

Center for Religious Liberty on Capitol Hill

200 Maryland Avenue, N.E. | Washington, DC 20002 | www.BJConline.org





Center expands BJC's capacity, education efforts

The BJC is poised to

make an even

greater impact for reli-

gious liberty through the

advocacy and education

that will occur both inside

and outside

these newly

built walls.

he Baptist Joint Committee opened the doors October 1 to its new Center for Religious Liberty on Capitol Hill. Located across the street from the U.S. Supreme Court and two blocks from the U.S. Capitol, this strategic site has long

been a major asset for the agency and our work with other organizations in the battle for religious liberty.

For more than 75 years, the BJC has been committed to leadership in the fight for religious liberty and the separation of church and state in the nation's capital. The Center will increase our

work capacity as we continue to advocate for religious liberty, filing briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court and working with Congress and the White House.

Importantly, it also will expand our ability to accommodate additional

staff and visitors as we increase our education efforts. Staff will be able to host larger and more frequent groups of partners, students, church members and clergy who visit Washington, D.C.

The office design — using wood and glass, a smart layout and

advanced interactive technology — balances the needs of staff with the goal of providing visitors meaningful exposure to the work of the organization and our Baptist heritage.

In addition to these features, the Center includes:

- Expanded office space for visiting scholars and advocates.
- Gallery space to highlight the history and mission of the BJC.
- Improved technological capabilities.
- Enhanced capacity for resources, curriculum and literature.



More than 670 donate in support of BJC's center on Capitol Hill

The journey to establish the Baptist Joint Committee's Center for Religious Liberty began in the fall of 2005 at a meeting of the BJC Board of Directors. Emphasizing the need for a more prominent presence, the directors kicked off a capital campaign with the goal of establishing a center and securing religious liberty for our children and grandchildren

Some seven years later, the Center is a reality, and more than 670 friends of the BJC listed in this program have financially supported the vision, donating more than \$3.28 million toward endowing future rent and programming expenses, as well as construction costs.

Each donor received recognition in an exhibit in the following categories:

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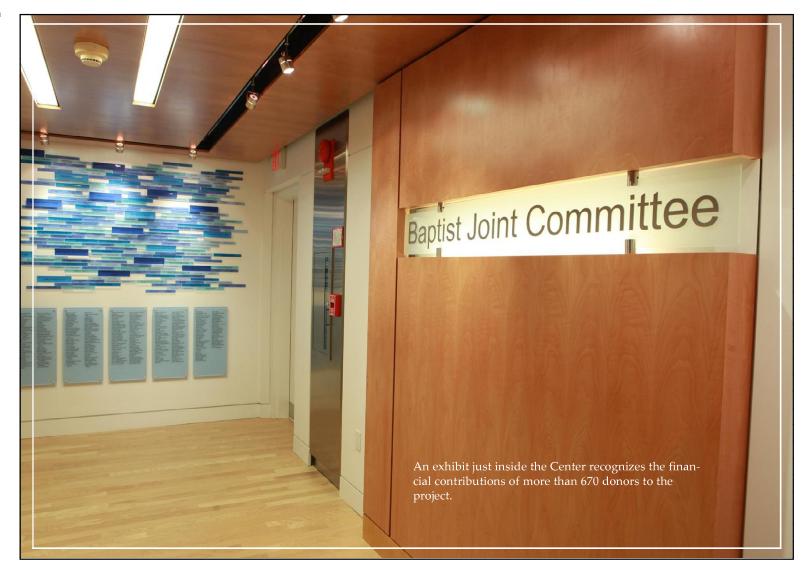
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Baugh-Walker Conference Suite dedicated

On October 1, BJC Board Chair Mitch Randall officiated the dedication of the Baugh-Walker Conference Suite. Other leaders for the service included former board chair Jeffrey Haggray, pastor of the First Baptist Church of the City of Washington; former board chair Pam Durso, executive director of Baptist Women in Ministry; and former executive director James M. Dunn, president of the endowment.



so foundational and central to the Christian faith that in every generation we must rededicate ourselves to

In his remarks,

"Religious freedom is

Haggray said,

its preservation and propagation.

"... These convictions are inherent in the Christian faith, and as Baptists we seek to uphold and to further these principles throughout the world," Haggray said. "Also, by the grace and providence of God, combined with the vigilance and sacrifices of blood, sweat and tears on the part of many Baptists in the earliest beginnings of this nation, religious freedom was enshrined not only in our culture, but also in our Constitution."

Capitol dome view, technology highlight new conference space

he floor plan of the BJC's new Center for Religious Liberty takes advantage of the location's impressive view of Capitol Hill.

The new Baugh-Walker Conference Suite is state-ofthe-art meeting space with a sight line to the U.S. Capitol dome that doubles our capacity and highlights a southwest corner view of the U.S. Supreme Court building and the Capitol dome. The suite is named for BJC supporter Babs Baugh and BJC Executive Director J. Brent Walker.

The conference room is equipped with a 70-inch interactive video screen that will make learning about religious liberty come alive for groups of all ages.

Baugh-Walker Conference Suite

Barbara Baugh



Barbara Baugh, of San Antonio, Texas, serves as president of the John and Eula Mae Baugh Foundation, which is named for her parents. The Baugh family has provided leadership in Baptist causes for decades. Baugh is a staunch advocate for religious liberty and supporter of the Baptist Joint Committee. The Baugh family's extravagant generosity in support of the Center for Religious Liberty on Capitol Hill helped make the vision become a

reality in 2012. Baugh attended Baylor University and the University of Maryland where she earned a degree in music education. She is married to John Jarrett and has two grown daughters, Jackie Moore and Julie Cloud.

J. Brent Walker



J. Brent Walker's service to the Baptist Joint Committee has spanned more than 20 years. First as its legal counsel, Walker became BJC executive director in 1999. Walker earned two degrees from the University of Florida, a J.D. degree from Stetson University College of Law and an M.Div. from Southern Seminary. He is a member of the Supreme Court Bar and an ordained minister. Having taught 10 years as an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown

University Law Center, Walker now serves as an adjunct professor at the Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. He is married to Nancy Walker and has two grown children, Ryan and Layton.

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