

San Antonio missions minister, pastor from College Station named CBF-Texas officers_71204

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Posted: 7/09/04

San Antonio missions minister, pastor from College Station named CBF-Texas officers

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.-A San Antonio missions minister and a College Station pastor assumed the elected leadership of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship-Texas during the group's annual meeting, held in conjunction with the national CBF general assembly in Birmingham.

Debbie Ferrier, minister of missions at Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio, became moderator of the Texas group after serving a year as moderator-elect.

Rodney McGlothlin, pastor of First Baptist Church in College Station, was chosen moderator-elect and will succeed Ferrier in 2005.

Community rehab volunteers seek to show 'what the church ought to be'_71204

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Volunteers from churches in Springtown, Keller and DeLeon join members of First Baptist Church in Comanche in painting and renovating homes for unchurched, low-income residents in their communities. It's part of Community Rehab, a ministry launched by the Comanche church.

Community rehab volunteers seek to show 'what the church ought to be'

By Janelle Bagci

Staff Writer

COMANCHE-Five years ago, members of First Baptist Church in Comanche launched a community project repairing homes in their town. This year, the project spread to surrounding counties, and the volunteers-mostly teenagers-reconstructed 17 homes.

Compensation survey shows BGCT churches rank #2 in pay for pastors_71204

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Compensation survey shows BGCT churches rank #2 in pay for pastors

By Trennis Henderson

Kentucky Western Recorder

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (ABP)-The average salary and housing for full-time Baptist pastors is \$46,505, according to a national compensation study. That is a jump of 6.7 percent from a similar study conducted two years ago.

Court rules Child Online Protection Act appears unconstitutional_71204

July 9, 2004

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Court rules Child Online Protection Act appears unconstitutional

By Robert Marus

ABP Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON (ABP)-A federal law attempting to make it harder for children and teenagers to access Internet pornography cannot be enforced because it likely violates the First Amendment, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled.

Colorado Supreme Court strikes down state's school-voucher pilot program_71204

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Colorado Supreme Court strikes down state's school-voucher pilot program

DENVER (ABP)-Colorado's highest court has ruled unconstitutional a state law that would have set up a school-voucher program, including religious and other private schools.

On a 4-3 vote, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled the state's Colorado Opportunity Contract Pilot Program violated a state constitutional provision regarding local school boards' control over educational instruction in their districts.

The program was passed by the state legislature and signed into law by Gov. Bill Owens (R) last year.

Cybercolumn by Berry D. Simpson: Skating the issue_71204

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CYBERCOLUMN: Skating the issue

By Berry D. Simpson

The vote was 14 in favor of installing signs around the church property that said, "No Skateboarding," and 17 against. I was one of the 17 who voted against the recommendation, and I have been wondering since if I did the right thing.

Earlier that same night, we voted unanimously to create a new worship service on Sunday evenings, a seeker service aimed at people unlikely to join one of our regular worship services. I couldn't square a vote in favor of reaching unchurched people with a vote to tell young skateboarders, "Go away." Not in the same night. Maybe I'll change my vote next time it comes up, but I don't know.

DBU soccer teams kick off missions venture in Mexico_71204

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DBU soccer teams kick off missions venture in Mexico

DBU students (from left) M'Leigha Jones, Andrea Spillers and Chris Palmore paint a small church in Reynosa, Mexico. The students were part of an eight-member mission trip sponsored by the DBU soccer teams that also involved work at Big Heart Orphanage. It was the fourth mission trip involving participants in the DBU soccer program, according to Coach David Grannis. Spillers, who is captain of the women's soccer team, said: "I have gone on this trip twice, and each time it has given me a greater appreciation for all the opportunities God has given me."

DOWNHOME: Maybe purgatory is infinite spam_71204

July 9, 2004

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DOWN HOME: Maybe purgatory is infinite spam

Whoever said, "No good deed goes unpunished" must have known the person who discovered the Law of Unintended Consequences. And they both must've been thinking about my e-mail.

Last year, my friend Mark and I decided to rid ourselves of all unwanted e-mail, known the world over as spam.

We already had anti-virus and spam-protection programs on our computers, but we still were getting spammed. All day, every day.

EDITORIAL: Paradox strengthens evangelism_71204

July 9, 2004

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EDITORIAL: Paradox strengthens evangelism

Do you ever watch siblings and wonder, "How in the world did those people grow up in the same home, much less fall out of the same family tree?"

That's how I feel about Baptists. Much of the time, we're like mismatched sisters and brothers. We're born of the same stock, but we bear polar-opposite personalities. We carry the same name, but we sometimes sound like strangers.

We've been this way almost from the beginning-nearly four centuries, church historian Bill Leonard says. (See page 10.) More than any other faith group, Baptists have embraced paradoxical tendencies. We include in our ranks contradictory positions and perspectives on just about every item in the spiritual catalog except the notions that we're congregationalists and the church should be made up of Christian believers.

**Does
someone
who
preaches
the need
for
repentance
reflect the
gospel
more
accurately
than
someone
who feeds
the hungry
and houses
the
homeless?**

EDITORIAL: Texas earns a big, fat F_71204

July 9, 2004

Posted: 7/09/04

EDITORIAL:

Texas earns a big, fat F

The U.S. Census Bureau has released another embarrassing statistic: Texas ranks last in the percentage of adults who have received high school diplomas.

Only 77 percent of Texans age 25 and older have graduated from high school, according to an Associated Press report. That compares to a national average of 85 percent. This is the second year in a row Texas has trailed the rest of the states. A decade ago, Texas ranked 39th, when it also posted a 77 percent graduation rate. On the whole, U.S. graduation rates are improving.

The primary reason for Texas' decline is its failure to help Hispanics progress through the educational system. The Census Bureau report revealed only about half of Texas' 4.3 million Hispanics age 25 and up have earned high school diplomas. Meanwhile, Hispanics are the state's fastest-growing population. So, the overall rate will continue to slide if a greater percentage of Hispanics don't graduate.

We need to demand that the Legislature pass and the governor sign a school-finance bill that is fair to all Texans, raises the graduation rate and doesn't sleep with the devil by funding education through expansion of gambling.

ETBU enters partnership with Chinese university, plans 2005 conference_71204

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East
Texas
Baptist
University
Vice
President
for
Academic
Affairs
Paul
Sorrels
listens to
guide
Vivian
Fan
explain
the
history of
the Great
Wall.
(Jerry
Summers
Photo)

ETBU enters partnership with Chinese university, plans 2005 conference

MARSHALL-East Texas Baptist University and Lanzhou University of Technology in Lanzhou, China, created a partnership after a visit by ETBU officials to China.

The partnership will produce an academic conference in Lanzhou next summer involving faculty from ETBU and other Texas universities and Chinese scholars who will present papers in English, said Jerry Summers, history professor at ETBU.

Paul Sorrels, ETBU vice president for academic affairs, signed the agreement, which also allows the exchange of students and faculty between the two universities.



East Texas Baptist University Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Sorrels and Lanzhou University of Technology Vice President Wang Zhiping, sign an agreement of educational cooperation and scholarly exchange between ETBU and the Chinese university.

LifeWay Explore the Bible

Series for July 18: God requires unqualified obedience and service_71204

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LifeWay Explore the Bible Series for July 18

God requires unqualified obedience and service

2 Kings 13:1-25

By David Morgan

Trinity Baptist Church, Harker Heights