

**Personal Endorsements
of
Dr. K. Randel Everett**

The Search Committee

Randel Everett has the energy, enthusiasm, breadth of experience, and promise critical to helping Texas Baptists transition to the next level of cooperative partnerships.

*Michael Bell, pastor, Greater St Stephen Baptist Church, Fort Worth
Executive Director Search Committee member*

Randel Everett brings a wide range of experience that fits well with what Texas Baptists have indicated they need at this time in the life of the BGCT. He also brings a history of being intentional about reaching out with the gospel to people of all ages, cultures and religious viewpoints. In addition, his close involvement with the BWA will enhance and deepen that important relationship begun by Dr. Wade.

*Linda Brian, layperson, First Baptist Church, Amarillo
Executive Director Search Committee member*

Bro. Randel possesses the greatest people and communication skills than any of the leaders I have known. He seems to have the ability to navigate with great ease in any setting. Another outstanding quality that he seems to have is the ability to cast and communicate a vision and gather people around him to implement it. This points to his ability to assimilate, encourage, and keep leaders motivated and focused on a common goal. I was also impressed by his zeal for evangelism and missions. Also, his awareness that we need to reach pastors 35 and under, and the fact that he has some experience in leading an institution, seems to be in line with what we heard during our listening sessions.

*Teo Cisneros, pastor, Templo Jerusalem Baptist Church, Victoria
Executive Director Search Committee member*

I believe Randel Everett has the skills and experience as a pastor, administrator and educator to lead and speak to the diverse group we call Texas Baptists. I hope you will join me in supporting and praying for Dr. Everett as he seeks to lead the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

*Stacy Conner, pastor, First Baptist Church, Muleshoe
Executive Director Search Committee member*

Dr. Everett has a pastor's heart with a clearly articulated vision for reaching our multicultural and pluralistic society. His wide range of skills and experiences fit with the Missions Statement and Vision Statement of BGCT. Dr. Everett's enthusiasm is contagious!

*Gloria DuBose, layperson, First Baptist Church, Midland
Executive Director Search Committee member*

During our seven-month search these qualities became important to me. The new Executive Director must cast a vision, communicate that vision, value the uniqueness of each church and be inclusive of all affinity groups. Randel has those qualities and offers Texas Baptist a fresh prospective.

*Elizabeth Hanna, layperson, Calder Baptist Church, Beaumont
Executive Director Search Committee member*

I am very excited that our committee has been led to call Dr. Randel Everett as executive director of the BGCT. With his giftedness as a visionary and communicator and his desire to reach out to all Texas Baptists, I am anticipating a great future in the days ahead.

*Mary Humphries, layperson, First Baptist Church, Tyler
Executive Director Search Committee member*

Randel's strengths match the needs of the BGCT--especially an inclusive attitude about all branches of the Texas Baptist family. Those strengths and our efforts together will further the kingdom and our commitments.

*Jim Nelson, layperson, Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin
Executive Director Search Committee member*

As our search committee spent some quality time with Dr. Everett, I know for sure his heart is truly for mission and evangelism. And he will, I believe, unify our Texas Baptists to do just that.

*John Nguyen, pastor, Vietnamese Baptist Church, Garland
Executive Director Search Committee member*

I believe God has given Randel the gifts we need in Texas Baptist life today to lead us into a bright tomorrow. I pray that Randel's vision, energy and passion for Christ will draw us together and send us out on mission.

*Steve Wells, pastor, South Main Baptist Church, Houston
Executive Director Search Committee member*

After much prayer and careful research, I am convinced that Randel Everett is the right choice to lead the BGCT at this time. As we listened to Baptist voices from all over the state, it became more and more obvious that Dr. Everett had the whole package of experiences and abilities to help us begin a new day. Of particular interest to me was his heart for evangelism and missions, his ability to connect with the younger generation, and his strong record with diverse people groups.

*Dan Wooldridge, pastor, Crestview Baptist Church, Georgetown
Executive Director Search Committee member*

This Committee worked very deliberately while constantly seeking the Lord's guidance at each step. The openness of dialogue and the thoroughness of investigation with and about each candidate were impressive. The final vote to recommend Randel Everett was based on his match with the profile that was created with input from Texas Baptists. Dr. Everett has the heart, skills and experience to be the next executive director of the BGCT.

*Jerry T. Bradley, president, Children at Heart Ministries
Executive Director Search Committee advisor*

I've known Randel Everett for over 30 years, and I feel he will be a wonderful leader for Texas Baptists. In addition, his wife, Sheila, is very talented and will be such a blessing to ministers' wives and young people. The search committee came to this crucial decision after seeking God with all our hearts.

