

Justice Department appeals housing allowance ruling

January 28, 2014

Department of Justice attorneys appealed a federal judge's ruling declaring the ministers' housing allowance unconstitutional.

Racial diversity at church more dream than reality

January 28, 2014

More than 50 years after Martin Luther King Jr. declared 11 a.m. on Sunday the most segregated hour of the week, racially diverse congregations remain more dream than reality for most Protestant pastors, research reveals.

Study says race perception gap widening

January 28, 2014

Fifty years after Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech envisioned unity between blacks and whites, a new study finds a growing gap in racial attitudes and experiences in America.

Texas Baptist universities win round against Obamacare

January 28, 2014

A federal judge says East Texas Baptist University and Houston Baptist University do not have to include emergency contraceptives in their employee insurance coverage.

GuideStone injunction blocks abortion mandate

January 28, 2014

A federal district judge issued a preliminary injunction Dec. 20 against a government mandate that requires employers—including some religiously affiliated ones—to provide contraceptive drugs and devices they believe cause abortions.

Report: Hunger, homelessness continue to increase

January 28, 2014

In spite of some economic improvement in the last year, mayors reported their cities experienced increased requests for food assistance, a growing number of homeless families and shortfalls in meeting needs.

Justices refuse challenge to Obamacare

January 28, 2014

A week after agreeing to decide whether mandated contraception coverage in the Affordable Care Act is constitutional, the U.S. Supreme Court turned down a broader challenge raised by Liberty University.

Supreme Court to hear Hobby Lobby case

January 28, 2014

The Supreme Court agreed Nov. 26 to accept cases challenging mandated contraception

coverage in the health care reform law known as Obamacare.

Judge strikes down clergy housing allowance

January 28, 2014

A federal judge ruled an IRS regulation allowing clergy to avoid paying taxes on a part of their income designated as a housing allowance violates the constitutionally mandated separation of church and state.

Baptist Briefs: Faith leaders urge closing of Gitmo

January 28, 2014

The head of American Baptist Churches USA joined 42 other faith leaders in a letter urging senators to support efforts to close the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Poll: Protestant pastors support immigration reform

January 28, 2014

A new poll from Nashville-based LifeWay Research finds nearly six in 10 senior pastors of Protestant churches support immigration reform that includes a path to citizenship.

Religious Freedom Restoration Act needed more now

January 28, 2014

The Religious Freedom Restoration Act is more needed now than when it was enacted 20 years ago, a Baptist church-state expert said at a symposium in Washington.