

View pastoral ministry as the art of the commonplace

May 15, 2009

The church should not discard the first-century model of living with a sense of community in pursuit of Christ's call, according to speakers at a symposium sponsored by Baylor University's Center for Ministry Effectiveness called "New Wineskins: Emerging Patterns of Congregational Life."

First Baptist Church, Vernon, puts faith into action

May 15, 2009

Roughly 430 members of First Baptist Church in Vernon spread throughout their community, doing 19 projects and visiting 320 homes as part of a Faith in Action initiative of Texas Hope 2010.

SBC reports fewest baptisms in

more than two decades

May 15, 2009

In 2008, the Southern Baptist Convention showed a net loss in total membership for the second straight year and baptized the lowest number of new members since 1987, according to annual statistics compiled by the denomination's publishing-and-research arm.

Liberian survivor wants to integrate former combatants into society

May 15, 2009

Gracie Brownell, a recent graduate of the Baylor School of Social Work, remembers going hungry and watching her mother hide what little food they had for the day. Now she wants to return to her native Liberia to work with victims and combatants in her country's 14-year civil war.

Inner-city Dallas church saved

drug dealerâs lifeâamong others

May 15, 2009

Cornerstone Baptist Church in South Dallas saved the life of former drug dealer W. L. Williams. Now, he's helping the church save others.

Baptist Briefs: Crossover evangelistic events scheduled

May 15, 2009

In the days leading up to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, Crossover '09 will mobilize as many as 1,000 volunteers throughout Louisville, Ky., and its surrounding communities June 19-20.

Violence in Mexico sparks missions efforts on Texas side

of the border

May 15, 2009

Violence on the Mexico side of the border is pushing teams to minister on the Texas side of the Rio Grande this summer.

Baptist blogger sues police, prosecutors for outing him

May 15, 2009

A formerly anonymous blogger who criticized his prominent Southern Baptist pastor has sued police and state prosecutors for revealing his identity to the church even though an investigation showed he had done nothing illegal.

BCFS program offers last chance for troubled youth

May 15, 2009

The Baptist Child & Family Services juvenile justice program is a last alternative for troubled teens whose run-ins with the law have landed them one step away from state lock-up.

Texas tidbits: Baylor dean honored at Atlanta conference

May 15, 2009

Diana Garland, dean of the Baylor School of Social Work, was honored at The Orange Conference in Atlanta for her book, *Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide*.

On the Move

May 15, 2009

Jamie Allen to Wilshire Church in Dallas as student ministry assistant.

Around the State

May 15, 2009

Families interested in international adoption are invited to a free workshop hosted by Dillon International, an affiliate of Buckner International, June 12, to learn about the adoption process, fees and available children.