

Buckner honors BGCT, Park Cities, orphans' home alumnus_40504

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This year marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of Buckner by R.C. Buckner (left), who served as its first president from 1879 to 1919.

Buckner honors BGCT, Park Cities, orphans' home alumnus

By Russ Dilday

Buckner News Service

DALLAS—The Baptist General Convention of Texas, Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas and Buckner Orphans Home alumnus Bill Annis have been named recipients of the R.C. Buckner Founder's Award for their contributions to Buckner Baptist Benevolences.

COMMENTARY by Brett Younger: Worth dying for_40504

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COMMENTARY: Worth dying for

By Brett Younger

I've forgotten which war they were protesting, but I remember the words on the sign: "Nothing is worth dying for." The person carrying the placard was cynical, honest and representative of prevailing sentiments.

Death has an increasingly bad reputation. Woody Allen spoke for most when he said: "I don't want to achieve immortality through my work. I want to achieve immortality by not dying." Death is considered the greatest enemy.

Brett Younger

EDITORIAL: More churches need to go bivo_40504

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EDITORIAL: More churches need to go bivo

Are churches needlessly starving their pastors? And what's the connection between pitiful pastoral pay and the plague of vacant pulpits?

A new study by Duke University's Pulpit and Pew Research on Pastoral Leadership validates these questions. The Duke survey documents a national shortage of pastors, which is especially acute in small rural and inner-city congregations. These churches have a hard time providing sustainable salary and benefits that can support a full-time pastor. ([See the full story here.](#))

The survey shouldn't surprise anyone who's paid close attention to churches. At any given moment, about 12 percent of churches affiliated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas are pastorless. Of course, every church is going to be pastorless from time to time. But many small churches are chronically pastorless, due both to short tenures and long vacancies.

Fort Worth evangelist shares gospel message by clowning around the world_40504

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Fort Worth evangelist shares gospel message by clowning around the world

By Leann Callaway

Special to the Baptist Standard

FORT WORTH—Eugenio Adorno, better known as Chagy the Clown, says he entertains audiences the same way secular circus acts do. But his performances have the added bonus of presenting the gospel.

Worship works when leaders relate honestly to each other, Swindoll says_40504

April 7, 2004

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Worship works when leaders relate honestly to each other, Swindoll says

By Samuel Smith

Southwestern Seminary

FORT WORTH (BP)—Honest and supportive relationships between worship leaders are necessary for a church to reflect God's plan, author and radio Bible teacher Chuck Swindoll told participants at the 2004 Church Music Workshop at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**Building campaign helped
unify, strengthen congregation,
Mineral Wells pastor
testifies_40504**

April 7, 2004

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**Building campaign helped unify,
strengthen**

congregation, Mineral Wells pastor testifies

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

MINERAL WELLS-Members of Fairview Baptist Church identified a problem they are glad to have: Their sanctuary is too small for them to carry out their mission.

Around the world, Moms in Touch lift up children in prayer_40504

April 7, 2004

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Around the world, Moms in Touch lift up children in prayer

By Mary Jacobs

Religion News Service

DALLAS-Women carrying flags from around the world paraded through the

cavernous ballroom. An audience of 1,600 women looked on, singing, eyes glistening, arms raised.

Country church believes new life may rest on the other side of the nearby cemetery_40504

April 7, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Country church believes new life may rest on the other side of the nearby cemetery

By George Henson

Staff Writer

SOMERSET-New life for Old Rock Baptist Church may rest just the other side of the cemetery, Pastor Melvin Schupp believes.

Study shows minister surplus, but few willing to serve in small churches_40504

April 7, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Study shows minister surplus, but few willing to serve in small churches

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DURHAM, N.C.—Mainline Protestant denominations face a leadership shortage in spite of an apparent surplus of ordained ministers because many of them are hesitant to enter congregational work and reluctant to serve smaller churches, a study by Duke University's Pulpit and Pew Research on Pastoral Leadership revealed.

Revised Federal Marriage Amendment draws mixed

reviews_40504

April 7, 2004

Posted: 4/02/04

Revised Federal Marriage Amendment draws mixed reviews

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Sponsors of a proposed constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage announced a change they say clarifies the proposal, but the amendment's opponents call the change a ruse to gain more support for the effort.

Faith-based ad consortium created_40504

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Editor Marv Knox (left) and Advertising Manager David Clanton (3rd from left) of the Baptist Standard join representatives from other religious publications in forming Good News Advertising.

Faith-based ad consortium created

DALLAS—The Baptist Standard has joined 30 other faith-based newspapers to create a new advertising consortium serving a five-state market.

The association, called Good News Advertising, represents newspapers with 3.5 million readers.

The advertising market-created by 31 newspapers with more than 1.3 million subscribing households in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and New Mexico—will offer quality advertisers a “one-buy” opportunity at affordable rates, organizers said.

Baptist aid worker injured in Iraq shooting continues recovery in Dallas_40504

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Baptist aid worker injured in Iraq shooting continues recovery in Dallas

DALLAS—The lone survivor of a drive-by shooting in Mosul, Iraq that killed four Southern Baptist humanitarian aid workers is recovering in a Dallas-area hospital.

Carrie "Niki" McDonnall of Rowlett was transported to Dallas from a German hospital March 20. She underwent surgery March 24 for nerve and skin grafts on her left hand and will begin physical therapy soon, said family spokesman Van Payne.

Carrie McDonnall

Her doctors are "very pleased" with her progress and moved her to a private room that same day, earlier than they had expected, Payne said.