

# Around the State: Wayland opens new site in Clovis, N.M.

February 20, 2015

[Wayland Baptist University](#) held a ribbon cutting on a new centrally located Clovis, N.M., site. The university had to leave the previous location in the city due to structural concerns. Gary Mitchell is executive director of the Clovis campus. Wayland operates 12 external campuses in six states in addition to his primary campus in Plainview.

[The Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission](#) will hold an advocacy day March 5 in Austin. Beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church Family Life Center, participants will learn about some of the top legislative issues facing the state, including predatory lending, immigration and public education. During lunch, Kathryn Freeman, CLC director of public policy, will discuss the commission's legislative priorities. At 1 p.m., participants will have the opportunity to meet with elected officials in their capitol offices and discuss issues of primary concern for churches and their communities. "Let Justice Roll Down: African American Perspectives on Justice," a program in which several African-American pastors will participate in a discussion of the role of the church in justice, will begin at 3:45 p.m. To register, [click here](#).

**Becky Dinnin**, a graduate of  Becky Dinnin Baylor University, has been named executive director of the Alamo. She is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Texas landmark, from fund raising to historic preservation. She formerly was director of communications for the [Baptist General Convention of Texas](#), and since 2007, she has been vice president of image and communications for the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

[Baptist University of the Americas](#) will hold its 13th annual Rudy

Sanchez Preaching Conference March 20-21 in the Eula Mae Henderson Chapel. **Ellis Orozco**, pastor of First Baptist Church in Richardson, is the conference speaker, and **Rolando Aguirre** is the workshop speaker. The \$25 registration fee covers breakfast, lunch and dinner. For more information, [click here](#).

**The Newport Foundation-B.H. Carroll Theological Institute [2015 Pastors' Conference](#)** will be March 27 at First Baptist Church in Arlington.

☒ Robert Stewart Afternoon presentations featuring **Robert Stewart**, **David Naugle** and **Karen Bullock** will begin at 3 p.m. A dinner will be held at 5:15 p.m. The plenary session with **Nancy Pearcey** of Houston Baptist University begins at 7 p.m.

[Howard Payne University](#) has received funding to continue its restorative justice emphasis within its criminal justice program. The Baptist General Convention of Texas has provided Howard Payne University with the funding since 2006. HPU offers a four-class rotation that grants students certificates of completion after conclusion.

## **Retiring**

**Dick Hennings** has retired as minister of music as Southmont Baptist Church in Denton after eight years of service. He was in ministry 54 years, including 26 years as minister of music at First Baptist Church in Bowie.