

New positions to propel BGCT reorganization_22105

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New positions to propel BGCT reorganization

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-The Baptist General Convention of Texas took the first steps in reorganizing its staff when its Administrative Committee approved job descriptions for two new positions-associate executive director/ chief operating officer and special assistant to the executive director

At-large group to advise Baylor presidential search_22105

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At-large group to advise Baylor presidential search

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Baylor University regents have approved President Robert Sloan's transition to chancellor beginning in June and authorized their top officers to appoint both an all-regent presidential search committee and a broader-based advisory committee to help find his replacement.

For-profit condos planned at Glorieta, Ridgecrest_22105

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For-profit condos planned at Glorieta, Ridgecrest

By Brooklyn Noel

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—LifeWay Christian Resources trustees have approved a resolution to establish four for-profit corporations that will

develop and manage condominiums and townhouses at conference centers near Glorieta, N.M., and Ridgecrest, N.C.

God is calling Hispanic Baptists to conquer 'giants,' speaker says_22105

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God is calling Hispanic Baptists to conquer 'giants,' speaker says

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

HOUSTON—God is calling Hispanic Texas Baptists to overcome their fears and have a great impact in his name, the director of Hispanic church studies at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, Calif., told the Texas Baptist Hispanic Evangelism Conference.

Juan
Martinez,
director of
Hispanic
church
studies at
Fuller
Theological
Seminary,
tells the
Hispanic
Evangelism
Conference
crowd that
God is
calling
Texas
Hispanic
Baptists to
great
things.
(Photos by
John Hall)

For foul weather turn on your

MTV_22105

February 18, 2005

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For foul weather turn on your MTV

By Michael Foust

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)-For years, parents have complained about the sexually explicit and vulgar content of programs on broadcast television. As it turns out, a cable channel marketed to their teenaged children-MTV-may be even worse.

NAMB cuts medical benefits for future retirees_22105

February 18, 2005

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NAMB cuts medical benefits for future retirees

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP)-The North American Mission Board has eliminated some benefits for retiring employees in order to cut costs, prompting some of the Southern Baptist convention agency's 1,100 insured employees and missionaries to retire sooner than planned rather than lose the benefits they expected.

Polish Baptist leader surprised by SBC meeting_22105

February 18, 2005

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Polish Baptist leader surprised by SBC meeting

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (ABP)-The leader of Polish Baptists is expressing his “regret and sorrow” about a meeting, planned for Warsaw this summer, that at least one Southern Baptist Convention leader has described as an organizational gathering for “an alternative to the Baptist World Alliance.”

‘Common sense’ should guide border volunteers_22105

February 18, 2005

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'Common sense' should guide border volunteers

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Echoing much of what the U.S. State Department said in a travel alert, Baptist General Convention of Texas River Ministry leaders said the Texas-Mexico border remains safe as long as church groups exercise “common sense.”

Around the State_22105

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Calvary Baptist Church of Oak Cliff in Dallas recently held a baby and parent dedication day for 25 babies. All but two were younger than two years old. The church's Sunday school attendance is about 175. Ted Kiser is pastor.

Around the State

✘ Two couples with Texas ties were among missionaries recently appointed by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. **Trey** and

Denise Shaw will serve in central and eastern Europe in evangelism efforts. A Waco native and pastor of White Rock Church in Celeste, Shaw will serve as a strategy coordinator. The Shaws have three children: **Bryan**, 7; **Alexander**, 4; and **Lily**, 2. **Mark** and **Olga Gilbert** also will work in central and eastern Europe, where he will be a church starter. He is a Dallas native, and she was born in Latvia. They have two children: **John**, 2; and **Michael**, 1.

☒ Williamson Association will hold a training event detailing the life of Christ. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 24. The cost is \$72. Classes will be held March 3, 10 and 24 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. **David Edwards**, pastor of Main Street Church in Georgetown, will be the instructor.

