

Church-state scholar objects to 'Christian Right' designation

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Observers of religion in public life have been scratching their heads about inclusion of a Baptist scholar known for advocating the separation of church and state in a recent *Newsweek* magazine article titled "Faces of the Christian Right."

Ousted Rep. Chet Edwards recounts religious-liberty fight

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Early on in his House tenure, someone lit a religious-liberty fire under Rep. Chet Edwards — and, despite Edwards' position in the most Republican House district in the country to be represented by a Democrat, that fire never burned him.

Calif. court strikes down Wiley Drake's 'birther' case

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A state appellate court in California has dismissed a lawsuit filed by plaintiffs including a former Southern Baptist Convention officer claiming that Barack Obama is not a natural-born citizen of the United States and therefore is not eligible to occupy the White House.

New polls show rising support for gay marriage, little change on abortion

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Abortion and gay rights appear to be decoupling as important dividing lines among Americans when it comes to social issues, according to recent surveys on values, faith and public life.

Critics still waiting for action from faith-based office

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Six months after advisers turned in 164 pages of recommendations to the White House's faith-based office, thorny church-state questions remain unanswered and some critics say the office has been used to push the president's health care reform.

Supreme Court torn on free speech rights, private funeral rites

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The last rites of a slain Marine clashed with a small church's right to preach its anti-gay gospel in oral arguments heard before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Group urges IRS to probe church; calls for end to National Day of Prayer

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A church-state watchdog group says the Internal Revenue Service should investigate whether a New York church violated federal tax law by endorsing a Democrat running for governor.

Most Americans OK student religious speech, poll reveals

December 21, 2010

A majority of Americans—including those who do not practice any particular faith—think students should be able to express their religion in public schools, according to a new poll by the First Amendment Center.

Jimmy Carter discharged from

hospital

December 21, 2010

Former President Jimmy Carter was discharged Sept. 30 after two nights in a Cleveland hospital for what doctors say was a stomach virus.

BPFNA urges support for Muslims; N.Y. project director decries discourse

December 21, 2010

As the leader of an effort to build an Islamic community center in Lower Manhattan expressed his dismay Sept. 13 at the rising tide of anti-Islam rhetoric across the country, the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America called on Baptists to build bridges of understanding with their Muslim neighbors.

Baptist leaders meet with

Holder, denounce Baptists trashing Islam

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As the national debate over Islam continues to ratchet up in advance of the ninth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, Baptists joined a group of religious leaders Sept. 7 in denouncing Islamophobia, urged the nation's top law-enforcement official to crack down on anti-Muslim bigotry and chastened their fellow Baptists for contributing to the problem.

Two prominent Baptist thinkers criticize Beck's 'Restoring Honor' rally

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When popular conservative radio and TV personality Glenn Beck called for "revival" on the National Mall Aug. 28, he was making a hash of both patriotism and faith, according to published comments by a pair of prominent Baptist leaders.