

# **Gay marriage North Texas pastors say 'Not on my watch'\_61404**

June 11, 2004  
Posted: 6/11/04

## **Gay marriage? North Texas pastors say: 'Not on my watch'**

**By John Hall**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

ARLINGTON-About 1,000 people called for a constitutional amendment banning homosexual marriages and civil unions during a recent rally promoted by a coalition of North Texas African-American Baptist churches.

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## **Texas Baptist Forum\_61404**

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# TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM:

## Another name

Regarding the proposed name change for the Southern Baptist Convention: I spent nine years in northern Minnesota. I started a church, worked in two others and was intimately involved with the working of Northwoods Baptist Association (in northern Minnesota and Wisconsin), and for a few years was a member of the executive board of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention (which did indeed remove "Southern" from its name!).

I can assure that on the ground, the name "Southern" does great harm to our work.

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I was asked why Warroad, Minn., needed a "Southern" Baptist church. The word "Southern" is definitely a negative in the eyes of Minnesotans.

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**Mary Hill Davis Offering funds  
cutting-edge missions, helps  
Texas Baptists meet**

# needs\_61404

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## Mary Hill Davis Offering funds cutting-edge missions, helps Texas Baptists meet needs

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

Since Baptists give regularly throughout the year to support the varied ministries of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, why is the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions needed?

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## Missions legacy of Mary Hill Davis continues\_61404

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# Missions legacy of Mary Hill Davis continues

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

A teenage girl danced around the room, and Faydell Brenner asked her what she was doing. The girl said dancing made her feel good about herself. Brenner replied that doing something for Jesus was a better way to accomplish the same goal.

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## **Interfaith group urges U.S. to renew efforts advancing peace process in Middle East\_61404**

June 11, 2004

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## **Interfaith group urges U.S. to renew efforts advancing peace process in Middle East**

**By Juliana Finucane**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)—An interfaith delegation of Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders has urged Secretary of State Colin Powell to make the Middle East peace process an immediate priority.

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## **Texans embrace missions partnerships\_61404**

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### **Texans embrace missions partnerships**

The increase in student missionaries mirrors an increase in the number of Texas Baptists taking mission trips through relationships facilitated by the Texas Partnerships Resource Center of the Baptist General Convention of Texas

More than 3,500 Texas Baptists participated in more than 300 mission trips in the past 12 months through Texas Partnerships. Destinations included Australia, Brazil, Southeast Asia and Europe as well as stateside sites such as Oklahoma and Vermont.

While many of the trips occurred through official partnerships between the BGCT and other conventions, the center's staff helped congregations serve wherever they felt called.

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# **Campaign teaches Christian teens music piracy is just plain wrong\_61404**

June 11, 2004

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## **Campaign teaches Christian teens music piracy is just plain wrong**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)- A survey suggesting Christian teens have attitudes toward music piracy similar to those of non-Christian teens led the Gospel Music Association to launch a campaign with a simple message: "Millions of Wrongs Don't Make it Right."

The message is directed at Christian teens who see nothing wrong with copying CDs or downloading copyrighted music through the Internet.

Contemporary Christian music artists Steven Curtis Chapman, Stacie Orrico and Shaun Groves have endorsed the campaign.

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# National Digest\_61404

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## National Digest

**Coalition issues blueprint for ending hunger.** National Anti-Hunger Organizations, a coalition of 13 faith-based and other hunger activist groups, has proposed a "Blueprint to End Hunger in America." The group called on the federal government to cut hunger in half by 2010 and eliminate it by 2015, the goals the United States set for itself at the World Food Summit in 1996. It also said the Senate must pass the Child Nutrition Reauthorization legislation, which would continue funding existing programs and also expand summer food programs and fresh fruit and vegetable pilot programs for low-income children. The blueprint calls on state and local governments to expand nutrition programs and make applying for food stamps easier. It says schools and community organizations should help increase awareness of programs that already exist for easing hunger.

**Graham released from hospital.** Evangelist Billy Graham was released from an Asheville, N.C., hospital June 7 after undergoing a procedure to stabilize a pelvic fracture. He sustained the fracture when he fell at home, where he was recovering from a partial hip replacement. Graham's physicians said they were greatly encouraged by his progress. He will continue intensive therapy at home for at least three months.

**Senators urge reversal on stem cell research.** Fifteen Republican Senators—including Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas—have joined 42 Democrats and one independent in the Senate in urging President George W. Bush to revise his order prohibiting federal funds for stem cell research

involving human embryos. The leaders of the effort pointed to former President Ronald Reagan's death after a 10-year battle with Alzheimer's disease in appealing for the policy change. Many researchers contend embryonic stem cells offer the greatest potential for treating or curing Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, diabetes and other diseases, but pro-life groups oppose using human embryos.

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## On the Move\_61404

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### On the Move

**Ron Allen** has resigned as pastor of Avenue D Church in Brownwood.

◆ **Gerald Austin** to Friendship Church in Ennis as pastor.

◆ **Dean Banks** has resigned as pastor at Belle Plain Church in Brownwood.

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# **Gallup Poll reveals growing number of Americans believe in heaven, hell\_61404**

June 11, 2004

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## **Gallup Poll reveals growing number of Americans believe in heaven, hell**

**By Kevin Eckstrom**

*Religion News Service*

WASHINGTON (RNS)-While the portion of Americans who believe in God has remained relatively steady at upward of 90 percent, increasing numbers of Americans believe in heaven, hell, angels and the devil, a new Gallup poll shows.

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**Even Christian school backers  
uneasy about SBC**

# resolution\_61404

June 11, 2004

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## Even Christian school backers uneasy about SBC resolution

**By James A. Smith Sr.**

*Florida Baptist Witness*

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)—A proposed resolution calling for a Southern Baptist exodus from public schools found little support at a recent meeting of Baptist backers of Christian schools.

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## ‘Conservative resurgence’ failed to spark surge in evangelism, growth, statistics show\_61404

June 11, 2004

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# 'Conservative resurgence' failed to spark surge in evangelism, growth, statistics show

**By Robert Marus**

*Associated Baptist Press*

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Southern Baptist Convention leaders say the convention has experienced a “conservative resurgence” in the past 25 years. But statistics show it hasn't experienced much of a surge.