*Gary Cook, president, Dallas Baptist University
Executive Director Search Committee advisor*

There are biblical examples of God equipping individuals with a variety of experiences for times of opportunity. What I like about Dr. Randel Everett is that he has been equipped by God with a rich and varied background of ministries and organizational endeavors. I'm impressed with his connection with young leaders and the multiplicity of people groups such as God is bringing to Texas. He is equipped for the leadership of this time.

*Keith Crouch, director, BGCT Church Architecture
Executive Director Search Committee advisor*

I believe Randel Everett offers the communication of vision, the cultural sensitivity, and the diverse background of experience that are critical to the unification of Texas Baptists as we move to accomplish the Kingdom purpose of the BGCT. I eagerly anticipate the process of Texas Baptists getting to know our prospective executive director and his wife, Sheila.

*Jane Wilson, youth ministry/youth Bible study specialist, BGCT
Executive Director Search Committee advisor*

Others in Texas

This is fantastic news! Praise God! God is so good!

Frances Barrera, vice-chair, Board of Trustees, Baptist University of the Americas

Randel and Sheila Everett are global students who have over and over exhibited a hunger to follow God. Randel's leadership for BGCT will be visionary, with a keen sense about the next generations, all the while understanding the legacy of those who have "gone before in 1954." His humor will show his transparency, and yet, his hard questions, requiring "holy" discomfort on our part, will ask us what our involvement will be with the marginalized in our state, and the lost in our world. He treasures the Word of God, and values the stewardship of influence, always leading people toward gospel transformation.

*Mary Carpenter, assistant professor of Christian studies
director of cross-cultural studies, Howard Payne University*

I have known Randel Everett for over 20 years. He is superlative in his Christian walk and as a minister of the gospel. He is extremely gifted, works very well with people and would make an excellent executive director for the BGCT.

Roy J. Fish, professor of evangelism emeritus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Randel Everett will be an excellent choice as executive director for the BGCT. He was my pastor at University Baptist Church in Fort Worth; I remember his sermons as solid, biblical (and fairly short!). He and his wife Sheila both have great personalities. They win the love and confidence of people.

H. Leon McBeth, distinguished professor emeritus, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Randel Everett is one of the most dynamic, energetic and creative Baptist leaders I have known over the past 25 years. I find inspiring his commitment to the lordship of Jesus Christ, his vision for ministry and missions, and his dogged determination that Baptists will help shape the future in the urgent advance of Christianity. Randel and Sheila are dear, dear friends whom Kay and I look forward to welcoming back home to Texas.

Randall O'Brien, executive vice president and provost, Baylor University

It has been my privilege to know Randel Everett for many years. Randel feels very strongly about the importance of the Bible teaching and discipleship ministry of the church. I have a great deal of respect and admiration for Randel, and I just plain like him. He is my good friend, and I could not be more pleased that he has been asked to serve as our new executive director. We are in for some great days!

Dennis Parrott, veteran church minister of education and congregational strategist for BGCT

I will be supportive and prayerful as Randel goes before the Executive Board for election. I am hopeful that he will introduce a new era in Texas Baptist life.

Albert L. Reyes, president, Buckner Children and Family Services

Randel Everett was one of the most influential mentors for me when I first became a believer. I later served with him on church staff in Pensacola and appreciate his Christlike character and leadership style.

Ross Sawyers, pastor, 121 Community Church, Grapevine

Others Beyond Texas

I warmly welcome the news of Dr. Randel Everett's nomination as BGCT executive director. I have known Randel for 18 years as a friend within the fellowship of the BWA commissions and committees. Randel is a warmly relational leader, an able communicator of the gospel and has a proven track record in the pastoral leadership of local churches. He has a missional heart and a wide experience of sharing the gospel among people of different cultures. Above all he loves the Lord and seeks to be a devoted follower of Jesus Christ. I am delighted at the possibility of developing the already significant collaboration between Texas Baptists and the global family of the BWA.

David Coffey, president, Baptist World Alliance

I have known Randel Everett for many years. In fact he pastored the church to which I belonged for many years. I found him to be one of the ablest and most dedicated pastors I've met. He has few rivals when it comes to presenting a message in the pulpit. I know his family, and he is a man not only of spiritual depth but of great character. I think it would be hard, frankly, to find a better person to be executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Chuck Colson, author

Randel is a visionary leader with great passion and commitment to see the Kingdom of God proclaimed within his spheres of influence. He is an excellent communicator of God's Word, has great compassion for the poor and down-trodden, desires the best from and for everyone.

*Karen McGuire, vice president discipleship services and special assistant to the president,
Lead Like Jesus, co-founded by Ken Blanchard, Augusta, Georgia*

Randel Everett is an experienced pastor, a visionary Baptist leader and a man of spiritual integrity. He is a global Christian who thinks both biblically and strategically. I am delighted at his nomination to be the next executive director for the BGCT.

Daniel Vestal, executive coordinator, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship