

Paul Piper, Baptist donor, dead at 86_12604

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Paul Piper, Baptist donor, dead at 86

Philanthropist Paul Piper, whose generosity provided funds for many Texas Baptist causes, died Jan. 17 in Apollo Beach, Fla. He was 86.

Piper borrowed \$17 from his parents when he dropped out of college in 1937 and from that small investment built a diversified company with 1,000 employees in 15 manufacturing plants.

He later sold his shares in Piper Industries and used the money to begin four charitable foundations—Christ Is Our Salvation and three branches of Christian Mission Concerns.

Emerging cultures a challenge to evangelism_12604

January 29, 2004

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Emerging cultures a challenge to evangelism

By Ferrell Foster

Texas Baptist Communications

RICHARDSON-In today's postmodern world "there's a real cry for spiritual mothers and fathers," said John Berryhill, chief director of Emerging Church Network.

TBM volunteers glad Alabama group paved the way in Iran relief_12604

January 29, 2004

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TBM volunteers glad Alabama group paved the way in Iran relief

By Ken Camp

Managing Editor

From hurricanes in Latin America to famines in Africa and Asia, Texas

Baptist Men volunteers have been some of the first responders among faith-based disaster relief providers over the last three decades. But the Texas Baptists who recently returned from Iran were glad an Alabama group had paved the way for them.

Children's ranch supplies relief to thousands on both sides of Rio Grande_12604

January 29, 2004

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Children's ranch supplies relief to thousands on both sides of Rio Grande

By George Henson

Staff Writer

QUEMADO—In the barren, sun-baked terrain between Eagle Pass and Del Rio, a mustard seed of faith grew into a ministry much larger than Steve and Lori Mercer ever imagined.

Hispanic, Anglo congregations swapping emphasis_12604

January 29, 2004

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Hispanic, Anglo congregations swapping emphasis

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Hispanic and Anglo congregations are trading places as Anglo churches become worship-driven and their Hispanic counterparts move toward a Bible study-driven model, according to some Texas Baptist leaders.

Hands of Luke ministry helping children in El Paso and

Juarez_12604

January 29, 2004

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Hands of Luke ministry helping children in El Paso and Juarez

By George Henson

Staff Writer

EL PASO—Hurting people need healing for both body and spirit, according to Marco Samaniego. And that philosophy has guided the Hands of Luke medical ministry since he founded it 10 years ago.

Pastors shouldn't 'doctor' title unless it's merited, researcher says_12604

January 29, 2004

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Pastors shouldn't 'doctor' title unless it's merited, researcher says

By George Henson

Staff Writer

GORDONVILLE-Some pastors touting the title "Dr." before their names need a refresher course in ethics, according to a paper awaiting publication in the journal Christian Higher Education.

BGCT crosses halfway point toward church-starting goal_12604

January 29, 2004

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BGCT crosses halfway point toward church-starting goal

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Despite a tough fiscal year, the Baptist General Convention of Texas

Church Multiplication Center crossed the halfway point toward its goal of helping start 777 churches by the end of 2004.

Around the State_12604

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Around the State

Gaye Christy has been hired as administrative assistant to President **Bob Riley**, and **Joey Sutton** is a new admissions counselor at East Texas Baptist University.

 **Karl Tingle**, pastor of Casa View Church in Dallas, recently received the doctor of ministry degree from New Orleans Seminary, and **Blake Shipp** of Austin, pastor of New Henleyfield Church in Carriere, Miss., received the doctor of philosophy degree.



Primera Iglesia in Schertz recently celebrated the retirement of the bank loan on the land where its building soon will stand.

Taking part in the ceremony were church trustees Albert Rios and Juan Rodriguez, Frank Urias and Pastor Gregorio Gomez.

Events

BGCT leaders affirm reorganization_12604

January 29, 2004
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BGCT leaders affirm reorganization

By Marv Knox

Editor

Baptist General Convention of Texas leaders have affirmed Executive Director Charles Wade's intention to bring the convention's structure and budget in line with its priorities.

BGCT must change to avoid continued decline, officers say_12604

January 29, 2004
Posted: 1/23/04

BGCT must change to avoid continued decline, officers say

By **Marv Knox**

Editor

The Baptist General Convention of Texas must change or continue to decline, the convention's three top officers predicted.

Baptist Briefs_12604

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Baptist Briefs

BWA comes to Texas. Baptist World Alliance President Billy Kim and BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz will address a rally at Plano's First Baptist Church, 1300 E. 15th St., at 7 p.m. Jan. 27. The event also will feature performances by the 60-member children's choir from Central Baptist Church of Suwon, Korea. Earlier that day, the choir will present a chapel concert at Dallas Baptist University, and Kim will speak during a luncheon at the university.

FBC Dallas sets Lottie record. First Baptist Church of Dallas gave more than \$1 million through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for

international missions in 2003, more than four times its gift the previous year. It was twice as large as the biggest sum ever sent through the Lottie Moon Offering to fund Southern Baptists' mission work beyond North America. As of Dec. 28, the church's offering stood at \$1.16 million.

Patterson appoints first faculty. Steven Smith has joined the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary faculty as professor of preaching, and Octavio Esqueda has been named professor of Christian education and administration. They mark the first presidential faculty appointments by Paige Patterson at Southwestern. Smith, the son of evangelist Bailey Smith, has been pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., for eight years. He is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and holds a doctor's degree from Regent University. He has served on the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Committees and Committee on Resolutions, and he has been president of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia pastors' conference. Esqueda, a graduate of the University of Guadalajara in Mexico, received a master of arts in Christian education degree from Dallas Theological Seminary and a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of North Texas.