

Faith Digest

March 10, 2010

One year after a majority of Americans said they hoped the economy wouldn't affect their church giving, three in 10 Americans now say they are putting less in the offering plate, a Barna Group study shows.

â€œA time to be born, a time to dieâ€œ

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Is a church's death inevitable? Who can give congregations permission to die? Should church members feel guilty for closing their facility's doors?

Turnaround churches: Can Baptists learn from Anglicans?

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If Christians in the United States think turning around a declining church is difficult, think of trying it in the Church of England, where tradition reaches back hundreds of years and hierarchical structure often

hamstrings changes local congregations want to make.

For churches, how much risk really is too much?

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In the wake of the Catholic Church's clergy sexual abuse crises and several church shooting incidents in recent years, risk has become a hot topic for churches.

When churches die, can they live again?

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Phil Rodgerson, retired from the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, has identified classic options churches often consider when facing their own demise. Unfortunately, 58 percent of the time, the church chooses to remain and do nothing—an approach that almost guarantees an inglorious end.

Nearly half of Americans admit to anti-Muslim bias

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Close to half of Americans admit to harboring prejudice against Muslims and negative feelings about Islam, a new study from the Gallup Center for Muslim Studies shows.

Analysis: What does the Bible say about lending practices?

March 10, 2010

The dramatic increase of payday lender storefronts in Texas has left some Christians wondering how to respond. What does Scripture say about high interest rates? Can the church offer solutions?

Faith Digest: Tebow ad confusing

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Focus on the Family's Super Bowl ad featuring star quarterback Tim Tebow may have gotten a lot of press but left many viewers with confusion regarding the commercial's meaning and sponsor, according to the Barna Group.

Building Green, Being Green

March 10, 2010

It's not easy building green. But churches that take the call to wise environmental stewardship seriously have a wide variety of options.

Faith Digest: Graham tops list

March 10, 2010

Evangelist Billy Graham was named by American pastors as the United States' most influential living preacher, according to a recent survey by LifeWay Research.

At church cafe, eat what you want, pay what you can

March 10, 2010

At A Better World Cafe in Highland Park, N.J., it's not exactly "all you can eat." It's more like whatever you can pay.

Movie spotlights Darwin's loss of faith, family crisis

March 10, 2010

Heated debate. Loss of faith. Religious discord. Questions about death, the universe, and our place in it. According to a new film, Charles Darwin saw—and wrestled with—all of that and more.