

Alliance condemns marriage amendment_51704

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Alliance condemns marriage amendment

DAYTON, Ohio (ABP)-The Alliance of Baptists has adopted statements of concern about "the politicization of same-sex marriage" and the United States' relations with Cuba.

The statement on same-sex marriage explicitly condemned the proposed Federal Marriage Amendment, which would add a provision to the Constitution banning same-sex marriages in all 50 states.

The resolution objected to that proposal and similar amendments to state constitutions "that would enshrine discrimination against sexual minorities and define marriage in such a way as to deny same-sex couples a legal framework in which to provide for one another and those entrusted to their care."

Long-time WMU leader, Alma Hunt, given Judson-Rice Award for leadership, integrity_51704

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Long-time WMU leader, Alma Hunt, given Judson-Rice Award for leadership, integrity

By John Pierce

Baptists Today

RICHMOND, Va. (ABP)-Alma Hunt, who led the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union from 1948 to 1974, has received the Judson-Rice Award for leadership with integrity.

Incidents of anti-Muslim bias jump by 70 percent, group

asserts_51704

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Incidents of anti-Muslim bias jump by 70 percent, group asserts

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Incidents of anti-Muslim bias in 2003 jumped 70 percent over the previous year, a study by an Islamic civil rights group says.

Around the State_51704

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Around the State

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor recently recognized faculty and staff with service awards. **Max Hart**, associate professor of mathematics, was recognized for 35 years on the faculty. **Corky Johnson**, professor of biology, and **Linda Pehl**, dean of the School of Nursing, have served 30

years. Celebrating 25 years were **Gary Brinegar**, electrician, and **Frances Dixon**, library technician. Marking 20 years were **Bobby Johnson**, director of alumni development, and **Keith McPherson**, assistant vice president of finance and controller. Recognized for 15 years of service were **Steve Alexander**, professor of biology; **Bruce Bolick**, associate professor of accounting, economics and finance; **Teresa Buck**, associate professor, library; **Mike Frazier**, director of auxiliary services; **Diane Howard**, professor of communication and performance studies; **Randy O'Rear**, vice president of external relations; **Steve Theodore**, vice president of enrollment management; and **Donna White**, secretary for business and finance. **W.D. English**, professor of management and marketing; **Jim King**, dean of the School of Business; and **David Sloan**, associate professor of English, each marked 10 years of service.



University of Mary Hardin-Baylor nursing graduate Carolyn Curry is pinned by Suzanne Beltz during the chartering ceremony that marked the school's inaugural induction of students into Sigma Theta Tau International, an honor society for nursing students. Curry was one of 173 nurses inducted.

- ◆ **Lexi Langley** of Elysian Fields has been named Senior Girl Call-Out at East Texas Baptist University. Sponsored by the University Women's Club, this is the 57th year for the award to be bestowed.

- ◆ The department of history and political science at Houston Baptist University held its inaugural induction ceremony of Phi Alpha Theta, the national collegiate history honor society. Student inductees were **Carrie Puryear, Christi Swift, Jami Parsons, Renee Ledoux** and **Kathryn Bowser**.

Baylor Faculty Senate gives 'no confidence' vote to university president for second time_51704

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Baylor Faculty Senate gives 'no confidence' vote to university president for second

time

By Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

WACO (ABP)—For the second time in a year, Baylor University's Faculty Senate has voted “no confidence” in President Robert Sloan.

BGCT leaders hopeful, encouraged by early stages of revisioning process_51704

May 14, 2004

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BGCT leaders hopeful, encouraged by early stages of revisioning process

By Marv Knox

Editor

The early stages of the Baptist General Convention of Texas' “revisioning” process have given its top two leaders reason for hope.

Direct missions involvement rises, baptisms fall, church data shows_51704

May 14, 2004

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Direct missions involvement rises, baptisms fall, church data shows

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Texas Baptists are getting out of their church buildings and moving into mission fields, church data analyzed by the Baptist General Convention of Texas shows.

BGCT strategy committee

named_51704

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BGCT strategy committee named

Charles Wade, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas' Executive Board, will be chair the BGCT's strategic planning committee.

The committee will hold its first meeting May 17 and hopes to complete most of its work by the fall, said Sherrill Spies, the organizational consultant who is helping to guide the committee.

The 17-member strategy committee is comprised of nine members who were part of four revisioning teams, which began the convention's strategy process a few months ago.

Not clear yet, but BGCT vision is emerging, consultant says_51704

May 14, 2004

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Not clear yet, but BGCT vision is emerging, consultant says

By Marv Knox

Editor

Although it's not clear yet, a new vision for the Baptist General Convention of Texas is coming into focus, according to the consultant who is helping the convention develop that vision.

Most Protestant ministers tell pollsters they like NIV above all other Bibles_51704

May 14, 2004

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Most Protestant ministers tell pollsters they like NIV above all other Bibles

PHOENIX, Ariz.-A newly released study shows the New International Version of the Bible is the translation most likely to be used by Protestant ministers in their work

Thirty-one percent preferred NIV, followed by the King James Version at 23 percent, the New Revised Standard at 14 percent, the New King James at 13 percent and the New American Standard at 10 percent.

Together, these five Bible versions represent nine out of 10 Bibles ministers rely on most, even though there are dozens of other versions available.

Bible drill contestants take Scripture into hearts and minds_51704

May 14, 2004

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Bible drill contestants take Scripture into hearts and minds

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS-Some contestants practiced before church, some after. Some memorized passages in their bedrooms, others in their basements. All spent many hours with their Bibles.

Baptist Briefs_51704

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Baptist Briefs

Indiana pastor to be nominated for SBC 2nd VP. Mark Stephen Hearn, pastor of Northside Baptist Church in Indianapolis, will be nominated for Southern Baptist Convention second vice president during the SBC's annual meeting June 15-16 in Indianapolis. Charles Sullivan, former executive director-treasurer of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, will nominate Hearn. Hearn has held vice presidential posts in both the Indiana and Georgia state Baptist conventions. He serves as a trustee for LifeWay Christian Resources. Hearn joins John Hays of Jersey Baptist Church near Columbus, Ohio, in the running for SBC second vice president.

Texas representatives named to SBC committee. Southern Baptist Convention President Jack Graham appointed as the two Texas representatives on the SBC committee on committees members of churches uniquely aligned with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. Graham named Paul Cheek from Kentucky Town Baptist Church in Whitewright and Eric Hankins from Galloway Avenue Baptist Church in Mesquite. Both churches are identified on the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention website as uniquely aligned with the convention that broke away from the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The SBC committee on committees has 70 members, two from each of the 35 state or regional conventions qualified for representation on SBC entities. The committee's key

responsibility is to nominate members of the committee on nominations, which nominates trustees to serve on the various SBC national entities.

Annuity Board video available in three languages. The Southern Baptist Annuity Board has produced a retirement planning video in Spanish and Korean, as well as English. The 15-minute video highlights the benefits of the Church Annuity Plan, a 403(b) retirement plan designed exclusively for Southern Baptist ministers and church employees. Vietnamese and French Haitian versions of the video should be available this summer. Free copies of these videos are available by calling the Annuity Board at (800) 262-0511. Callers can also request translation assistance through this toll-free number.