

# Texas Tidbits\_122004

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/17/04



East Texas  
Baptist  
University  
sophomore  
Ashley  
Landreth of  
Paradise  
performs  
during  
"Christmas in  
Marshall: A  
Concert of the  
Season," held  
at the  
Marshall Civic  
Center. ETBU  
joined the full  
choral and  
instrumental  
forces of the  
music  
department in  
presenting the  
concert, co-  
sponsored by  
the Marshall  
Regional Arts  
Council and  
attended by  
about 1,200  
area residents  
and tourists  
visiting the  
city's  
"Wonderland  
of Lights."

# Texas Tidbits

**Dallas pastor on national broadcast.** George Mason, pastor at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, will be the featured preacher for three episodes of a national television and radio program. Mason will preach on the "Day 1" program Jan. 16, Feb. 13 and March 27. A television version of "Day 1" is broadcast Sunday mornings on the Hallmark Channel's "America at Worship" series. Formerly known as "The Protestant Hour," the program is produced by the Episcopal Media Center and features preachers from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ. Mason's church is affiliated with CBF. His first sermon on the program is about identifying and preparing young people for vocations in the church.

**BUA offers language immersion classes.** The Center for Cultural and Language Studies at Baptist University of the Americas will host a weeklong Spanish language and culture immersion course Feb. 8-12. The course features a mixture of classroom instruction and conversational interaction with BUA students from Latin America. Other experiences include attending a Spanish prayer service at an area Baptist church and field trips to cultural attractions. Cost for the class is \$200, which includes expenses except housing. Texas Baptists are eligible for a \$100 scholarship provided through the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions. For a class application or more information, contact Mary Ranjel at BUA by calling (210) 924-4338 ext. 202 or (800) 721-1396 or e-mailing [mrangel@bua.edu](mailto:mrangel@bua.edu).

**BGCT names Internet developer.** Jason Hilliard of Duncanville has been hired as Internet developer for the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Hilliard, 25, had been manager of the academic computing lab at Dallas

Baptist University since December 2001. As BGCT Internet developer, Hilliard will develop web templates, pages and applications. He is a member of Faith Baptist Church in Duncanville.

---

# **TOGETHER: Find a place for Jesus in your life\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/17/04

## **TOGETHER: Find a place for Jesus in your life**

“The birth of Jesus is the sunrise of the Bible,” Henry Van Dyke said. What a powerful insight. All that came before Jesus was like the reflected light of the moon. God's activity in creation and in the hopes and aspirations of the prophets, though full of beauty, wonder and anticipation, could never match the full glory of the “Light of the world.” The inspired songs of the psalmists and the longings of the prophets looked forward to the Messiah as flowers awaken at dawn and turn toward the rising sun.

Consider how Herod missed the joy of Christmas because his heart was filled with fear and jealousy. He refused to let Jesus bring to him the gift of a new life. With implacable hatred, his sin-soaked mind set in motion a plot to kill the boy babies of Bethlehem. Herod was a corrupt, selfish, evil man. How different his life would have been if he had actually made his way to

where the child was, turned his face toward him and worshipped.

Consider how the innkeeper missed out on Christmas because he could think of nothing better to do than send Jesus to the cattle stall. You ask, "What else could he have done?" His inn was full. He could have offered his own room. What gentleman would send an expectant mother to the barn when there was a bed he could have given up?

CHARLES WADE Executive Director BGCT Executive Board
--

---

# **ANALYSIS: Torture and terrorism\_122004**

December 17, 2004  
Posted: 12/17/04

## **ANALYSIS: Torture and terrorism**

**By David Anderson**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)—President Bush's nomination of White House counsel Alberto Gonzales to succeed John Ashcroft as attorney general almost certainly will raise issues about the relevance—or irrelevance—of ethical constraints against torture when a nation is engaged in a war on terrorism.

---

## **Cybercolumn by Jeanie Miley: Showing the Way\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/17/04

### **CYBERCOLUMN: Showing the Way**

**By Jeanie Miley**

Choosing my holiday turkey carefully, I turned from the freezer to my grocery cart, encountering a beautiful young Asian mother and her two children who were dressed in uniforms from one of the local private schools.

“Excuse me,” the mother said. “My children want a turkey dinner. What should I serve with turkey?”

---

# Storylist for 12/20 issue\_122004

December 17, 2004

## Storylist for 12/20/04 issue

### GO TO SECTIONS:

- [Texas](#)
- [Baptists](#)
- [Faith](#)
- [Departments](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Bible Study](#)



- [Texas Baptist universities ask students: 'Are you ready for some football?'](#)
- [San Antonio church provides BUA scholarships for two students from India](#)
- [Suit asserts Lottery Commission, attorney general broke state laws](#)
- [Pioneering home missionary, bilingual early-childhood educator, dies at 89](#)
- [Church tops off Christmas season with high-powered gift to community](#)
- [Governance committee named to draft new bylaws for Baptist General Convention of Texas](#)
- [Pastor launches support network for other military families](#)
- [Buckner seeks hosts for 'angels from abroad'](#)
- [El Paso Baptists' 2004 church-starts nearly double previous year's number](#)

- [Texas Baptist students devote Christmas break to missions, ministries](#)
- [DBU offers master's-level credit for participants at Epicenter conference](#)
- [HOPE ministry helps fill Christmas stockings for needy Round Rock children](#)
- [Howard Payne students send Christmas cheer to Iraq](#)
- [Brother's unselfishness provides gift of life, inspires sister](#)
- [Abilene church helps members match skills, interests to missions needs](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)
- [Texas Tidbits](#)

