

# **White House expands religious objections to birth control**

July 16, 2015

The Obama administration released rules July 10 allowing “closely held” for-profit corporations to claim a religious objection to mandated coverage of contraceptives under Obamacare.

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# **Survey: American evangelicals stand behind Israel**

July 16, 2015

American evangelicals remain among the strongest supporters of Israel. Most believe God has plans for that nation—now and in the future. And many of America’s preachers say Christians need to support Israel.

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# **Black churches debate the best ways to protect themselves**

July 16, 2015

Officials of predominantly black denominations are taking different—and

sometimes contradictory—approaches in the wake of the shootings in Charleston, S.C., and the burning of more than a half-dozen black churches.

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## **BJC says same-sex marriage ruling unlikely to affect tax-exemption**

July 16, 2015

A Baptist group specializing in church/state issues says the threat of churches and other religious organizations losing their tax-exempt status if they oppose same-sex marriage has been “highly exaggerated.”

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## **Court decision legalizing same-sex marriage sparks strong response**

July 16, 2015

In a landmark decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5-4 the Constitution does not allow the government to deny same-sex couples marital benefits

available to married couples of the opposite sex.

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## **Supreme Court sides with Muslim woman in hijab dispute**

July 16, 2015

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled June 1 retailer Abercrombie & Fitch violated the civil rights of a Muslim woman not hired because of her religious head covering.

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## **Memorial Day remembrances in their own words**

July 16, 2015

For Memorial Day, here are three stories of ordinary Christians—in their own words—who faced extraordinary situations and still celebrate the hope found in Christ in times of crisis and loss.

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# **CBF and SBC leaders unite against payday loans**

July 16, 2015

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Southern Baptist Convention Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission joined other faith groups in announcing a new coalition to combat predatory lending.

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# **Americans don't want student religious groups defunded for restrictive leadership policies**

July 16, 2015

A dispute over who can lead student religious groups has left Americans uneasy, but few want to see groups punished for requiring their leaders to hold specific beliefs or practices.

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# **Appoint envoy for persecuted**

# **Mideast Christians, activists urge**

July 16, 2015

In light of beheadings, enslavement, kidnappings and rape plaguing minority religious communities, the Washington-based International Religious Freedom Roundtable has called on President Obama to fill the State Department's ambassador-at-large for international religious freedom position, which has been vacant for months.

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# **Analysis: Colliding visions of marriage at the Supreme Court**

July 16, 2015

As the nine Supreme Court justices took up the vexing question of a constitutional right to same-sex marriage April 28, arguments came down to two competing visions of marriage—what it's been or what it should be—and who gets to decide.

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# **Oklahoma Supreme Court urged to strike down school voucher program**

July 16, 2015

Four religious freedom and civil liberties groups say a scholarship program for children with disabilities violates a “No Aid” clause in the state’s constitution banning the use of public funds for religious indoctrination.