

# Baptist Briefs: ERLC honors civil rights leader

November 6, 2015

John Perkins, civil rights leader and community organizer, received the John Leland Religious Liberty Award from the Southern Baptist Convention's [Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission](#). ERLC President Russell Moore presented the award to Perkins at Mount Helm Baptist Church in Jackson, Miss. Perkins, 85, was a leader in the school desegregation movement in Mississippi. With his wife, Vera, he founded various ministries that focus on Christian community development, justice and reconciliation.

**BWA women's leader to retire.** Patsy Davis, executive director of the [Baptist World Alliance](#) women's department, will retire Dec. 31, 2015, after 17 years at that post. Previously, Davis was a Southern Baptist International Mission Board missionary 21 years, serving as general secretary of the National Woman's Missionary Union of Venezuela.