

Guide to the BGCT annual session

DALLAS—Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas annual session will gather in Dallas next week to conduct business and hear reports of convention ministries. Here is a guide to the major items of business known to be on the agenda. Other issues could arise from the convention floor, as messengers have opportunities to introduce motions and resolutions.

Monday, Oct. 29

1:00 p.m.	Call to order	
1:40 p.m.	Executive director's report by Charles Wade	
2:10 p.m.	Executive Board report	
	2002 budget proposal	Messengers will be asked to approve a \$47.5 million budget that represents an 8.8 percent decrease from the current year. The decreased budget has been recommended by both the convention's Administrative Committee and Executive Board to bring budget goals in line with current receipts. No areas of ministry are eliminated, but all areas will receive slightly less funding.
	Missions study report	Messengers will be asked to receive as information a report of the Missions-Sending Agencies Study Committee. Content of the report previously has been reported in the Standard. The report identifies several areas of concern but does not propose changes in funding or relationships with missions agencies other than retaining Texas funds that are passed through the SBC North American Mission Board and sent back to Texas for missions work.
	HBU proposal	A special committee appointed last year to negotiate with trustees of Houston Baptist University will ask messengers to ratify an agreement reached between the university and the BGCT. The agreement does not change the unilateral decision of HBU trustees to name 75 percent of all future trustee boards themselves, but it does provide assurances that the BGCT will continue to name 25 percent of trustees and that the university will remain uniquely affiliated with and supportive of the BGCT.
	Buckner proposal	Messengers will be asked to affirm the proactive negotiations held between the BGCT's Human Welfare Coordinating Board and trustees of Buckner Baptist Benevolences. Representatives of both entities have worked together to craft a new trustee-selection process that Buckner says is necessary to increase ethnic and community representation on its board. Under the new plan, all Buckner trustees would continue to be Baptists, but two-thirds would be elected by the board itself, while one-third would continue to be elected by the BGCT.
	Baptist Health System	Messengers will be asked to approve a potential merger between Baptist Health System of San Antonio and Christus Santa Rosa Health System. The Baptist health-care system faces severe financial problems, and the merger is promoted as a way to maintain the faith-based, non-profit approach of the hospital.
4:10 p.m.	Nominating committees	Messengers will be asked to approve slates of nominees for service on BGCT-related trustee boards, coordinating board and committees.
4:35 p.m.	Election of officers	In this first of several times allotted for officer elections, messengers will have opportunity to choose a president, first vice president and second vice president for the convention. To date, only one candidate has been announced for each position. Bob Campbell, pastor of Westbury Baptist Church in Houston, will be nominated for president. Paul McBride, pastor of Friendship Baptist Church in The Colony, will be nominated for first vice president. Steve Vernon, pastor of First Baptist Church in Levelland, will be nominated for second vice president.
4:50 p.m.	Introduction of business	At this time, messengers may make motions.
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn	
6:55 p.m.	Worship	Featuring the combined choirs of Park Cities Baptist Church and Wilshire Baptist Church of Dallas
7:15 p.m.	Election of officers	
8:20 p.m.	President's message by Clyde Glazener	
8:50 p.m.	Election of officers and introduction of business	
9:20 p.m.	Adjourn	

Continued with Tuesday schedule on facing page

Special events during BGCT annual session

Monday, October 29

- 1:00 p.m. BGCT annual session
- 5:00 p.m. Wayland Baptist University dinner, Dallas Convention Center, C240
- 5:00 p.m. Hardin-Simmons University dinner, Dallas Convention Center, C241
- 5:15 p.m. Minnesota/Wisconsin dinner, Dallas Convention Center, C246
- 5:30 p.m. University of Mary Hardin-Baylor dinner, Dallas Convention Center, C242
- 5:30 p.m. Friends of Truett Seminary dinner, Adams Mark Hotel
- 5:30 p.m. Howard Payne University dinner, Dallas Convention Center, C245
- 6:55 p.m. BGCT annual session
- 9:00 p.m. Houston Baptist University reception, Dallas Convention Center, C244
- 9:00 p.m. Dallas Baptist University ice cream fellowship, Dallas Convention Center, C243
- 9:00 p.m. Hispanic Baptist reception, Dallas Convention Center, C245
- 9:00 p.m. Baylor University dessert reception, Lone Star Ballroom C, Adams Mark Hotel

Tuesday, October 30

- 7:00 a.m. Mission Service Corps breakfast, Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom C1
- 7:00 a.m. Texas Partnerships breakfast, Adams Mark Hotel
- 7:00 a.m. Texas Baptists Committed breakfast, Adams Mark Hotel
- 8:45 a.m. BGCT annual session
- Noon Southwestern Seminary luncheon, Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom C1
- Noon Retirees luncheon (sponsored by Human Welfare Coordinating Board), Dallas Convention Center, Ballroom C4
- Noon River Ministry luncheon, Dallas Convention Center, C246
- Noon East Texas Baptist University luncheon, Dallas Convention Center, C243
- 4:00 p.m. Directors of missions/Texas Baptist vocational workers dinner, Adams Mark Hotel
- 4:30 p.m. Texas Baptist Missions Foundation dinner, Dallas Convention Center, Ballrooms C1-2
- 5:00 p.m. Community Ministries Awards reception, Ramada Plaza
- 6:45 p.m. BGCT annual session