

Singer focuses on the reason for the season

December 10, 2011

Singer/songwriter Matt Wertz is helping listeners slow down and take time to reflect on the real reason for this season with his latest album, *Snow Globe*.

One-third of shelter residents newly homeless; often victims of violence

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Nearly one in five clients of Christian rescue missions said they were victims of physical violence within the past year, a 6 percent jump from the previous year, according to a new survey.

Catholic art finds unlikely home

at **Bob Jones University**

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Walking across the tidy campus of Bob Jones University, there's no obvious sign this bastion of Christian fundamentalism is home to one of the nation's largest collections of Renaissance and Baroque religious art from the heart of Catholic Europe.

Faith Digest

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Pope Benedict XVI can cross an outstanding charge of failing to wear a seatbelt from his list of worries.

Billy Graham released from hospital

December 10, 2011

Evangelist Billy Graham returned to his North Carolina home Dec. 6 after a six-day stay in a nearby hospital where he was treated for pneumonia.

Congregations reach out to vets with PTSD, traumatic brain injury

December 10, 2011

Some wounds of war are all too visible—a missing leg, a shattered arm. The invisible wounds of mind and soul often are more difficult to spot and equally hard to treat.

Black seminaries embrace hip-hop to reach out to young people

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It's hard enough to get young people out of bed and into the pews on a Sunday morning, but two leading black seminaries think they have found a way to grab the next generation—hip-hop.

Baptist pastor writes Bible study for Harry Potter movies

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With the recent DVD and Blu-ray release of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2*, the eighth and final film in the long-running series based on books by J.K. Rowling, a Southern Baptist pastor has written a Bible study to help young people discern between the series' mixed messages about good and evil.

Chaplain in Afghanistan reflects Christ's peace

December 10, 2011

Air Force chaplain Kevin Humphrey's last quarterly report to the North American Mission Board's chaplaincy group reads like the script of a Hollywood blockbuster.

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The National Council of Churches announced General Secretary Michael Kinnamon is resigning due to health reasons.

Independent, nondenominational churches on the rise, book asserts

December 10, 2011

About one in five American Protestant churches is independent of any denomination, and about one in five Protestants attends those independent churches, Duke sociologist Mark Chaves reports in his new book, *American Religion: Contemporary Trends*.

Baptist cooperation developed

slowly but took root deeply

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Baptist cooperation historically grew around accomplishing kingdom work together—primarily missions—when churches realized they could do more working together than they could on their own.