

Church's missions fair inspires personal involvement with church builders_82304

August 20, 2004

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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

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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

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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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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.

Stem cell research becoming a focus of Presidential campaign_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/13/04

Stem cell research becoming a focus of Presidential campaign

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)—On the third anniversary of a controversial decision by President Bush limiting embryonic stem-cell research, both parties' presidential campaigns focused on the morally contentious topic.

CYBERCOLUMN by Brett Younger: St. Paul goes to the writing workshop_82304

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/13/04

CYBERCOLUMN: St. Paul goes to the writing workshop

By Brett Younger

My wife, Carol, and I recently attended a “spiritual writing workshop” at St. John’s College in Santa Fe. The 15 students in our class took turns shredding one another’s stories, sermons and essays. It was helpful, but by the end of the week, I wondered what would happen to 1 Corinthians 13 if the Apostle Paul first submitted it for review to a writing workshop.

“OK, Paul, you know the rules. You have to be quiet until we finish critiquing your piece. Who wants to start?”

Bivocational ministers' group changes name_80904

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/06/04

Bivocational ministers' group changes name

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

BELTON-The Texas Baptist Bivocational Ministers and Spouses Association changed its name and became more closely aligned with the Baptist General Convention of Texas at its recent meeting, adopting a revised constitution.

Biblical ignorance, lack of prayer lead to conflict, mediator says_80904

August 20, 2004

Posted: 8/06/04

Biblical ignorance, lack of prayer lead to conflict, mediator says

By Toby Druin

Editor Emeritus

SAN ANTONIO-Ignorance of what the Bible says about relationships and lack of prayer are common denominators in most church conflicts, said Blake Coffee, a San Antonio attorney who heads a growing ministry to congregations in trouble and those seeking to avoid it.