

LifeWay Family Bible Series for Feb. 6: Thankfully, God is the God of second chances_20705

February 1, 2005

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for Feb. 6

Thankfully, God is the God of second chances

Hosea 1:2-11, 3:1-5

By Leroy Fenton

Familia Bautista En Texas Informa Sobre Su Vida De Extranjeros Sin Documentos_12405

February 1, 2005

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Familia Bautista En Texas Informa Sobre Su Vida De Extranjeros Sin Documentos

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

Ernesto sirve como diacono en una iglesia bautista hispana en Austin. Su esposa, Maria, trabaja en varios ministerios en la iglesia. Y, como 1.1 millon de gente en Texas y mas de 9.3 millon en los Estados Unidos, ellos estan en este pais ilegalmente.

Young worshippers finding new meaning in old hymns_20705

February 1, 2005

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Young worshippers finding new meaning in old hymns

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Baptist Standard

Melodies and instrumentation have changed, but the lyrics remain the same as young worshippers find new meaning in traditional hymns.

Pastor sees BUA as ‘God-sent’ opportunity for undocumented student_12405

February 1, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

Mirzha Leija
faces a
complicated
future as an
"illegal."
Though she
grew up in
Texas and
graduated from
Seguin High
School, she is
not eligible for
any government
assistance for
college
expenses.(Photo
by Craig Bird)

Pastor sees BUA as 'God-sent' opportunity for undocumented student

By Craig Bird

Baptist University of the Americas

SEGUIN-The first time Carlos and Olga Martinez met Mirzha Leija, the girl with the light-up-the-room smile, they were impressed. Nothing in the past decade has changed their minds.

Pastor helps immigrants gain legal status_12405

February 1, 2005

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Alex
Camacho
directs the
nonprofit
Immigration
Services
organization
and is
pastor of
Iglesia
Bautista
Cristiana in
McKinney.
(Photo by
Sarah
Farris)

Pastor helps immigrants gain legal

status

By Sarah Farris

Special to the Baptist Standard

MCKINNEY—Before Alex Camacho felt God's call to ministry, he planned to become a lawyer. Now he combines his passion for God, law and the Hispanic community as director of Immigration Services—a nonprofit organization accredited by the Board of Immigration Appeals—and pastor of Iglesia Bautista Cristiana in McKinney.

Austin woman believes citizens can shape immigration policy_12405

February 1, 2005

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Carmelita
Hernandez,
a member of
Iglesia
Bautista
Principe de
Paz in
Austin,
drafted a
guestworker
pilot
program
proposal.
(Photo by
Ken Camp)

Austin woman believes citizens can shape immigration policy

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

AUSTIN-Carmelita Hernandez believes one person can make a difference—even when it comes to big issues like shaping the United States' immigration policy.

Immigration and churches_12405

February 1, 2005

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Immigration and churches

See Related Stories:

- ['We are here illegally': Texas Baptist family describes life as undocumented aliens](#)
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 - [Congress expected to address immigration issues](#)
- [FAQs: How can churches help undocumented immigrants?](#)
- [Hispanic but multi-ethnic](#)
 - [By The Numbers: Ministering to Immigrants](#)
- [Student develops resource to help churches grasp immigration issues](#)

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

AUSTIN-Immigration is not just a political issue to Texas Baptists; it's about churches and ministry, said Suzii Paynter, director of citizenship and

public policy for the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Christian Life Commission.

Congress expected to address immigration issues_12405

February 1, 2005

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Congress expected to address immigration issues

By Ferrell Foster

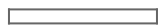
Texas Baptist Communications

AUSTIN—Expect to see change in United States immigration policy during this congressional session, said Suzii Paynter, director of citizenship and public policy for the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Christian Life Commission.

FAQs: How can churches help undocumented immigrants?_12405

February 1, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05



How can churches help undocumented immigrants?

Based on information provided by the Baptist General Convention of Texas immigration task force. For more information, contact Jim Young, director of the BGCT Missions Equipping Center, at (888) 311-3900.

The logo is contained within a rectangular box. It features the text 'WE ARE HERE' in green, 'ILLEGALLY' in red, and 'Ministry to Immigrants' in a smaller black font below it.

**'WE ARE HERE
ILLEGALLY'**
Ministry to Immigrants

See Related Stories:

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Q. Can a church get in trouble for helping an undocumented immigrant?

A. It depends on the kind of help offered.

Hispanic but multi-ethnic_12405

February 1, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

Hispanic but multi-ethnic

By Sarah Farris

Special to the Baptist Standard



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Just because a Texas Baptist church calls itself “Hispanic” doesn't mean its members are all Mexican-American. Just ask Rolando Lopez, pastor of Northwest Hispanic Baptist Church in San Antonio, who says his congregation has anywhere from seven to nine nationalities represented.

By The Numbers: Ministering to Immigrants_12405

February 1, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

Texas has 1.1 million legal resident immigrants.

(2002 estimate from the U.S. Homeland Security Department)

Texas has close to 1.1 million undocumented immigrants.

(Urban Institute estimate, based on the 2000 census and March 2002 current population survey)

An additional 914,000 foreign-born Texas residents are naturalized citizens.

(2000 census)

Number and percentage of Texas population

Based on total Texas population of 20,851,820
(2000 census)

All Foreign Born			
2,899,642			
13.9%			
Mexico	China	United Kingdom	Colombia
1,879,369	69,654	36,176	22,073
9.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Vietnam	Philippines	Korea	Nigeria
107,027	45,907	35,986	20,927
0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
El Salvador	Caribbean	Honduras	Cuba
101,259	41,777	33,655	16,011
0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
India	Germany	Pakistan	Iran
78,388	39,249	26,981	15,581
0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%
	Canada	Guatemala	Japan
	36,802	26,130	13,070
	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%



One out of every seven Texans was not born in the United States.

—Clay Price,
manager of Baptist
General Convention
of Texas Research
& Information
Services

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ILLEGALLY'**
Ministry to Immigrants

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Additional Resources on Immigration:

- [Proposed federal Legislation to Legalize Undocumented Farm Workers: The Agricultural Jobs, Opportunity, Benefits, and Security Act of 2003](#)
- [Undocumented Immigrants: Fact and Figures from the Urban Institute Immigration Studies Program, 2004](#)
- [The Border Security and immigration Reform Act of 2003, section by section summary](#)

(PDF files will open with the free Adobe Reader available [here.](#))

‘We are here illegally’: Texas Baptist family describes life as undocumented aliens_12405

February 1, 2005

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Texas Baptist family describes life as undocumented aliens

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

AUSTIN-Ernesto serves as a deacon at a Hispanic Baptist church in Austin. His wife, Maria, works in various ministries at the church. And like 1.1 million other people in Texas and more than 9.3 million in the United States, they are in this country illegally.

U.S. Border Patrol
Agent Ricardo
Marin looks along
the Mexican side of
the Rio Grande.
Marin and his
partner, U.S.
Border Patrol agent
Jesse Arellano, a 20-
year veteran, patrol
the river at
different times of
the day looking for
illegals and drug
smugglers. (Photo
by Brad
Doherty/Brownsville
Herald)