

IN FOCUS: Sharing makes BGCT ministry possible

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“Texas Baptists saved the life of my son.” One man shocked me with this statement after I met with students at Truett Seminary in Waco.

He and his wife were missionaries to China. They went to China with one child and soon became pregnant with their second. In China, they were allowed only one child and were told they would have to abort. Of course, that was not an option. Texas Baptists brought them to Texas and provided him with a scholarship to study at Truett. He will graduate in May, and he and his family hope to return to China as missionaries with their 2 1/2-year-old miracle son.

Sheila and I met Kati (Kathryn) at Buckner International’s annual donor dinner. She is a beautiful 4-year-old from Guatemala. Kati was born with facial deformities and was abandoned at birth. This little throw-away child was taken to a Buckner home in Guatemala. Baylor Health Care learned of her condition and brought her to Dallas, where she received numerous surgeries. Now this beautiful little girl has been adopted and has a mother, father and siblings. Scott Collins of Buckner said 100,000 children are cared for in Buckner facilities around the world.

During these last few weeks, I have had the opportunity to begin a tour of

Texas to meet with our church and institutional leaders. Susan shared about her desperate situation when she was a single mother with two small children, no job and no place to live. She was directed to the BGCT's ministry in Round Rock, where she and her two sons lived the next 11 months. The staff of Children at Heart Ministries introduced Susan to Christ, taught her how to manage a budget, got her a job, and she and her boys moved to her own apartment.

Texas Baptist Forum

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Texas Baptist Forum

Business matters

I thoroughly enjoyed "Taking care of business" ([April 14](#)). It's clearly right on target.

Letters are welcomed. Send them to marvknox@baptiststandard.com ; 250 words maximum.
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“Science and faith, reason and faith should never be seen as opposites but as bed-fellows.”

Tony Blair

Former British prime minister
and a recent convert to
Catholicism (RNS)

“I want to say it again, and again, and again: Islam is not a religion. It is a political system ... bent on world domination, not a religion.”

Pat Robertson

Religious broadcaster, speaking
on the *700 Club* (RNS)

“What will this do for Ronald McDonald’s image? What secret has Ronald been keeping?”

Dwayne Hastings

Vice president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, regarding McDonald’s sponsorship of the Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (BP)

“God.”

George W. Bush

U.S. president, when asked what he saw when he looked into Pope Benedict’s eyes (RNS)

As a layman, I spent a career in industry before becoming a full-time church staff member. Frankly, I'm excited about the prospects of using time-tested, proven business techniques from industry to accomplish kingdom purposes.

The opportunity to reach people for Jesus is limitless when you combine the methods of strong business leaders with the servant-leader characteristics of our Lord.

Chaplain launches 'adopt a terrorist' prayer campaign

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Chaplain launches 'adopt a terrorist' prayer campaign

By Adelle M. Banks

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—An Army Reserve chaplain has decided to do his individual part in the war on terror. He co-founded an Internet ministry to pray for terrorists.

"Adopt a Terrorist for Prayer" was launched in March and features a

catalog of photos of people designated by the FBI or the State Department as participants in or sponsors of terrorism.

A chaplain has launched an Internet-based ministry urging Christians to pray for the conversion of terrorists such as al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, pictured in this 1998 file photo. (Photo/REUTERS)

Updates from Venezuela evangelistic effort

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Updates from Venezuela evangelistic

effort

Josue Valerio of the BGCT missions section is in Venezuela with a team of four from Texas for the second wave of an evangelism push, part of a Venezuela Partnership we reported on in [March](#) and [April](#).

Valerio is posting updates from the current effort on the TexasBaptists blog. [Read his latest here](#).

For more information on the Venezuela partnership, e-mail Texas Partnerships at txpart@bgct.org or call Steve Seaberry, director of Texas Partnerships, at (214) 828-5180.