☒ The Abilene Tri-College Choir and Collegiate Orch-estra, comprised of musicians from Hardin-Simmons Univer-sity, Abilene Christian Univer-sity and McMurray University, was selected to perform at the Texas Music Educators Association conference Feb. 10. Only six of 150 applicants were chosen to perform. This is the first time a choir and orchestra from multiple universities has been invited to perform.



Anderson Church in Anderson celebrated its 160th anniversary with the theme "A Past to Remember, A Future to Mold." Ron Gunter, Baptist General Convention of Texas regional consultant, presented a charge to the church in the morning service. A barbecue dinner under a tent followed the service. Dwain Steinkuehler is pastor.

Book Reviews_22105

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Book Reviews

The Intentional Family: Simple Rituals to Strengthen Family Ties

by William J. Doherty (Perennial Currents)

The definition of traditional family seems to take on new meaning daily. William Doherty's delightful book *The Intentional Family* is a great resource for helping us with efforts to create strong, healthy families. Drawing on experience with his own family and the families he works with, Doherty believes that everyday family rituals, seasonal celebrations, special occasions and community involvement keep today's family connected.

Twenty-first century families are assaulted on every front. Divorce, dual-career households, technological advances, children's school, and social and sporting activities leave us screaming for more family time. Families are being pulled apart, and it is increasingly difficult to connect meaningfully. Doherty states, "Only the intentional family has a fighting chance to maintain and increase its sense of connection, meaning and community over the years. An intentional family is one whose members create a working plan for maintaining and building family ties and then implement the plan as best they can. An intentional family rows and steers its boat rather than being moved only by the winds and current."



What are you reading that other Texas Baptists would find helpful? Send suggestions and reviews to books@baptiststandard.com.

Baptist Briefs_22105

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Baptist Briefs

Baptists make Time's list. At least seven Baptists are among Time magazine's list of the 25 most influential evangelicals in America. The magazine devoted the cover of a recent issue to the subject of evangelical Protestants in America and their influence over politics and culture. The list details evangelicals "whose influence is on the rise or who have carved out a singular role" in those arenas. Joining famed evangelist Billy Graham and his son, Franklin, on the list were Richard Land, head of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission; Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Community Church in Southern California and author of *The Purpose-Driven Life*; Tim LaHaye, co-author of the popular *Left Behind* series of apocalyptic novels and his wife, Beverly, founder of the conservative political-action group Concerned Women for America; reformed Watergate convict and Prison Fellowship founder Chuck Colson; and Hispanic Baptist community activist Luis Cortes.



Gregory named to college post. Joel Gregory, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, has been named a distinguished fellow at Georgetown College. In that part-time consulting role, Gregory will visit the campus several times a year and serve as an ambassador-at-large for the Kentucky Baptist-related school. Among his major responsibilities will be leading Proclaimers Place, a small-group preaching seminar; coordinating alumni and friends' travel such as a 10-day study tour on "Great Preachers of Great Britain"; and serving as a liaison to the African-American church community, including work with the school's Underground Railroad Research Institute. He will continue to live in Fort Worth and will continue his preaching and teaching ministry through Joel Gregory Ministries. A graduate of Baylor University in Waco and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Gregory also is a former pastor of Travis Avenue and Gambrell Street Baptist churches in Fort Worth, a former preaching professor at Southwestern and a two-term president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

GuideStone assets hit high. GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention reached an all-time high of \$8.3 billion in assets at the close of 2004-12.05 percent increase over the 2003 closing numbers of \$7.3 billion. In addition, the 13 AB Funds Trust mutual funds available to Southern Baptist participants turned in a positive performance for 2004 as well as continuing to post positive returns since their inception on Aug. 27, 2001, said officials with the agency, formerly known as the Southern Baptist Annuity Board.

Cartoon_22105

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**"I don't
know,
Pastor. I
think
'Showing
up' is a
very
legitimate
core
value for
our
church."**

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.