

Mission volunteers overcome fears, make impact in Mexico_82304

August 20, 2004

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Mission volunteers overcome fears, make impact in Mexico

By Iris Gonzalez

Special to the Baptist Standard

XOXOCOTLA, Mexico—En route to Mexico on a missionary trip, Karla Olalde felt uneasy, and she was concerned about the possibilities of getting sick there.

Texas hunger offering helps provide food, water for refugees from Sudan_82304

August 20, 2004

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Texas hunger offering helps provide food, water for refugees from Sudan

By Mary Crouch

BGCT Summer Intern

Texas Baptists are responding to a humanitarian crisis in Sudan and the surrounding region by providing refugees with food, water and medical attention.

Fewer than one-third of Protestant teens read Bible on own each week_82304

August 20, 2004

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Fewer than one-third of Protestant teens read Bible on own each week

WASHINGTON (RNS)-Two-thirds of U.S. Protestant teens say they read the Bible alone less than once a week or not at all, according to a recent survey by the National Study of Youth and Religion.

Just 32 percent of Protestant teens report that they personally read the

Bible alone once a week or more often, the report said.

Southern Baptist teens were third among other Protestant groups, with 39 percent indicating they read the Bible alone once a week or more. Teens within the Church of God in Christ were first at 48 percent, while Assemblies of God teens were second at 44 percent.

Lawsuit filed over van rollover deaths_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/20/04

Lawsuit filed over van rollover deaths

By Jonah D. King

Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)-The estates of five young people killed in a single-vehicle church van rollover accident last year have sued Ford Motor Co. and Enterprise Rent-A-Car, claiming Ford was negligent in manufacturing its Econoline E-350 15-passenger van, and Enterprise knew the vans were dangerous.

Church's missions fair inspires personal involvement with church builders_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/20/04

Church's missions fair inspires personal involvement with church builders

By George Henson

Staff Writer

DALLAS-Jeff Patton may not be sure about next week, but he is certain where he will spend the third week of July next year, thanks to a missions fair held at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas.

One girl's witness sparks series of conversions_82304

August 20, 2004

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One girl's witness sparks series of conversions

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

WACO—Earlier this year in Mexico City, 30 people stood in a church service to note a common connection. Each traced his or her salvation experience back through links of family and friends to a single encounter five years ago at a park in Utah.

Korean WMU officers elected_82304

August 20, 2004

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Korean WMU officers elected

Korean
Woman's
Missionary
Union officers
elected during
the recent
Texas
Leadership
Conference in
Waco were:
(left to right)
President Jung
Suk Chung
from Dallas
Korean First
Baptist
Church, Vice
President
Insook Ahn
from Seoul
Baptist Church
in Houston
and Secretary
Mary Kim
from Hyde
Park Korean
Baptist Church
in Austin.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.

Rural church's missions vision reaches from Zephyr to Athens_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/20/04

Rural church's missions vision reaches from Zephyr to Athens

By George Henson

Staff Writer

ZEPHYR-One Texas pastor wants to use any means possible to spread the news of Christ: From Plan A to Z, or really Z to A-Zephyr to Athens, that is.

Cybercolumn by John Duncan: Of marathons and truth_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/20/04

Cybercolumn: Of marathons and truth

By John Duncan

I'm sitting here under the old oak tree, thinking about the Olympics in Athens, Greece.

The Olympics buzz with prospects for heroic feats by well-trained athletes. The United States team—the swimmers, the runners, the sand volleyballers, the basketballers, the divers, the shot putters and the like—have prepared themselves for their respective events.

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August 20, 2004

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Seminary, BGCT to provide bivocational classes_82304

August 20, 2004

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Seminary, BGCT to provide bivocational classes

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BELTON—The Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond is partnering

with the Baptist General Convention of Texas Office of Bivocational/Smaller Membership Church Development to offer specialized online classes tailored for ministers of smaller churches.

Slot machines have become the 'crack cocaine' of gambling, researcher says_82304

August 20, 2004

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Slot machines have become the 'crack cocaine' of gambling, researcher says

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Slot machines have become the most addictive form of Gambling, both in the way state governments have latched on to them to generate tax revenue and in the way gamblers can't get enough of them. State and local governments gained about \$6 billion from taxing casino gambling last year, according to a recent USA Today article, and slot machines accounted for more than two-thirds of that money. Currently, only 15 states have no legal slot machines.

Dianne Berlin, vice chair of the National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling, said one reason slot machines are so addictive is that the

response is so quick.

“The primary goal is not to have ‘entertainment.’ The goal is to hook people on gambling because that's where they make most of their money,” Berlin said. “They’re not going to make a whole lot of money on someone who goes into a casino once every four or five months and drops \$25. They want people who will gamble at the rate of hundreds or thousands of dollars every time they go.