

Texas children deserve quality education, commission says_30804

March 5, 2004

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Texas children deserve quality education, commission says

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS—After hearing a leading Texas educator say the state is at a “great watershed moment,” the Christian Life Commission of the Baptist General Convention of Texas voted unanimously to approve several proposals related to school finance, including opposition to gambling and school vouchers.

Mission volunteers bring smiles to Indian faces_30804

March 5, 2004

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Mission volunteers bring smiles to Indian faces

By Toby Druin

Editor Emeritus

WAXAHACHIE-Robert Cox and Walter Jones returned to Texas from India with smiles on their faces-smiles almost as broad as those worn by the hundreds of people whose teeth they worked on and the thousands who found faith in Jesus Christ while they were there.

Down Home: Just last night, I dreamed that ..._30804

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DOWN HOME: Just last night, I dreamed that ...

Do you dream?

Maybe I should put it another way: Do you remember your dreams?

I've been thinking about dreams for several weeks, ever since Jan Jarboe Russell spoke to the Texas Baptist Media Forum in late January.

Editorial: BGCT must seize singular moment for significant change_30804

March 5, 2004

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EDITORIAL: BGCT must seize singular moment for significant change

If the coming months live up to their potential, our children and grandchildren will look back on 2004 as a “kairos” time. A holy and sacred season. A divine moment. A blessed occasion when Texas Baptists stepped forward with unusual faith, vision and spiritual creativity.

Their verdict will hinge upon the work of four revisioning teams that have been asked to take a thoughtful, intense look at the Baptist General Convention of Texas. BGCT Executive Director Charles Wade named and President Ken Hall affirmed the committees—one comprised of laypeople skilled in corporate leadership, two made up of church ministers and another formed from Baptist Building staff—to analyze the structure, mission, vision and ministry of the convention. (An article about their work can be found [here](#).)

The BGCT's revisioning challenge has been discussed among concerned

Texas Baptists for several months now. Strategically, this is the most important task our convention will undertake this year. It's not merely speculative or theoretical. The results will chart our course far into this century.

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for March 14: The qualities of servant-leaders enumerated_30804

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for March 14

The qualities of servant-leaders enumerated

1 Timothy 3

By David Morgan

Trinity Baptist Church, Harker Heights

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for March 21: A godly character is a key part of evangelism_30804

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A godly character is a key part of evangelism

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 14: Prophets don't point to answers, but to God_30804

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 14

Prophets don't point to answers, but to God

Judges 6:1, 7-10, 12-14, 25-32

By Rodney McGlothlin

First Baptist Church, College Station

LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 21: Refuse to compromise when life's trials

come_30804

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 21

Refuse to compromise when life's trials come

Daniel 3:1-2, 4-6, 13-18, 21, 24-25, 27-28

By Rodney McGlothlin

First Baptist Church, College Station

Gay marriage OK in Oregon county_30804

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Gay marriage OK in Oregon county

WASHINGTON (ABP)-Oregon's most populous county began issuing marriage licenses to gay couples March 3, marking the latest incident of

local officials following the lead of San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom in allowing the practice.

Two gay men and two lesbians wed each other at a hotel in downtown Portland.

A majority of Multnomah County commissioners reportedly decided to proceed after the county's attorney issued an opinion that such marriages would not violate state law.

Regional convocations for Hispanic laity seek to inspire, train and equip_30804

March 5, 2004

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Regional convocations for Hispanic laity seek to inspire, train and equip

By Orville Scott

Texas Baptist Communications

TYLER—About 200 East Texas laymen and pastors were challenged at Hillcrest Hispanic Baptist Church recently to join hands and hearts with others in missions and ministries to reach an estimated 7 million Hispanics

in Texas.

Texas Baptist Forum_30804

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TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM: Gratitude to Jews

I'm neither anti-Semitic, nor do I have animosity toward the Jewish people regarding Christ's death.

To lay blame on anyone is to say that his death was a mistake. Not only was it not a mistake, it was prophecy, and there was no way around it. Our sins, particularly those of Gentiles, could have never been pardoned in any other fashion. God allowed his chosen people to carry out a task for which they would forever be ostracized, persecuted and, in some cases, killed, for their role. That God trusted the Jews to carry out this task is a testament to his love for his original "chosen people." Sometimes, you have to be the heavy to accomplish the tough tasks.

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Still, I don't get the anti-Semitism aspect (of the accounts of Christ's passion). Christians owe the Jews an enormous debt of gratitude for bringing on God's kingdom, through Jesus Christ, and for playing a part in

building the bridge that allows redemption for the “un-chosen people.”

Oath trumps court order, Moore claims_30804

March 5, 2004

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Oath trumps court order, Moore claims

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ABP)—Attorneys for Alabama's former chief justice have asked for his reinstatement, claiming Roy Moore did not commit an ethical violation when he defied a federal court's order last year.