

Around the State: FBC Richardson sets groundbreaking

August 28, 2015

[First Baptist Church in Richardson](#) will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Sept. 13 at 10:30 a.m. to mark the beginning of the first phase of a building plan. The \$8.5 million phase includes upgrades of the worship center and expansion to the lobby of the church. A coffee shop and seating for use during the week will be added to the lobby, and a two-storied glass front will wrap around the south entrance. **Ellis Orozco** is pastor.



New Howard Payne University students served at the Brownwood community garden and other locations throughout the city as part of SWARM—Serving With A Right Motive—as a part of freshman orientation. [Dallas Baptist Association](#) is sponsoring a Leading to Literacy weekday education conference Sept. 19 at First Baptist Church in Garland from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Cost is \$5 per person. Classes will target encouraging literacy in children up to age 4. Conference faculty are early childhood educators from Texas A&M

University-Commerce. The conference meets state childcare licensing standards, and three hours of training can be earned. To register, [click here](#).

[Dallas Baptist University](#) awarded 203 degrees during its summer commencement service. **Greg Ammons**, pastor of First Baptist Church in Garland, received an honorary doctorate. **Scott Turner**, state representative for the 33rd District, gave the keynote address.



Brad Barnett [Buckner Children and Family Services](#) named **Brad Barnett** senior vice president. He will oversee Buckner's domestic and international child and family care operations. He most recently was vice president of global operations for Adams Golf in Plano.

Jeffrey Baergen has been promoted to executive vice president at [San Marcos Baptist Academy](#). He began his work at the school in 1995 as a teacher and dormitory director.

[Wayland Baptist University](#) President **Paul Armes**, who will retire next June, gave his final convocation address as he encouraged students to live within the will of God.

Wallace Davis Jr., chancellor emeritus of Wayland Baptist University, was the guest speaker at the [University of Mary Hardin-Baylor's](#) convocation service that marked the beginning of the school's 170th year. The university's student body includes representatives from 35 states and 34 countries, and the freshman class is the largest in the university's history.

Anniversary

Calvary Baptist Church in Brenham, 50th, Sept. 20. A meal will follow the morning service. **Billy Sutherland** is pastor.