

New exec pledges to lead BGCT to discover & fulfill ‘kingdom assignment’

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New exec pledges to lead BGCT to discover & fulfill ‘kingdom assignment’

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Commitment to a “kingdom assignment”—ensuring every person in Texas has the opportunity to respond to Christ by Easter 2010—can help unite Texas Baptists, [Randel Everett](#) told the Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board just prior to his election as executive director.

The board voted 78-6 to elect Everett, pastor of First Baptist Church in Newport News, Va., as executive director at a Feb. 26 meeting in Dallas. He succeeds Charles Wade, who retired Jan. 31. Jan Daehnert is serving as interim executive director until Everett assumes the executive’s post in April.

• [Watch
Randel
Everett's
message
on this
video
clip.](#)

Chairman Ken Huggins of Huntsville noted the executive director search committee “came to unanimity” in recommending Everett after seeking God’s direction and listening to Texas Baptists.

Bible Studies for Life Series for March 9: Hey yous guysâ€”or, faith in the second person plural

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Bible Studies for Life Series for March 9

Hey yous guys-or, faith in

the second person plural

- 1 Corinthians 3:16-17

[By Gary Long](#)

Explore the Bible Series for March 9: Learning about God's faithfulness

February 27, 2008

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Explore the Bible Series for March 9

Learning about God's faithfulness

- Genesis 29:16-27; 31:1-3, 38-42

[By Donald Raney](#)

First Baptist Church, Petersburg

How many times have you heard someone ask, "Where was God when that happened?" Perhaps if you really were honest, you would have to admit you have asked the question. The Bible is full of God's promises to bless and protect his followers, but the difficulties and tragedies of life can lead even

the most mature believer to moments of doubt and questioning those promises.

Bible Studies for Life Series for March 2: Did You Take Your Smart Pill Today?

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Bible Studies for Life Series for March 2

Did You Take Your Smart Pill Today?

- 2 Timothy 3.16-17

[By Gary Long](#)

Meet Our Bible Study Lesson

Writers

February 27, 2008

Updated: 2/25/08

Meet Our Bible Study Lesson Writers

Gary Long, writer of the Bible Studies for Life series, is a “husband to one wife, father to three children, and pastor to a whole herd at Willow Meadows Baptist Church in Houston.”

Kenneth Jordan, author of the BaptistWay lessons, is pastor of First Baptist Church in Alpine, Texas.

Don Raney, author of the Explore the Bible lessons, is pastor of First Baptist Church in Petersburg. He holds a doctorate in Old Testament from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Baptist churches, in Texas, the BGCT, the nation and around the world.

Pastor-politician points to

Muslims as source of Kenyan violence; experts disagree

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Government buses pull into a camp sheltering some 1,000 displaced Kenyans. The people waited two days for buses to transport them to safety in their ancestral homelands. Unrest continues in Kenya since a disputed election in December, and a Baptist minister-politician who witnessed the events there believes much of the violence was orchestrated by religious extremists. (BP Photo)

Pastor-politician points to Muslims as

source of Kenyan violence; experts disagree

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

DALLAS—Religious extremism prompted much of the violence surrounding Kenya's disputed presidential elections, according to a Kenyan expatriate and Baptist pastor who lost a bid for a seat in parliament. But international experts with contacts in the region point to ethnic and political divisions—not religion—as precipitating the bloodshed.

International media reported widespread violence erupted throughout Kenya's rural areas after the nation's electoral commission declared incumbent President Mwai Kibaki defeated challenger Raila Odinga, and Odinga's supporters claimed the voting was rigged.



Solomon
Kimuyu

Gloer named to Garland Chair of Preaching at Truett Seminary

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Gloer named to Garland Chair of Preaching at Truett Seminary

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

WACO—Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary paid tribute to two faculty members simultaneously when Hulitt Gloer was installed as inaugural holder of the school's David E. Garland Chair of Preaching—an endowed post named in honor of the seminary's dean.

Garland joined the Truett faculty in 1997 after more than 20 years at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Garland, a New Testament scholar, serves as the William M. Hinson Professor of Scriptures and was named dean last year.

