

# cartoon\_12405

January 21, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

Pastor Dave has a particularly difficult day with his sermon-writing.
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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.

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## 2nd Opinion: Taking a risk with God for women in ministry\_12405

January 21, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

### 2ND OPINION:

# **Taking a risk with God for women in ministry**

**by Roger Olsen**

I surprise students by telling them I have belonged to two churches pastored by women—one in Minnesota and one now in Waco.

For approximately seven years, our family's pastor has been a woman. Then I say: "Don't get me wrong; we don't have anything against men in ministry. If God calls a man to preach, who are we to oppose that?" That always elicits a nervous chuckle from most students; a few women students are especially tickled by the joke. And, of course, it is said facetiously.

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## **Texas Cooperative Program 2004 receipts top budget\_12405**

January 21, 2005

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## **Texas Cooperative Program 2004 receipts top budget**

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

DALLAS-Texas Cooperative Pro-gram receipts in 2004 exceeded budget for the first time in five years, said David Nabors, chief financial officer for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

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# **Cybercolumn by Berry D. Simpson: Ordinary men\_12405**

January 21, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

## **CYBERCOLUMN: Ordinary men**

**By Berry D. Simpson**

Lately, I've spent a lot of time with the disciples of Jesus. At church, in my adult Bible study class, I've been teaching from the Gospel of Luke. In the Community Bible Study that Cyndi and I are doing together, we're studying the Gospel of John. I keep mixing the two gospels in my head, telling stories from one when thinking about the other.

I remember in my younger days when I first started reading the Bible on my own (it was a "Reach Out" copy of the Living New Testament), I saw the 12 apostles as larger-than-life heroes. They were brave men who left their families and careers behind to follow Jesus and then literally changed the world by sharing the gospel of Christ and establishing churches and writing their accounts.

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Berry D.  
Simpson

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# **DOWN HOME: Thoroughly modern trip to the museum\_12405**

January 21, 2005

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## **DOWN HOME: Thoroughly modern trip to the museum**

If Molly and I appear more cultured these days, it's because we're more cultured these days.

Before my youngest daughter sped into her final semester of high school, she and I spent an afternoon with her cousin/my nephew Brian at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

Even if it didn't house a stick of art ("stick" being a not-too-strange substitute for some of this art), The Modern would be worth the trip. Its broad, open spaces and glass walls construct an architectural metaphor for the building's sunny, optimistic hometown. Three parallel wings jut into a reflecting pool, so the building seems to float on a placid sea. Could

Cowtown be heaven? Well ... yeah.

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# **EDITORIAL: We can't wait for immigration reform\_12405**

January 21, 2005

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## **EDITORIAL:**

### **We can't wait for immigration reform**

Try to imagine a long-term issue as vital to the future of Texas-and, not coincidentally, the United States-as immigration. OK; health care and education. But both of those big-ticket items will be impacted in one way or another by how well we solve our immigration crisis.

A package of articles in this issue of the Standard paints a face on immigration in Texas. The sheer numbers seem incomprehensible: More than 1 million residents of our state-about one in 20 people-are undocumented. In the harshest language, they're illegal aliens. That term, "illegal alien," sounds more like a creature from a sci-fi movie than the person who eats at the next table in the coffee shop, the child who sits next to your son or daughter in homeroom, the fellow who mows your neighbor's yard or the believer who receives the Lord's Supper with you on Sunday morning.

Segregated as we tend to be, most non-Hispanic Texans rarely, if ever,

worship with undocumented workers and their children. But they are here, in Texas churches. They're sisters and brothers in Christ, like Ernesto and Maria, whose story is told elsewhere in our paper. Read about them ([click here](#)), and then come back. ...



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## Teens hunger for truth, youth evangelist insists\_12405

January 21, 2005

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## Teens hunger for truth, youth evangelist insists

**By Leann Callaway**

*Special to the Baptist Standard*

MIDLAND—As youth evangelist Brad Fogarty speaks to students around the country, he draws his messages from lessons he learned while teaching and

coaching in public schools. That's where he witnessed firsthand the need to share Christian truth with students.

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# **Attorney general cancels contract with Las Vegas firm\_12405**

January 21, 2005

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## **Attorney general cancels contract with Las Vegas firm**

**By Ken Camp**

*Managing Editor*

AUSTIN-Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott has cancelled a contract with a Las Vegas law firm that drafted gambling legislation for the state.

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# **Children's issues, gambling top list of legislative priorities\_12405**

January 21, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

## **Children's issues, gambling top list of legislative priorities**

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

DALLAS-Texas Baptists' Christian Life Commission is for children and against gambling.

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## **Poor Texans bear greater burden, lottery study shows\_12405**

January 21, 2005

Posted: 1/21/05

# Poor Texans bear greater burden, lottery study shows

**By Ferrell Foster**

*Texas Baptist Communications*

AUSTIN-A study commissioned by the Texas Lottery Commission supports what gambling opponents have been saying a long time-low-income Texans spend a larger portion of their income on the lottery than higher-income residents.

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## Texas Baptist Forum\_12405

January 21, 2005

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### TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM:

#### Religious right (on)

The United States has been unofficially known as a "Christian nation" since it was settled, fought for and founded in vast majority by Religious Right Protestant Christians who fled European persecution. Two hundred twenty-five years later, Satan now persecutes their believing descendants.

The socialist, anti-God Liberal Left rose half a century ago. Even some

believers support the Left's political agenda of abortion, immorality and godlessness, evidence of its Satanic origin and power.

Our overwhelmingly Christian founders didn't exclude other faiths or no faith, but they established the right to publicly express majority belief in God and allowed no restriction of public prayer or expression of faith. They created majority rule through elected representatives, not minority rule through illegal abuse of court power.