

Language weakening Johnson Amendment removed from tax bill

December 19, 2017

Removal of language from the Senate tax bill that would have allowed churches to engage in partisan politics without losing their tax-exempt status represents a victory for religious liberty, advocates of church-state separation insisted.

Court lets stand Texas ruling potentially blocking gay spousal benefits

December 19, 2017

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review a Texas case involving a city that extended benefits to same-sex spouses of employees.

Supreme Court hears arguments on wedding cake case

December 19, 2017

The U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments Dec. 5 in the case of a Christian baker in Colorado who refused to design a wedding cake for a same-sex couple.

Bill that would allow churches to receive FEMA aid advances in Congress

December 19, 2017

Churches, synagogues, mosques and other faith-based community centers damaged in a natural disaster could be eligible for federal disaster relief funds under a measure approved by a congressional committee.

Supreme Court denies hearing to Birdville school board prayer challenge

December 19, 2017

The U.S. Supreme Court announced Nov. 27 it would not hear a case challenging a Tarrant County school district's practice that allows students to lead public prayers at school board meetings.

State Department misses deadline to name religious freedom violators

December 19, 2017

The U.S. State Department failed to release a list of the world's worst violators of religious freedom by a Nov. 13 deadline, even though Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has said religious freedom is a "human rights priority" for the Trump administration.

Religious holidays and public schools focus of essay contest

December 19, 2017

Students can win money for college by writing an essay discussing whether public school calendars should accommodate religious holidays.

Charleston pastor shows solidarity with Sutherland Springs

December 19, 2017

In the wake of the shooting massacre at a Texas church, Pastor Eric S.C. Manning has visited members of his own congregation—Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church—to see how they are coping with rekindled memories and ongoing grief.

Pence tells grieving town, 'Faith

is stronger than evil'

December 19, 2017

Vice President Mike Pence traveled to Sutherland Springs to offer prayers and words of comfort to a stricken community three days after a lone gunman killed more than two dozen people during a Sunday morning church service.

House tax plan weakens Johnson Amendment

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The tax-reform package U.S. House of Representative leaders released Nov. 2 would weaken a provision in the tax code that bars churches from endorsing political candidates without jeopardizing their tax-exempt status.

Wedding cake court case draws varied Baptist responses

December 19, 2017

Does a Christian baker have the First Amendment right to refuse to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple? It depends on which Baptists you ask.

Conservative black clergy back baker who refused gay couple

December 19, 2017

Conservative African-American clergy accused LGBT activists of hijacking the civil rights movement and launched a campaign to support a Colorado baker who refused to create a cake for a same-sex wedding.