

# Around the State: Wayland Mission Center names new director

January 18, 2017

Wayland Baptist University appointed **Donnie Brown** director of the Wayland Mission Center and the Koleo Program, which focuses on mentoring students to become church leaders. Brown has been director of Baptist Student Ministries at Wayland the past 15 years.

**Kimberlee Norris**, a sexual-abuse trial attorney and co-founder of MinistrySafe, led a three-hour training event for students and faculty at Baylor University's Truett Theological Seminary Jan. 18. MinistrySafe training is designed to help churches and their leaders reduce the risk of sexual abuse. For more information, click [here](#).

The National Council on Teacher Quality named Dallas Baptist  University among the top programs in the nation for the preparation of elementary school teachers. DBU ranked in the 99th percentile for the second consecutive year. Hardin-Simmons University ranked in the 83rd percentile and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in the 82nd percentile. The council examined and assessed 875 undergraduate elementary education programs.

Former Dallas Cowboys defensive end **Greg Ellis** will speak on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 5, in the 9:15 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. services at The Heights Church in Richardson. John Wills, executive pastor at The Heights, described Ellis as "a man of integrity who stresses the importance of [keeping God first](#)." Ten food trucks will be parked in the church's front parking lot after the worship services to serve lunch, and guests are invited

to check in at the welcome center to receive free lunch tickets.

Mission Waco broke ground Jan. 18 for an aquaponics greenhouse as  the first phase of a major sustainability project, Urban REAP—Renewable Energy and Agriculture Project. The ministry received a \$234,000 gift from Green Mountain Energy Sun Club to support the project. In addition to the greenhouse, it will include solar panels, a rainwater catchment and purification system, commercial composting and a training center for school groups. The greenhouse will be built next to the recently opened Jubilee Food Market, a nonprofit grocery Mission Waco launched to serve a food desert. **Jimmy Dorrell** is executive director of Mission Waco and its international ministry, Mission World.

## **Anniversaries**

**Dale Wells**, 15th as pastor of Elliott Baptist Church in Hearne

**Ricky McCall**, fifth as pastor at Iglesia Bautista Calvario in Buckholts

## **Ordinations**

**Mark Hanna, Jim Hedderly, Eric Jackson, Tyson McLaughlin, David Souza** and **Brian Street** as deacons at First Baptist Church in Belton