

# **Obituary: Doris Ann Tinker**

December 22, 2025

Doris Ann Tinker of Richardson, who served as executive associate to two Baptist General Convention of Texas executive directors, died Dec. 12. She was 92.

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## **Nigerian churches attacked and worshippers abducted**

December 22, 2025

Armed assailants attacked two churches in Nigeria's Kogi State in recent weeks and abducted worshippers, a United Kingdom-based human rights organization focused on international religious freedom reported.

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## **Study shows rising interest in magic as religion declines**

December 22, 2025

As more people move away from regular attendance in religious institutions, they are moving toward individual spiritual exploration and "secular supernaturalism," the latest findings from the Baylor Religion

Survey reveal.

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## **Nigerian faith leaders insist Christians are targeted**

December 22, 2025

Nigerian church leaders insist Christians in their country are persecuted for their faith, rejecting a growing narrative that violence in their country is not religion-based.

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## **Festivities slowly return to Holy Land amid shaky ceasefire**

December 22, 2025

In recent months, and especially after the shaky October ceasefire, tourism to Israel and the Bethlehem region of the West Bank has picked up, along with Israel's national mood.

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# Judge cancels Sills jury trial and calls for new trial date

December 22, 2025

Federal Judge William Campbell has canceled the jury trial between David and Mary Sills and the Southern Baptist Convention set for Feb. 10, 2026, calling for it to be rescheduled.

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## Around the State: HPU student awarded scholarship

December 22, 2025

Howard Payne University student Alexandria Martinez has been awarded a scholarship by the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas and the Council of Independent Colleges and United Parcel Service.

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## Early religious experiences shape why people stay or leave

December 22, 2025

Pew Research says while a majority of Americans still identify with their

childhood faith, a third have switched—including 20 percent who now say they have no religion.

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## **Texas no longer national leader in executions**

December 22, 2025

Texas no longer is the national capital of capital punishment, but it still is among the handful of states responsible for about three-fourths of the executions carried out in 2025, a report from the Death Penalty Information Center revealed.

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## **Obituary: Ben W. Mieth Jr.**

December 22, 2025

Ben W. Mieth Jr., supporter of global missions and Wayland Baptist University, died Dec. 8 in Glen Rose. He was 92.

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# **Clergy Act advances from House committee**

December 22, 2025

The House Ways and Means Committee unanimously voted to advance the Clergy Act, H.R. 227, which would provide ministers who opted out of Social Security a one-time window to opt back in.

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# **Doug Wilson demonstrates growing national influence**

December 22, 2025

Critics say Christ Church's renown has less to do with God than with Pastor Doug Wilson's dedication to Christian nationalism and his ties to like-minded officials in the Trump administration and among its allies.