

Texas churches picking Bible study material cafeteria-style_22304

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Texas churches picking Bible study material cafeteria-style

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

DALLAS—Ask Brad Williamson, minister of education at South Main Baptist Church in Pasadena, about the Bible study curriculum his church uses, and he needs to consult a spreadsheet to answer the question.

Baptist Briefs_22304

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Baptist Briefs

New Orleans Seminary pressured to make SBC its 'sole member.'

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is under increasing pressure from the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee to change its charter to make the SBC the "sole member" of its corporation. Seminary trustees voted last October to decline a request to take that action. Following two hours of discussion, the SBC Executive Committee voted last week to ask the trustees to reverse course and amend the seminary charter during their spring 2004 meeting. The motion asks that the action be forwarded to the Executive Committee "for subsequent recommendation" to the SBC during its June 2004 meeting. If seminary trustees again decline to comply, the Executive Committee could ask SBC messengers to approve a motion to make the same request. Naming the SBC as sole member allows the convention to control the election and dismissal of trustees, while granting trustees authority to direct the organization's work and financial affairs. The requested changes would grant the SBC specific powers designed to thwart any possible attempt trustees might make to withdraw from the SBC.

Tax guide available. The Southern Baptist Annuity Board's annual Ministers Tax Guide for 2003 Returns is now available in print and online at www.absbc.org. Free printed copies are available by calling (800) 262-0511. The guide focuses on tax issues most likely to affect active and retired Baptist ministers. The guide supplements IRS materials and gives step-by-step instructions, including sample tax returns for ministers.

CBF launches new website. The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship has launched a new website at a new Internet address, www.thefellowship.info. Features on the home page include links to major areas such as Global Missions, church life and education; news and views; and search engines to

access information.

Executive Committee endorses SBC pullout from Baptist World Alliance_22304

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Executive Committee endorses SBC pullout from Baptist World Alliance

By Trennis Henderson & Greg Warner

Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (ABP)—Southern Baptist Convention leaders intent on severing ties with the Baptist World Alliance have taken a major step in that direction.

Ten Commandments back on display, but they're not alone_22304

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Ten Commandments back on display, but they're not alone

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (ABP) -The Ten Commandments are back on display in Alabama's judicial headquarters, but their self-appointed cheerleader reportedly isn't happy about it.

Judge dismisses most counts in Dennehy lawsuit_22304

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Judge dismisses most counts in Dennehy lawsuit

WACO (ABP)—A Waco judge has dismissed six of seven counts in a wrongful death lawsuit filed by the father of slain Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy.

Ralph Strother of Waco's 19th State District Court threw out the counts of alleged wrongdoing listed in the suit against Baylor and some of its officials. The remaining count says the defendants “intentionally, knowingly and/or recklessly” caused Dennehy's death.

He gave attorneys for the plaintiff, Patrick Dennehy Sr. of Tacoma, Wash., two weeks to refile their complaint.

Down Home: Cold or virus? Both are painful_22304

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DOWN HOME: Cold or virus? Both are painful

Would you rather have a cold or a virus?

That's like asking another age-old medical question: Which is worse—vomiting or diarrhea? The answer, of course, is whatever's plaguing you at the moment.

Well, I just suffered from a cold and a virus back-to-back. I'll take the cold. Any day.

Editorial: Our sins nailed Jesus to the cross_22304

February 20, 2004

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EDITORIAL: Our sins nailed Jesus to the cross

Who killed Jesus?

More people than ever will ask that question in coming weeks, as millions fill theaters to watch Mel Gibson's new movie, "The Passion of the Christ." The film offers Christians an unprecedented opportunity to explain the gospel story.

The disquieting shadow of controversy has darkened the movie for weeks. Concerned Christians and Jews alike worried it would set off a new siege of anti-Semitism. History supports their fear. For most of the last 2,000 years, passion plays have sparked persecution of Jews. Moved by the cruelty of

Jesus' torture and crucifixion, Christians followed an all-too-human impulse. They placed blame. Taking blame to an extreme, vicious people acted out of un-Christlike madness and extracted revenge on Jews. Some of the saddest pages of history have been written with their blood.

Editorial: Stand in the gap for BWA_22304

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EDITORIAL: Stand in the gap for BWA

Pleas of countless Baptists have fallen on deaf ears.

The Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee voted 62-10 to proceed with its plan to withdraw from the Baptist World Alliance, comprised of 211 Baptist conventions from around the globe.

Southern Baptist leaders accused the BWA of the dirtiest word in the Baptist dictionary, "liberalism." Like "communism" in the McCarthy era, "liberalism" packs political potency for Southern Baptists. Never mind that BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz and President Billy Kim directly denied the charge. Never mind that Exhibit A in the Southern Baptist leaders' case proved to be bogus. Never mind that many conventions affiliated with the BWA far surpass the Southern Baptists in biblical

conservatism. “Liberalism” is for losers, and the SBC likes to win.

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Feb. 29: Financial wisdom for financial managers_22304

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for Feb. 29

Financial wisdom for financial managers

Selected Proverbs

By John Duncan

Lakeside Baptist Church, Granbury

LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for March 7: The gospel is all about changing people's lives_22304

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for March 7

The gospel is all about changing people's lives

1 Timothy 1-2

By David Morgan

Trinity Baptist Church, Harker Heights

LifeWay Family Bible Series for Feb. 29: Serve God for his glory,

not for earthly gain_22304

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for Feb. 29

Serve God for his glory, not for earthly gain

Matthew 20:20-28; Romans 12:9-13

By David Jenkins

New Hope Baptist Church, Big Sandy

LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 7: God selects his leaders from those who listen_22304

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LifeWay Family Bible Series for March 7

God selects his leaders from those who listen

Judges 4:4-10, 14-16; 5:1-2, 6-9

By Rodney McGlothlin

First Baptist Church, College Station