Explore the Bible Series for May 4: Acknowledge broken relationships

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Explore the Bible Series for May 4

Acknowledge broken relationships

- Genesis 42:6-9, 13-24

[By Donald Raney](#)

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

Anywhere two people are together, no matter what the relationship or how much they love each other, eventually there will be conflict. Disagreements will arise and each side will want to “win.” Our relationships involve our emotions, and because of that, feelings will be hurt as strain is placed on the relationship due to these conflicts.

Bible Studies for Life Series for May 4: Appreciate the people in your life

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Bible Studies for Life Series for May 4

Appreciate the people in your life

- Philippians 2:19-22,25-30; 4:15-18

[By Gary Long](#)

Baptist Children's Youth Ranch accepts 75 children removed from FLDS compound

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Baptist Child &
Family
Services staff
cared for
women and
children from
the
Fundamentalist
Latter-Day
Saints ranch
for three weeks
in San Angelo.
(BCFS Photos)

Baptist Children's Youth Ranch accepts

75 children removed from FLDS compound

By **Craig Bird**

Baptist Child & Family Services

LULING—Seventy-five children removed from the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints ranch by the Texas Department of Child Protective Services have been placed with Baptist Children's Home Youth Ranch near Luling.

This will allow for large groups of siblings to remain together at the facility which has been adapted to house FLDS children exclusively, administrators explained.

RIGHT or WRONG? Guided by the Ten Commandments

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RIGHT or WRONG? Guided by the Ten Commandments

We just don't hear about the Ten Commandments anymore. They

carry the essence of the law of our land and guidelines for all of life. I'm embarrassed that our preachers apparently aren't preaching the Ten Commandments. Lots of morality issues would be settled if they did, don't you think?

BaptistWay Bible Series for May 4: Death of a nation

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BaptistWay Bible Series for May 4

Death of a nation

- 2 Kings 17:1-18, 21-23

[By Kenneth Jordan](#)

Fort Worth church mired in

controversy over gays loses pastor

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Fort Worth church mired in controversy over gays loses pastor

FORT WORTH (ABP)—Brett Younger, pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, survived a vote to fire him last month but is leaving the church anyway—to become associate professor of preaching at Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology in Atlanta.

Broadway Baptist Church has been embroiled for months in a public controversy over homosexuality and other issues. The congregation approved a compromise Feb. 24 intended to end controversy over whether gay couples in the church should be pictured alongside other families in a new church directory. Some members objected to having those photos included, saying that would move from simply welcoming homosexual individuals—which Broadway has done quietly for years—to affirming their lifestyle.

Although the membership approved the compromise, which eliminated family and individual photos, the controversy ballooned into a dispute over Younger's overall leadership. A group of disgruntled Broadway members later submitted a petition to force a vote declaring the church's pulpit vacant.

Younger asked church leaders to schedule the vote, and members voted 499-237 against firing their pastor of nearly seven years.

Hispanic gathering stresses unity, equipping for service

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A mariachi group from South San Filadelfia Baptist Church in San Antonio lead in worship at a regional gathering of the Hispanic Baptist Convocation of the Laity. (Photo by Carrie Joynton)

Hispanic gathering stresses unity, equipping for service

By **Carrie Joynton**

Special to the Baptist Standard

SAN ANTONIO—Unity and equipping Christians for evangelism and discipleship took the spotlight at a regional Hispanic Baptist Convocation of the Laity gathering in San Antonio.

Baldemar Borrego, president of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas, stressed the importance of promoting unity among Hispanic Baptists.

Duo encounters bugs, mud, 'mixed-up beliefs' in Amazon Basin

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Duo encounters bugs, mud, 'mixed-up beliefs' in Amazon Basin

By **Shawn Hendricks**

International Mission Board

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Pat Townsend admits she's living outside her comfort zone.

Between the bugs, mud and freezing showers, Townsend, a missionary with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board's Masters Program, admits it could take her awhile to adjust to life in and around the Amazon Basin of South America.