

**Inventory of the  
Adrian Rogers Collection**

**AR 691**



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

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# **Inventory of the Adrian Rogers Collection**

## **AR 691**

### **Summary**

Main Entry: Adrian Rogers Collection

Date Span: 1979 – 1988

Abstract: Collection contains files related to Adrian Rogers' tenure as president of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1979 to 1980 and 1986 to 1988. It includes information related to a variety of SBC agencies, including the Executive Committee, Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, and Foreign Mission Board.

Size: 3 linear ft. (7 document boxes)

Collection #: AR 691

### **Biographical Sketch**

Southern Baptist minister and denominational leader. A two-time president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Adrian Rogers was born in West Palm Beach, Florida in 1931. Upon graduating from high school, Rogers received a bachelor's degree from Stetson University. While a freshman there, he married his childhood sweetheart, Joyce Gentry. The couple had four children. Rogers went on to obtain degrees in theology from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Trinity College.

Rogers spent his early pastoral career ministering to two churches in Florida - Parkview Baptist Church (Fort Pierce, Fla.) and Merritt Island Baptist Church. In 1972, Rogers became pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. Over the next thirty-two years, Bellevue's congregation grew from 8,700 to nearly 29,000. As minister to one of the premiere Baptist churches, Rogers traveled extensively as an evangelist and Bible teacher. In 1987, Rogers formed Love Worth Finding Ministries, a radio and television ministry that broadcasts to more than 150 countries.

At the 1979 annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, Adrian Rogers was elected as convention president. Rogers' election paved the way for the Conservative Resurgence, a movement to change the leadership within the denomination's seminaries and other entities. The movement was concerned with theological and political liberalism within the seminaries and agencies of the SBC. Following Rogers' first term as president, subsequent elections were hotly contested affairs between conservatives and moderates. Rogers and his successors vowed to nominate candidates who believed in the inerrancy and infallibility of the Bible. He returned to lead the convention in 1986 and 1987. In

addition, he served on the committee to review and revise the Baptist Faith and Message at the 2000 annual meeting of the convention.

Adrian Rogers retired as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church on March 6, 2005. Shortly after his retirement, Rogers was diagnosed with colon cancer. He died November 15, 2005.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The Adrian Rogers Collection (3 linear ft.) consists of correspondence, minutes, clippings, notes, and programs. The material chronicles Adrian Rogers' two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. The collection focuses on relations between various Southern Baptist Convention agencies, including the Executive Committee, Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, and Sunday School Board. The correspondence consists of congratulatory letters and letters relating to events in Southern Baptist life.

The major topics and issues included in the papers are: missions, the Cooperative Program, finance, budgets, the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, and the expansion of the Sunday School Board facilities.

### **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged in two sections: Presidential files for 1979 to 1980 and Presidential files for 1986 to 1988. The files are arranged alphabetically in each section.

### **Provenance**

Donated by Adrian Rogers, 1989.

### **Preferred Citation**

Adrian Rogers Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

### **Access Restrictions**

None

### **Subject Terms**

Rogers, Adrian, 1931 - 2005.  
Southern Baptist Convention.  
Southern Baptist Convention - Presidents.  
Southern Baptist Convention. Executive Committee.  
Southern Baptist Convention. Foreign Mission Board.  
Southern Baptist Convention. Home Mission Board.  
Southern Baptist Convention – History – 20th century.  
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs.

### **Related Materials**

Southern Baptist Convention Press Kit Collection, AR 375

Southern Baptist Convention Proceedings [videorecording], Rec60vt 1979 - 1980, 1986-1988

### **Container List**

#### A. Presidential Files, 1979 – 1980

##### Box 1

- 1.1 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 1979 – 1980
- 1.2 Brotherhood Commission, 1979 – 1980
- 1.3 Committee on Committees, 1980
- 1.4 Committee on Order of Business, 1979 – 1980
- 1.5 Executive Committee, 1979 – 1980
- 1.6 Executive Committee, 1979 – 1980
- 1.7 Foreign Mission Board, 1979 – 1980
- 1.8 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1979 – 1980
- 1.9 Sunday School Board, 1979
- 1.10 Sunday School Board, 1980

#### B. Presidential Files, 1986 – 1988

- 1.11 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, 1987 – 1988
- 1.12 Baptist World Alliance, 1987
- 1.13 Baptist World Alliance, 1988

##### Box 2

- 2.1 Committee Appointments, 1988
- 2.2 Committee on Committees, 1987
- 2.3 Conference on Biblical Inerrancy, 1987
- 2.4 Conference on Biblical Interpretation, 1988
- 2.5 Correspondence – A, 1986 – 1988
- 2.6 Correspondence – B, 1986 – 1988
- 2.7 Correspondence – C, 1986 – 1988
- 2.8 Correspondence – D, 1986 – 1988
- 2.9 Correspondence – E – F, 1986 – 1988

##### Box 3

- 3.1 Correspondence – G, 1986 – 1988
- 3.2 Correspondence – H, 1986 – 1988
- 3.3 Correspondence – I – J, 1986 – 1988
- 3.4 Correspondence – K, 1986 – 1988
- 3.5 Correspondence – L, 1986 – 1988
- 3.6 Correspondence – M, 1986 – 1988
- 3.7 Correspondence – N – O – 1986 – 1988

- 3.8 Correspondence – P, 1986 – 1988
- 3.9 Correspondence – R, 1986 – 1987
- 3.10 Correspondence – S, 1986 – 1988
- 3.11 Correspondence – T, 1986 – 1988
- 3.12 Correspondence – V, 1986
- 3.13 Correspondence – W, 1986 – 1988
- 3.14 Correspondence – Y – Z, 1986 – 1988
- 3.15 Executive Committee, 1986
- 3.16 Executive Committee, 1987
- 3.17 Executive Committee, 1987

Box 4

- 4.1 Executive Committee, 1988
- 4.2 Foreign Mission Board, October 1986
- 4.3 Foreign Mission Board, 1986
- 4.4 Foreign Mission Board, 1987
- 4.5 Foreign Mission Board, 1987
- 4.6 Foreign Mission Board, 1987

Box 5

- 5.1 Foreign Mission Board, 1988
- 5.2 Foreign Mission Board – Missionary Learning Center, 1986
- 5.3 Home Mission Board, 1986 – 1987
- 5.4 Order of Business Committee, 1987
- 5.5 Order of Business Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.6 Public Affairs Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.7 Radio and Television Committee, 1987 – 1988
- 5.8 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1987
- 5.9 Southern Baptist Foundation, 1987 – 1988

Box 6

- 6.1 Sunday School Board, 1986
- 6.2 Sunday School Board, 1986 – 1987
- 6.3 Sunday School Board, 1987
- 6.4 Sunday School Board, 1987
- 6.5 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988

Box 7

- 7.1 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988
- 7.2 Sunday School Board, 1987 – 1988
- 7.3 Sunday School Board, 1988
- 7.4 Sunday School Board – Master Plan Nashville Properties, 1987