

Philip Yancey, beloved evangelical author, retires after admitting affair

January 7, 2026

Philip Yancey, a beloved evangelical author and speaker, will retire from public ministry after admitting to a long-term affair.

Baptist ministries respond to U.S. strike on Venezuela

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Baptist world leaders are responding to the developments taking place in Venezuela after the U.S. entered Venezuela to capture Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro.

Attacks on Christians continue

in Nigeria

January 7, 2026

More have been killed in Christian villages in northeastern and northcentral Nigeria since Christmas, according to numerous reports.

Studies reveal disappearing religious gender gap

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A study by Pew Research Center shows shifting religious demographics among young men and women. Young women, previously considered “more religious” than young men, are now considered roughly as religious as men in the same age group.

On the Move: Curry, Denton, Medley, Ruwaldt

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Ministerial changes noted for Lubbock Area Baptist Association, Brenham, Amarillo, and Palestine.

Obituary: Eloy Felan Jr.

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Eloy Felan Jr, senior pastor of Primera Iglesia Bautista in Lubbock, died Jan. 2, at age 80.

Celebrating Churches: Pioneer Drive breaks ground on new worship center

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Pioneer Drive Baptist Church in Abilene, as part of celebrating their next 70 years, broke ground on a new worship center Sunday morning, Dec. 14.

Around the State: ETBU beach

volleyball serves in Honduras

January 7, 2026

East Texas Baptist University's beach volleyball team returned on Dec.14 from Roatan, an island in Honduras, as part of ETBU's Tiger Athletic Mission Experience.

Richard Smallwood, 'Total Praise' writer, dies at 77

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Richard Smallwood, a singer and pianist best known for his contemporary gospel music hit "Total Praise," died Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Obituary: Melchor "Mel" Gomez

January 7, 2026

Melchor "Mel" Gomez, pastor, community leader and longtime Hale Center restaurateur, died Jan. 2, 2025, in Hale Center. He was 70.

Obituary: James Lynn Scarborough

January 7, 2026

James Lynn Scarborough, Southern Baptist minister and longtime associational leader, died Dec. 30 in Mineral Wells. He was 78.

Obituary: Sergio Ramos

January 7, 2026

Sergio Ramos, ministry leader and pillar of the Tyler County community, died Dec. 27 in Conroe. He was 82.