

CONFERENCE INFORMATION CONTINUED

Mexican

Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant

215 Mary Ave.
(254)757-2050

El Chico

2111 S. Valley Mills Dr.
(254) 662-2750

Trujillo's

2612 LaSalle
(254) 756-1331

El Tapatios Mexican Restaurant

608 Austin Ave.
(254) 752-7172

Steaks and Seafood

Brazos Belle Riverboat

33 I-35
(254) 714-2933

Dock's River Front Café

100 N. I-35
4500 Franklin Ave.
(254) 714-2993

Red Lobster

5925 W. Waco Dr.
(254) 741-1766

Texas Roadhouse

2729 LaSalle
(254) 662-1177

Buzzard Billy's

208 S. University Parks Dr.
(254) 753-2778

Outback Steakhouse

4500 Franklin Ave.
(254) 772-5449

Ryan's Family Steakhouse

301 S. Valley Mills Dr.
(254) 751-7595



From Paul W. Powell

JANUARY 2005
GEORGE W. TRUETT THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

A WORD FROM TRUETT

We began the 2005 spring semester in a great way. We have a record enrollment of 400. While other seminaries are losing ground, we continue to grow semester after semester. That's a credit to our outstanding faculty, good recruiting and the recommendations of friends like you.

Our students continue to represent the seminary well as they go into churches to serve. They are doing a great job, and we are justly proud of them.

Before spring classes began, we had an outstanding I-term. Classes met from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday - Saturday with more than 85 participating in three different classes. Classes included The Art of Persuasion taught by trial lawyer Gary Elliston and preaching professor Joel Gregory. The teaching took place in a trial room setting and was designed to teach our students how to preach for a verdict. Entrepreneurial Leadership was taught by outstanding businessman Lewis Timberlake, Jim Lozier, lawyers Kent and Kirk Newsom, and others. Baptist Identity was taught by Dr. Bill Pinson, our foremost authority on Baptist beliefs.

Attendance in all three courses was so outstanding that we will offer all three again next year. I hope that many of you will make your plans now to attend. They offer a wonderful opportunity for continuing education and to sharpen your skills in the ministry. In today's world, we must continue to grow, study and improve. There is no standing still here.

SMALL CHURCH/BIVOCATIONAL PASTORS

We are beginning a correspondence program of studies to enable small church and bivocational pastors to earn a certificate of ministry. Our plans are to have the program online as soon as possible. The curriculum is written by a small church pastor who knows and understands the needs of small church pastors. It consists of five sessions of two courses each, except during the summer session, which will be a one-week session at Truett. We want the participants in this program to be on campus so we can know one another.

We already have 20 enrolled in the course. The cost is \$100 per course. After the first session, the cost will be \$150 per course. The discount is to encourage you to join us from the beginning. The program starts Feb. 1, and we will allow late registration through Feb. 25.

If you would like to begin with us, please contact our coordinator for the program, Larry Givens, at bpgwts@ev1.net or by mail at:

George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Attn: Certificate of Ministry Program
One Bear Place #97126
Waco, TX 76798-7126

George W. Truett Theological Seminary
Baylor University
One Bear Place #97126
Waco, TX 76798-7126



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PASTORS/LAYMEN CONFERENCE

The third annual Pastors/Laymen Conference is scheduled for Feb. 7-9, 2005. This is rapidly becoming Texas Baptists' most inspirational and best attended meeting for pastors, laymen, and other staff members. The theme of this year's conference is Make It Plain: Habakkuk 2:2.

The program begins at 7 p.m. Monday and concludes at 11 a.m. Wednesday. Look at this outstanding lineup: Bible study with Bert Dominy; testimonies by Robert Davenport and Jimmie Nelson; sermons by Ken Hall, Buckner Fanning, Hulitt Gloer, Phil Lineberger, Tim Watson, Duane Brooks, Brian Harbour and Joel Gregory.

Tuesday afternoon conferences will be taught by Jim Burgin of Mission Arlington on Doing Local Missions; Jimmie Nelson on Living by Grace: The Theology of Relationships; Joel Gregory on Planning and Illustrating Your Preaching.

We have included with this newsletter a list of hotels with phone numbers plus a list of good eating places in Waco. Come and bring your spouse. Invite laypeople and especially prospective students to join us for an outstanding conference.

AN ILLUSTRATION

Russell Dilday tells in one of his sermons...

