

# **New exec pledges to lead BGCT to discover & fulfill 'kingdom assignment'**

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/26/08

## **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.

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• [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.

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

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/27/08

**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](#)

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

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/27/08

**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.

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

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/25/08

**Bible Studies for Life Series for March 2**

## **Did You Take Your Smart Pill Today?**

- 2 Timothy 3.16-17

[By Gary Long](#)

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## **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.

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## Pastor-politician points to

# **Muslims as source of Kenyan violence; experts disagree**

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08



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

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## Gloer named to Garland Chair of Preaching at Truett Seminary

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08

# 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.

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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)

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

February 27, 2008

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.

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

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08

## **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.](#)

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# Endorsement prompts IRS to investigate California pastor

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08

## 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.

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| Wiley<br>Drake |
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# **San Antonio parenting education program seeks to break cycle of abuse**

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08

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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.

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# Craig Turner to step down as Hardin-Simmons president

February 27, 2008

Posted: 2/22/08

## 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<br>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.