

Carbon-14 dating confirms biblical link to Hezekiah's Tunnel_111003

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JERUSALEM (RNS)-Using Carbon-14 dating techniques, Israeli and British scientists have determined that Siloam's Tunnel, a long, circuitous underground passage constructed below Jerusalem's ancient City of David probably was built about 700 B.C., when King Hezekiah ruled the land of Judea.



This photo shows the descent into the ancient Siloam's Tunnel and Gihon Spring. Scientists have determined the authenticity of the long underground tunnel, which is mentioned in the Bible. (Israel Nature and Parks Authority/RNS Photo)

The radiometric dating corroborates biblical texts such as 2 Kings 20:20 and 2 Chronicles 32:3-4 as well as an ancient inscription, discovered in 1880, on one of the tunnel's walls. Although this inscription appears to refer to Hezekiah, it does not do so by name.

This marks the first time a structure mentioned in the Bible has been dated radiometrically, according to researchers Amos Frumkin, Aryeh Shimron and Jeff Rosenbaum, who published their findings in the journal *Nature*.

HOPE program brings new direction for teens in Round Rock complex_111003

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HOPE program brings new direction for teens in Round Rock complex

By Miranda Bradley

Texas Baptist Children's Home & Family Services

ROUND ROCK—Two months ago, 15-year-old Marquell blended right into his surroundings. Like most kids in his Meadow Ridge apartment neighborhood, he stayed out until the wee hours of the morning hanging out with friends, which usually led to trouble.

n tough times, Israel finds a

friend in evangelicals_111003

November 7, 2003

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In tough times, Israel finds a friend in evangelicals

By Michele Chabin

Religion News Service

JERUSALEM (RNS)-Times are hard in Jerusalem, with many stores, restaurants and hotels shut down due to the ongoing Palestinian uprising, but you wouldn't have known it from the rapturous smiles on the faces of the thousands of evangelical Christians who thronged to the holy city in October to support Israel.

Texas Baptist Forum_111003

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TEXAS BAPTIST FORUM

False charges

Keith Eitel's charge is absolutely false that the Parks administration at the Foreign Mission Board was not biblically based and continued the trend of liberalism.



This is a strange claim from a man who has never even discussed this with me. It also is strange that board trustees known to be very conservative who served during my years as a staff member and president include W.A. Criswell, Billy Graham, K. Owen White, W.O. Vaught, Homer Lindsay Sr., Mark Corts, Paige Patterson and Paul Pressler. None of them ever accused my predecessor, Baker James Cauthen, or me of liberalism.

Why is Eitel now making unfounded allegations?

Methodists have cut 259 jobs_111003

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Methodists have cut 259 jobs

DALLAS (RNS)-The United Methodist Church has cut 259 jobs over the past two years-a 21 percent drop-according to the United Methodist Reporter, an independent newspaper.

The nation's second-largest Protestant denomination, facing a drop in revenues because of the lagging economy, laid off 65 people between Sept. 30, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2003. Sixty additional empty positions were kept vacant, while others were not filled after retirements.

In addition, statistics provided by the church and compiled by the newspaper showed the church has lost 305 missionaries-14 percent of its overseas force-since 2001.

Ministerial searches go digital_111003

November 7, 2003

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Ministerial searches go digital

By Marv Knox

Editor

For more and more churches and their ministers, a match made in heaven

may have been launched in cyberspace.

Headhunters stake out new territory in churches_111003

November 7, 2003

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Headhunters stake out new territory in churches

By Marv Knox

Editor

LEWISVILLE-Can a headhunter replace a search committee?

Linguistic duty translates into new home for Congo

family_111003

November 7, 2003

Posted: 11/07/03

Linguistic duty translates into new home for Congo family

By George Henson

Staff Writer

FORT WORTH—An African refugee family has found a new beginning in Fort Worth, thanks to what at first seemed to be a chance encounter with a group of missionaries.

Mississippi won't cut out CBF leaders_111003

November 7, 2003

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Mississippi won't cut out CBF leaders

JACKSON, Miss. (ABP)—Messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention voted down a proposed constitutional amendment Oct. 28 that would have

excluded Cooperative Baptist Fellowship members from serving in leadership positions in the convention.

The amendment, proposed during last year's annual meeting by Ralph Henson, pastor of Arrowood Baptist Church of Meridian, Miss., would have disqualified anyone who is currently serving in an "employed, elected or appointed position with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship" from serving in any capacity with the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

In accordance with the convention's constitution, Henson's motion was referred last year to the constitution and bylaws committee for action at this year's annual meeting. Rick Courtney, an attorney and chairman of the committee, reported the committee was unanimous in recommending the proposal be rejected. Messengers agreed by a vote of 572 to 376.

Missouri breaks ties with Jewell_111003

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Missouri breaks ties with Jewell

ST. LOUIS (ABP)-The Missouri Baptist Convention broke a 154-year tradition and voted Nov. 4 to stop funding William Jewell College in Liberty, citing the college's positions on homosexuality and morality.

The convention eliminated the Baptist school from its 2004 budget. Last

year, the convention gave William Jewell \$900,000, about 3 percent of the college's budget.

Roger Moran, a layman from Winfield whose guilt-by-association reports on state convention agencies and churches fueled a fundamentalist takeover of the Missouri convention, argued for cutting the college's funds.

Churches urged to address multicultural needs of Texas_111003

November 7, 2003

Posted: 11/07/03

Churches urged to address multicultural needs of Texas

By John Hall

Texas Baptist Communications

Whether the message is "Jesús te ama," "Jésus te aime" or "Jesus loves you," Baptists need to reach out intentionally to all people in an increasingly multicultural state of non-believers, according to Baptist General Convention of Texas staff.

On the Move_111003

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On the Move

Jeff Addison to First Church in Quitaque as pastor from Lee Street Church in Dimmitt.

- ♦ **J.C. Baker** to First Church in Weinert as pastor.

- ♦ **David Brumbelow** to Lee College in Baytown as Baptist Student Ministry director. He also is pastor of Northside Church in Highlands.