"In autumn a few years ago, we traveled to New England to see the colorful foliage. In Freeport, Maine (headquarters of L.L. Bean, Inc.), we turned our attention away from nature's display to a remarkable array of commercialism — outlet malls. The whole town is given over to this recent icon of materialistic excess.

One shop specialized in hand-carved decoys — waterfowl of all kinds — geese and ducks shaped into works of art. The treasures were very expensive, and I was drawn to a table in the back bearing the sign, "1/2 Price Sale: Seconds."

I picked out a bargain whose flaw qualifying it as a 'second' was practically undistinguishable and moved to the worktable where three of the woodcarving artists were at work. I asked them, 'What are you carving today?' Thinking they would answer, 'wood ducks, mallards, or maybe Canadian geese,' I was surprised when one of the carvers answered, 'Today we're making seconds. They're selling so well, we're carving seconds!'"

To paraphrase his application, it may be an acceptable practice in the commercial world of marketing to offer your second best, but not in kingdom work. We must always do our best for the master.

QUOTES

- "Never confuse the will of the majority with the will of God." (Anonymous)
- "If you are going to think anyway, you might as well think big." (Donald Trump, *Time Magazine*)
- "If we are going to change the world, we must change men's hearts. And only Jesus Christ can change men's hearts." (Dr. Charles Malik, Lebanese statesman, educator, and diplomat, former leader of the United Nations)

A WORD TO PASTORS

In the classic movie *It's a Wonderful Life* starring Jimmy Stewart, an angel by the name of Clarence is sent to earth to help this unhappy man realize that he really has a wonderful life. When the angel's work is done, he leaves a note in the flyleaf of a book to George.

The note read, "Dear George: No man is a failure who has friends. Signed: Your Guardian Angel, Clarence."

Elsewhere in the story Clarence says to George "Every man's life touches others. When he's not there, it leaves a big hole."

Friends in and out of your church are essential to a happy and successful life. Those who take a Lone Ranger approach leave themselves open to temptation, despair and loneliness. And remember, the Lone Ranger had Tonto.

SERMON

Title It is Not for You to Know

Text Acts 1:7

Author Paul W. Powell

Introduction With earthshaking events like the tsunami in Asia, earthquakes, war in the Middle East, people are talking about the second coming like never before. Jesus himself had a word on the subject: "It is not for you to know..."

I We have narrow limits to our knowledge.

II The future is in safe hands.

III There is sufficient power for the future.

IV Our practical duty is to witness until he comes, not to speculate about when he will come.

Conclusion We know all we need to know about the future. We all need to trust it to him.

PASTORS/LAYMEN CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Feb. 7-9, 2005

HOTELS

Call the hotels listed here for reservations (two nights, Feb. 7-8) and ask for "Truett Pastors/Laymen Conference Group Block." All hotels are located close to Truett Seminary and the Baylor campus.

Lexington Inn (I-35 at University Parks)

254-754-1266
(\$55 per night)

Holiday Inn (I-35 1001 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.)

254-753-0261
(\$79 per night)

Clarion (801 S. 4th Street)

254-757-2000
(\$69.95 per night)

Super 8 (1320 S. Jack Kultgen Fwy/I-35)

254-754-1023
(\$59 per night)

La Quinta (1110 S. 9th Street)

254-752-9741
(\$72.90 per night)

Best Western Old Main Lodge (I-35 and 4th Street)

254-753-0316
(\$62 single/\$66 double per night)

NEARBY RESTAURANTS

American

Applebee's

614 N. Valley Mills Dr.
(254) 751-9084

Marie Callender's

5901 W. Waco Dr.
(254) 751-0290

Elite Café (also Health Camp and Rudy's)

On the Circle
(254) 754-4941

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store

4275 N I-35
(254) 799-4729

T.G.I. Friday's

4300 Franklin Ave.
(254) 772-2002

Chili's Too/Starbucks

In the Dutton Avenue Parking Facility next to Truett
1111 Dutton Ave.
(254) 752-1993

Buffets & Cafeterias

Luby's Cafeteria

120 S. New Rd.
(254) 399-9864

Golden Corral

618 N. Valley Mills Dr.
(254) 751-9088

Italian

Olive Garden Restaurant

5921 W. Waco Dr.
(254) 751-1667

Olive Branch

601 Franklin Ave.
(254) 757-0885

Gratizano's Pasta & Pizza Grill

217 Mary St.
(254) 752-8789

Baris

904 N. Valley Mills Dr.
(254) 772-2900