

Joel Gregory urges Baptists to exercise freedom_71204

July 1, 2004
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Joel Gregory urges Baptists to exercise freedom

By Marv Knox

Editor

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP)—Baptists must exercise their precious freedom in order to accomplish God's work in the world, Joel Gregory insisted at the annual Associated Baptist Press banquet.

First Freedoms Project introduced to work for religious liberty_71204

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First Freedoms Project introduced to work for religious liberty

By **John Pierce**

Baptists Today

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (ABP)—Celebrating and supporting the "founding freedoms" guaranteed in the First Amendment is the emphasis of a new project launched by three Baptist organizations, organizers say.

African-American Southern Baptists examine their history_62804

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African-American Southern Baptists examine their history

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—Citing progress in minority representation and optimism toward racial inclusiveness, speakers at the annual African American Southern Baptist History Project said God is continuing to work among Southern Baptists.

Chronicling the growth of racial inclusiveness in the 16-million-member denomination, several speakers pointed to new growth since Southern Baptists became proactive about seeking change. The meeting at Gabriel Missionary Baptist Church was held prior to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Indianapolis.

“The SBC's racial image is becoming more Christian as churches increasingly reflect the values of Christ toward other people groups,” said Sid Smith, director of the Florida Baptist Convention's African American ministries division.

SBC ends 99-year relationship with Baptist World Alliance_62804

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Messengers
to the
Southern
Baptist
Convention
annual
meeting
vote for the
SBC to
withdraw
from
membership
in the
Baptist
World
Alliance.
(Van Payne
Photo)

SBC ends 99-year relationship with Baptist World Alliance

By Trennis Henderson

(Kentucky) Western Recorder

INDIANAPOLIS—Southern Baptist Convention messengers voted overwhelmingly to end the denomination's 99-year relationship with the Baptist World Alliance.

Crossover evangelism events make impact on Indianapolis_62804

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Dusty Selig, (left) ,
pastor of a
Southern Baptist
mission
church-the Spirit
of the Lord
Church in
Indianapolis-prays
with Jason
Lockhart before
baptizing him in a
portable baptism
tank during the
Jesus Family
Picnic at Garfield
Park near
downtown
Indianapolis.
Lockhart, who
made a profession
of faith in Christ
at the picnic, was
one of about 700
Indianapolis
residents who
attended the day-
long outdoor
gathering, one of
more than 75
evangelistic
Crossover events.
(Bob Carey Photo)

Crossover evangelism events make impact on Indianapolis

By Lee Weeks

Baptist Press

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)-Blaring rap music, yellow crime scene tape, open-hooded vehicles on ramps and young children playfully running through the streets is an all-too-common scene throughout much of inner-city America.

Graham urges Southern Baptists to gear up for culture wars_62804

July 1, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

Graham urges Southern Baptists to gear up for culture wars

By Charlie Warren

Arkansas Baptist News

INDIANAPOLIS-The Southern Baptist Convention should “look up, step up,

stand up, wise up and gear up” for America's cultural wars, said outgoing SBC President Jack Graham.

Annuity Board-sponsored event prior to SBC draws 600 walkers, runners_62804

July 1, 2004

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Annuity Board-sponsored event prior to SBC draws 600 walkers, runners

By Wendy Ashley

Annuity Board

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)-More than 600 Southern Baptist Convention messengers and guests-ranging in age from 3 to 84-participated in a pre-convention wellness walk sponsored by the SBC Annuity Board.

WMU leaders at annual meeting challenged to follow Christ_62804

July 1, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

WMU leaders at annual meeting challenged to follow Christ

By Bill Webb, John Loudat & Charlie Warren

Missouri Word & Way, Baptist New Mexican & Arkansas Baptist News

INDIANAPOLIS—Missionaries, Woman's Missionary Union leaders and others explored what it means to be Christ-followers during WMU's recent 2004 annual meeting in Indianapolis.

New SBC president willing to go to great lengths to increase

baptisms_62804

July 1, 2004

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New SBC president willing to go to great lengths to increase baptisms

By Marv Knox

Editor

INDIANAPOLIS-New Southern Baptist Convention President Bobby Welch pledged to go to great lengths-literally-to encourage the SBC to baptize a million people each year.

Welch wins contested presidential election_62804

July 1, 2004

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Welch wins contested presidential

election

By Marv Knox

Editor

INDIANAPOLIS—Bobby Welch, a Florida pastor known for his evangelistic zeal, won the first contested Southern Baptist Convention presidential election in a decade.

Bush assures Southern Baptists he will defend traditional view of marriage_62804

July 1, 2004

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Southern
Baptist
Convention
messengers
greet a
satellite
message
from
President
Bush with
sustained
applause
and
repeated
ovations.

Bush assures Southern Baptists he will defend traditional view of marriage

By Steve DeVane

North Carolina Biblical Recorder

INDIANAPOLIS—President Bush promised messengers at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting he would “defend the sanctity of marriage against activist courts.”

Patterson's charges 'outrageous,' American Baptist leaders maintain_62804

July 1, 2004

Posted: 6/25/04

Patterson's charges 'outrageous,' American Baptist leaders maintain

By Trennis Henderson

(Kentucky) Western Recorder

INDIANAPOLIS (ABP)-Paige Patterson's assessment of the American Baptist Churches USA's stand on homosexuality is "completely outrageous," declared ABC General Secretary Roy Medley.