford Taylor • *Cure for the Common Life: Living in Your Sweet Spot* by Max Lucado • *Set Free by Forgiveness* by Randall O'Brien • *The Dominance of Evangelicalism: The*](#)

Age of Spurgeon and Moody by David W. Bebbington.



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- [Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 25: Good news: Jesus Christ is born](#)
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- [BaptistWay Bible Series for Jan. 1: Jesus provides the model for talking with God](#)
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- [Explore the Bible Series for Jan. 1: Christians are to lead lives of worship](#)
- [BaptistWay Bible Series for Jan. 8: God's standards are the only ones that count](#)
- [Family Bible Series for Jan. 8: Money has its place, but it's not first place](#)
- [Explore the Bible Series for Jan. 8: Demonstrate Christ's love to others with action](#)

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Around the State

January 6, 2006

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First Church in Orange elected to help the helpers by presenting a check to the Texas Baptist Men's Top of Texas Disaster Unit. The check was to be used toward purchase of a tilt skillet that would increase the food-serving capacity of the TBM feeding unit from 20,000 meals per day to 30,000 meals per day. First Baptist Treasurer Don Mohon and Deacon Chairman Don Ball presented the check to Tim Willis of the Top of Texas team. While serving in Orange, the TBM crew served more than 240,000 free meals to people whose lives were turned upside down by Hurricane Rita. While the TBM volunteers of business owners, farmers, secretaries and retirees come from all over West Texas, the feeding unit is based at First Church in Plains, a community of about 1,200 people.

Around the State

♦ Baylor Health Care System's pastoral care department and the Baptist General Convention of Texas' office of chaplaincy relations will begin a 14-week course titled "Hands On Ministry" Feb. 2. The course, taught by professional chaplains, is aimed at providing lay people with an opportunity for increasing the knowledge, skills and ability needed to provide effective, compassionate care to others. Classes will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. each Thursday, with the exception of Maundy Thursday, through May 11. The training fee is \$25. For more information, contact **Bob Duncan** at (214) 820-4893 or **Reba Gram** at (888) 311-3900.

♦ The third annual singles conference of San Jacinto Baptist Association will be held Feb. 25 from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Northside Church in Baytown. **Don Piper**, author of *90 Minutes in Heaven*, will be the keynote speaker. Singles of all ages are welcome. The \$25 cost includes an autographed book and lunch. For more information, call (281) 422-3604 or go to www.sjbaptist.org.

♦ Baylor University has named two faculty members as master teachers. Honored with the designation were **Thomas Hanks Jr.**, professor of English, and **Gerald Powell**, the Abner V. McCall Professor of Evidence at Baylor Law School. Hanks began teaching at Baylor in 1976 and is a noted expert in medieval English literature. Powell has taught in the Baylor law school since 1986.

BGCT provides computers for Nigerian Baptists

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BGCT provides computers for Nigerian Baptists

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

The Baptist General Convention of Texas has shipped more than seven dozen computers to the Nigerian Baptist Convention.

Bible literacy among Baptists in decline, some educators fear

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Bible literacy among Baptists

in decline, some educators fear

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

Only one-third of American teenagers know what a “road to Damascus” experience means, and close to one-third don't understand the term “Good Samaritan,” a 2004 Gallup survey revealed.

Book Reviews

January 6, 2006

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Book Reviews

Evaluating the Church Growth Movement: Five Views by Gary L. McIntosh, general editor (Zondervan)

Evaluating the Church Growth Movement provides an opportunity to understand a variety of North American church-growth views. Five scholars express their perspectives as well as critique each other's writings. They delve into church growth, sharing their own historical understandings and interpretations.

Gary McIntosh, the general editor writes:

Church activists see federal budget as moral document

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Jim Wallis,
founder of the
anti-poverty
group Call to
Renewal, leads a
budget protest
outside the U.S.
Capitol. (RNS
photo courtesy of
Ryan
Beiler/Sojourners)

Church activists see federal budget as moral document

By Kevin Eckstrom

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-When mainline Protestant leaders assembled in the nation's capital last March to denounce President Bush's proposed budget

as “unjust,” they were received much like the Old Testament prophets they look to for inspiration—just another lonely voice, crying out in the wilderness.

Church bulletin errors tickle the funny bone

January 6, 2006

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Church bulletin errors tickle the funny bone

By Heather Horiuchi

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—It has long been said that to err is human. But to forgive mistakes in church bulletins may be divine.

Cartoon

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**"Pastor said
the new
year is like
a
clean slate,
so I deleted
everything."**

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.

Transitions spotlight new face of Baptist higher education

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Beneath
the
shadow of
the cross,
Dallas
Baptist
University
students
walk
across
campus to
classes
after a
chapel
service.
(Photo
courtesy
of Dallas
Baptist
University)

Transitions spotlight new face of Baptist higher education

By Hannah Lodwick

Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS (ABP)—Three of the nation's largest Baptist universities each have chosen a different strategy in selecting the president who will shape the school's future. Now pundits wonder which model will emerge as the new

face of Christian higher learning.