

# **David Barton to advise Texas State Board of Education**

October 1, 2025

David Barton, a conservative Christian activist who considers the separation of church and state a myth, will serve as an “expert content adviser” to the Texas State Board of Education when it develops new state standards for teaching social studies.

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# **Deacon with a disability serves Lubbock church**

October 1, 2025

Victor Reta, a member of Bacon Heights Baptist Church in Lubbock, lives with “very severe” aphasia, a language disability that affects one’s ability to speak and understand what others say. Even so, he serves in several capacities on Sunday mornings despite his disability.

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# **Singletary steps down as dean**

# **of Baylor social work school**

October 1, 2025

Jon Singletary will cease to be dean of Baylor University's Diana R. Garland School of Social Work, effective Oct. 15.

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## **Families file suit over Ten Commandments displays**

October 1, 2025

More than a dozen Texas families filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court on Sept. 22 seeking to stop their school districts from displaying a state-prescribed version of the Ten Commandments in public school classrooms.

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## **BGCT board approves church insurance expansion**

October 1, 2025

The Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board approved plans to expand its church property and liability insurance program beyond Texas Baptist churches.

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# **Baptist women in ministry gather to refill**

October 1, 2025

With “You Can’t Pour from an Empty Cup” as their theme, Texas Baptist Women in Ministry gathered to discuss stress and burnout.

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# **Baylor workshop focuses on faith, disability and culture**

October 1, 2025

Amy Julia Becker challenged ministry leaders, volunteers and education professionals to think differently about disabilities and the church.

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# **UMHB built on prayer**

# **throughout its history**

October 1, 2025

From the first board meeting in 1845 to the quiet corners of campus where students still kneel in solitude, prayer has been the foundation of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

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## **Ukraine retreat offers peace in midst of trauma**

October 1, 2025

Leo Regheta led 160 pastors and their families for a weeklong retreat in prayer and a peaceful time with God along the Black Sea in Odesa, Ukraine.

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## **East Texas layman building children's home in India**

October 1, 2025

Andrew "AJ" Ireton owns a small construction company in Van Zandt County, but his clients know he won't be available for a couple of months. The Baptist layman will be building a children's home in eastern India.

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# **Church-starting leader JV Thomas dead at age 94**

October 1, 2025

James Virgil “JV” Thomas Jr., who led Texas Baptists’ church-starting initiatives to new heights, died Aug. 27 in Colleyville. He was 94.

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# **New laws about NDAs, education go into effect in Texas**

October 1, 2025

Laws restricting nondisclosure clauses in sexual abuse settlement agreements and setting aside classroom time for prayer and reading religious texts in public classrooms are among statutes that went into effect Sept. 1.