Baylor
University
Provost
Randall
O'Brien (left)
presents a
plaque to
Hulitt Gloer
during a
service in
which Gloer
was installed
as the
inaugural
holder of the
David E.
Garland Chair
of Preaching
at Truett
Theological
Seminary.
(PHOTO/Matt
Minard/Baylor
University)

Panhandle speakers encourage personal evangelism, trust in God's provision

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Posted: 2/22/08



Officers for 2009
for the Panhandle-
Plains Pastors' and
Laymen's
Conference hosted
by Wayland Baptist
University include
(left to right)

Charles Bassett,
secretary/treasurer,
WBU

representative and
layman from First
Baptist Church,
Weatherford; Alan

Wilson, first vice
president, pastor of

First Baptist
Church in White
Deer; Robert

Storrs, president
elect, pastor of
Cornerstone Baptist

Church in Lubbock;
and Steve Martin,

president, pastor of
Parkview Baptist

Church in
Plainview. (Photos

by Steve

Long/Wayland
Baptist University)

Panhandle speakers encourage personal evangelism, trust in God's provision

By Teresa Young

Wayland Baptist University

PLAINVIEW—Obedience to God requires seeing people as God sees them, as well as trusting him to provide for needs. That was the advice two keynote speakers offered the 87th annual Panhandle-Plains Pastors' and Laymen's Conference at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview.

Supported by eight area Baptist associations, the conference featured Bible study by Wayland religion professors and special messages by Calvin Miller, Christian author and professor at the Beeson Divinity School at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.



Sandy Maddox urges Baptists to see past the masses to individuals who need Jesus.

New Baptist Covenant criticism continues to come from both left & right

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New Baptist Covenant criticism continues to come from both left & right

By Hannah Elliott

Associated Baptist Press

NEW YORK (ABP)—Although organizers hailed a recent Baptist gathering as a success, some critics have leveled a wide array of charges against the celebration of a New Baptist Covenant.

Critics of the event, held in Atlanta in late January and early February, include conservatives who continue to accuse it of having a thinly veiled liberal political agenda. But they also include moderates and liberals who say the gathering was not inclusive enough of ethnic and sexual minorities.



[See
complete
coverage
of the
New
Baptist
Coverage
meeting
here.](#)

Endorsement prompts IRS to investigate California pastor

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Endorsement prompts IRS to investigate California pastor

By Robert Marus

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—Outspoken California pastor and former Southern Baptist Convention officer Wiley Drake is being investigated by the Internal Revenue Service.

The candidate for the SBC presidency this year is under scrutiny for using

his church letterhead and church-sponsored radio show last year to endorse Mike Huckabee.

Wiley Drake

San Antonio parenting education program seeks to break cycle of abuse

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Parent
education
facilitator
Fili Garcia
shares her
experiences
in a
“Precious
Minds, New
Connections”
class to
teach
positive
parenting
skills.
(Photos by
Craig
Bird/BCFS)

San Antonio parenting education program seeks to break cycle of abuse

By Haley Smith

Baptist Child & Family Services

SAN ANTONIO—Through its Precious Minds, New Connections program, Baptist Child & Family Services is trying to break the cycle of child abuse by offering specialized parent-training courses.

According to the Center for Public Policy Priorities, the number of confirmed victims of child abuse in Bexar County was 5,755 in 2006—and

most abusers reportedly were parents or caregivers.

Craig Turner to step down as Hardin-Simmons president

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Craig Turner to step down as Hardin-Simmons president

ABILENE—Craig Turner, [Hardin-Simmons University's](#) 14th president, will resign effective May 31, 2008, to become president of [Catawba College](#), a private liberal arts school in Salisbury, N.C.

"The two most important words in this transition are the names Payton and Madeline—the names of my granddaughters," Turner said. "This position is an opportunity to be near family, and that's been the critical factor in this decision."

Turner was inaugurated Sept. 11, 2001, during the attack on the World Trade Towers and Pentagon, and said he wanted the university to become "the best small Christian university in the Southwest."

Craig Turner

During his tenure, Hardin-Simmons exceeded or met his goals to increase endowment, establish an honors program, dedicate resources to community outreach, and improve spirit, pride and ownership of the University by all its constituents. Turner moved HSU into the Top Tier of peer universities.