

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

September 15, 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**

September 15, 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**

September 15, 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**

September 15, 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.

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## **Singing Men of Texas journey to six Baltic countries**

September 15, 2025

Over the past five decades, the Singing Men of Texas have participated in numerous mission trips, but the upcoming Baltic Sea tour marks a first for the musical group—presenting eight concerts in six countries.

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# **Pastor Strong Cohorts find ‘soul care’ at retreat**

September 15, 2025

Pastor Strong Cohorts experienced “soul care” and community at a recent retreat in Buena Vista, Colo. It marked the conclusion of a ministerial health and spiritual development process for the 47 Texas Baptist church leaders that began in April.

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# **Federal district judge blocks Ten Commandments mandate**

September 15, 2025

A federal district judge in San Antonio blocked implementation of a law mandating the display of a prescribed version of the Ten Commandments in every Texas public school classroom.

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# **Singing Men of Texas mark 50th anniversary**

September 15, 2025

The Singing Men of Texas celebrated their 50th anniversary Aug. 15 with a concert at Riverbend Centre in Austin.

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# **Baylor group takes time before school to help flood victims**

September 15, 2025

Four students, 17 faculty and staff members, and one alumnus from Baylor University spent a day alongside Texans on Mission volunteers rebuilding homes in flood-devastated San Angelo.

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# **Mexia church experiences new life after dry season**

September 15, 2025

Earlier this year, there was dirt in the baptistery at First Baptist Church in Mexia. That's how long it had been since it had been used.

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# **Richardson marriage ministry delivers community impact**

September 15, 2025

First Baptist Church of Richardson went without a marriage ministry several years. In 2024, Pastor Ronny Marriott decided it was time to make a change.

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# **Eastland pastor Kevin Burrow nominee for BGCT president**

September 15, 2025

Kevin Burrow, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Eastland, will be nominated for president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas at Texas Baptists' annual meeting, Nov. 16-18 in Abilene.