

Denton church invites International students over for Thanksgiving dinner_112904

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International students from the University of North Texas gathered at First Baptist Church in Denton for a Thanksgiving celebration of food, fellowship and prayer

Denton church invites International students over for Thanksgiving dinner

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DENTON -Thanksgiving and Christmas are about more than turkey and dressing for some members of First Baptist Church in Denton.

Protestant ministers cite divorce, negative media influences and materialism as common threats to fa

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Protestant ministers cite divorce, negative media influences and materialism as common threats to family, research says

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Divorce, negative influences from the media and materialism are among the most common threats to the family cited by Protestant ministers in a recent study.

Ellison Research, a full-service marketing research firm in Phoenix that conducted the research for LifeWay Christian Resources' Facts & Trends magazine, reported divorce was listed as one of the top three concerns by 43 percent of all ministers surveyed, while 38 percent cited the media as a

key issue they need to guard families in their communities against and 36 percent said materialism.

Other matters of concern included absentee fathers, cited by 24 percent of respondents, and families that lack a stay-at-home parent, noted by 22 percent of ministers.

[Click here to view the complete graph. Give your opinion on this issue in our poll.](#)

Woman won't rest until every orphan has a clean bed_110804

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Residents of
Moldovan
orphanages
are getting a
chance to
learn a trade
by making
beds thanks to
Sweet Sleep,
an
organization
that partners
with Houston-
based
Christian
Emergency
Relief,
International,
the overseas
outreach of
BGCT's
Baptist Child
& Family
Services.

Woman won't rest until every orphan has a clean bed

By Craig Bird

Baptist Child & Family Services

HOUSTON-Jen Gash wondered if God brought her halfway around the world—from Nashville, Tenn., to Chisinau, Moldova—just to break her heart.

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Storylist for 11/15/04 issue

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Fellowships seek to match passion for the outdoors with love for Christ_112204

November 23, 2004

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Fellowships seek to match passion for the outdoors with love for Christ

By Cheryl Sloan Wray

Alabama Baptist

HELENA, Ala. (ABP)-In the South, where devotion to hunting can approach a religion, several organizations are trying to match the passion hunters and fishermen feel for the outdoors with a passion for Christ.

Arkansas Baptists endorse Federal Marriage Amendment, oppose gambling_112204

November 23, 2004

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Arkansas Baptists endorse Federal Marriage Amendment, oppose gambling

HOT SPRINGS, Ark. (ABP)-Messengers to the 151st annual meeting of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention endorsed the Federal Marriage Amendment, approved a \$19.7 million budget and re-elected a slate of

officers.

The marriage resolution expressed gratitude for adoption of the Arkansas Marriage Amendment and supported a similar amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Other resolutions opposed expansion of gambling in Arkansas, supported sanctity of life and a pro-life agenda, and expressed gratitude for the 25th anniversary of the “conservative resurgence” in Southern Baptist life.

Around the State_112204

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Around the State

Clay Shelton has been named director of recreation at Hardin-Simmons University.

♦ **Ray Martin** received the Honorary Alumni Award at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor's homecoming activities. Honorary alumni memberships are given to individuals who have shown love and loyalty to the university but are not former students or graduates. Martin came to the school in 1987 as dean of men and assistant women's basketball coach. Since then, he also has been volleyball coach, dean of students and coach of the first-ever six-man football team at UMHB. He also is minister of music at First Church in Moody.

♦ Six individuals received Herbert H. Reynolds Awards for exemplary service during Baylor University's homecoming festivities. Honored were **Thomas** and **Emilyne Anding**, **Rufus Spain**, **Lois Sutton**, **James Wood** and, posthumously, **Ray Wilson**.



Wellborn Church in Wellborn has broken ground on the first phase of a four-phase plan. The first phase will include a worship center and education and office space. Construction should be concluded next spring. Taking part in the groundbreaking ceremony were Ken Gleghorn, chairperson of the building team; John David Boyle, pastor; and Paul Sanders, chairperson of the United We Build fundraising team.

Nomination for attorney general draws mixed reviews_112204

November 23, 2004

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Nomination for attorney general draws mixed reviews

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Socially conservative groups have expressed support-and civil-liberties groups have expressed concern-over President Bush's selection of Alberto Gonzales to replace John Ashcroft as attorney general.

BaptistWay Bible Series for Nov. 28: Weakness in Christ can

be a mighty thing_112204

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Nov. 28

Weakness in Christ can be a mighty thing

2 Corinthians 12:14-13:13

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

BaptistWay Bible Series for Dec. 5: Jesus teaches followers how to be disciples_112204

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BaptistWay Bible Series for Dec. 5

Jesus teaches followers how to be disciples

Matthew 5:1-16

By Todd Still

Truett Seminary, Waco

Bob Jones president praises Bush election_112204

November 23, 2004

Posted: 11/19/04

Bob Jones president praises Bush election

By Adelle Banks

Religion News Service

GREENVILLE, S.C. (RNS)-The president of Bob Jones University, a fundamentalist school in South Carolina, has written President Bush to say his re-election shows God has given the nation "a reprieve from the agenda of paganism."

Baptist Briefs_112204

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Baptist Briefs

SBTC holds 7th annual meeting. The Southern Baptists of Texas Convention adopted a \$19.2 million budget and re-elected Chris Osborne, pastor of Central Baptist Church in College Station, as president during its annual meeting at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano. Also elected were Ed Ethridge, director of missions of North Texas Baptist Association, as first vice president; Bill Sutton, pastor at First Baptist Church, McAllen, second vice president; and Brenda Wills of First Baptist Church in Fort Worth, secretary-treasurer. Messengers approved a resolution urging parents to "ensure the godly education" of children "whether in public schools, private schools, home schools or through the church's education program." Other resolutions opposed embryonic stem-cell research and supported a ban on "partial-birth" abortions, urged Senate confirmation of judges who will "not legislate from the bench," decried religious persecution and ethnic cleansing, voiced support for the United States' opposition to terror, promoted Christian citizenship and encouraged SBTC churches to double their number of baptisms next year.

CBF offers conference for Christian educators. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Initiative for Congregational Life will sponsor its 5th annual "True Survivor" conference for Christian educators March 7-9 at Royal Lane Baptist Church in Dallas. The conference will provide

continuing education and fellowship for Christian educators, age group ministers and church education staff. Conference leaders Diana Garland of the Baylor University School of Social Work, Dave Odom with the Center for Congregational Health and Bo Prosser, CBF coordinator for congregational life, will focus on the theme, "Missional Leadership: The Island of Intentionality." The Jack Naish Distinguished Educator Award recognizing excellence in Christian education will be presented during the conference. The conference costs \$50, and more information is available by contacting Toni Draper at (800) 352-8741 or tdraper@thefellowship.info.

SBC creates Hispanic task force. The Southern Baptist Convention has appointed a task force to increase mission efforts among the nation's growing Hispanic population. Bob Reccord, president of the SBC North American Mission Board, said he created the task force of Hispanic leaders to determine the needs and hopes of Hispanic churches within the denomination. Daniel Sanchez, director of the Scarborough Center for Church Planting and Church Growth at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, will chair the 15-member task force. The task force is expected to make recommendations to the mission board next year.