### **Previously posted**

- ['As India goes, so goes the Great Commission'](#)
- [Latin American students serve in India](#)
- [Veteran missionary called to bring healing in Christ's name](#)
- [Voting faculty nix Baylor president; supporters find fault with referendum](#)
- [Church guides visitors through interactive journey to Bethlehem](#)
- [Colleyville church feeds 2,800, leads 138 to faith in Christ](#)

- [Shared holiday meal fills El Paso Baptists with renewed passion for missions](#)
- [Christmas Bible School teaches true meaning of the season](#)
- [Seaman's Center ministry makes global impact, particularly around Christmas](#)



- [Advocates for BWA look for ways to rebuild group's financial support](#)
- [Baptist Briefs](#)

### **Previously posted**

- [After 54 years in Nigeria, 'Chief Doctor Mama'](#)
- [Accrediting agency places Louisiana College on one-year probation for violating standards](#)



- ['Star of wonder' still leaves astronomers wondering about its origin](#)



- [Council told new approaches could resolve stem-cell dilemma](#)
- [ANALYSIS: Torture and terrorism](#)
- [Christians complicit in worst instances of genocide in 20th century, researcher insists](#)

## Previously posted

- [Judge dismisses most of lawsuit challenging faith-based initiative](#)



- [Classified Ads](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [On the Move](#)
- [Around the State](#)



- [EDITORIAL: Avoid shepherds' temptation: Leaving baby in a manger](#)
- [DOWN HOME: He's pathetic or just blessed](#)
- [TOGETHER: Find a place for Jesus in your life](#)
- [ANOTHER VIEW: There'll always be a Christmas](#)
- [Texas Baptist Forum](#)
- [Cybercolumn by Jeanie Miley: Showing the Way](#)



- [BaptistWay Bible Series for Dec. 26: Christians should invest in eternal treasure](#)

- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Dec. 26: Be a good steward of the riches God has given](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Dec. 26: Announce Jesus Christ, the source for new life](#)
- [BaptistWay Bible Series for Jan. 2: Jesus offers nuggets of wisdom to his disciples](#)
- [LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Jan. 2: Don't let Christ's return catch you unprepared](#)
- [LifeWay Family Bible Series for Jan. 2: Integrity is a necessary credential for a Christian](#)

[See articles from previous issue 12/06/04 here.](#)

---

# **Cybercolumn by John Duncan: Christmas comes with light\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/15/04

# **CYBERCOLUMN: Christmas comes with light**

**By John Duncan**

The Presbyterian preacher George Buttrick used to say that Christmas is the time when God “came down the backstairs of heaven lest he blind us by his light.” When Christmas arrived in Bethlehem, no neon light greeted him to announce his coming. The simple light of a star shone over the manger. Christmas comes with light.

C.S. Lewis called Christmas “the grand miracle.” He did so because Christ came in humility and light. Christmas comes with light.

---

## **Majority in Baylor faculty referendum vote against Sloan\_120604**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

## **Majority in Baylor faculty referendum vote against Sloan**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

WACO—A majority of Baylor University faculty who voted in a nonbinding referendum on the leadership of President Robert Sloan believe he should be dismissed.

---

# **Vote fails to remove antiquated language from Alabama constitution\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

## **Vote fails to remove antiquated language from Alabama constitution**

**By Robert Marus**

*ABP Washington Bureau*

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ABP)—Antiquated language from the segregationist era will remain in the Alabama Constitution for the time being after an automatic recount determined an attempt to strip it failed.

---

# Church leads visitors on a walk-through journey to Bethlehem\_122004

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

## Church leads visitors on a walk-through journey to Bethlehem

**By Michael Leathers**

*Associated Baptist Press*

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (ABP)—With just a portable heater as defense against the cool night, Kendra Jackson waits for the next group of Christmas celebrants to arrive. The 30-something mother of two daughters is portraying Anna in the interactive Christmas drama produced by Western Oaks Baptist Church.

---

# **Colleyville church feeds the needy, draws 138 to professions of faith in Christ\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

## **Colleyville church feeds the needy, draws 138 to professions of faith in Christ**

**By Gregory Tomlin**

*Baptist Press*

COLLEYVILLE (BP)—It wasn't quite comparable to the New Testament feeding of the 5,000, but an army of volunteers served hot meals and passed out sacks of groceries to more than 2,800 people.

---

## **Shared holiday meal fills El Paso Baptists with renewed**

# passion for missions\_122004

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

More than 100 faculty and staff members of the Alfa & Omega School in Denia, Spain line up for a Thanksgiving meal provided by volunteers from First Baptist Church in El Paso.

## **Shared holiday meal fills El Paso Baptists with renewed passion for missions**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

EL PASO—A holiday meal filled several Texas Baptists from El Paso with a renewed desire to see and meet needs around them.

---

# **Evangelical Theological Society to adopt Chicago Statement on inerrancy\_122004**

December 17, 2004

Posted: 12/10/04

## **Evangelical Theological Society to adopt Chicago Statement on inerrancy**

**By Jeff Robinson**

*Baptist Press*

SAN ANTONIO (BP)—Members of the Evangelical Theological Society passed a resolution to consider using the Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy to clarify the organization's position on the inerrancy of Scripture.