

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION PEACE COMMITTEE 1985 – 1988

AR 692



Charles Fuller, Chairman of the Peace Committee

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

1998

Updated January, 2013

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION PEACE COMMITTEE RECORDS

AR 692

Summary

Main Entry: Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee Records

Date Span: 1985 – 1988

Abstract: Twenty-two members of the Peace Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention were appointed in 1985 to resolve the conflict between moderates and conservatives. The collection includes meeting files with minutes and other documents of the committee and subcommittees. Also included are audio recordings of all but three of the committee meetings.

Size: 5 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 692

Historical Sketch

During the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, June 11 – 13, 1985, a special committee was created to attempt to determine the sources of the current controversy in the SBC and to make findings and recommendations to resolve it. The committee met 14 times. Following each meeting, a report was given to Southern Baptists by Charles G. Fuller, Chairman of the Committee, through the denominational news service, Baptist Press. The committee made a preliminary report to the 1986 Convention and a final report that was adopted in 1987. The committee consisted of 22 members who were selected to equally represent the various factions within the convention.

The following persons served on this Special Committee that ultimately became known as the Peace Committee:

Charles G. Fuller, Chairman
Harmon M. Born
Doyle E. Carlton, Jr.
Mrs. Morris H. Chapman
William O. Crews*
Robert E. Cuttino
Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory
Jim Henry
William E. Hull
Herschel H. Hobbs
Albert McClellan

Charles W. Pickering
William E. Poe
Ray E. Roberts
Adrian P. Rogers
Cecil E. Sherman*
John Sullivan
Daniel G. Vestal
Jerry Vines
Edwin H. Young
Charles F. Stanley
W. Winfred Moore

*Note: William O. Crews was elected president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, October 13, 1986, but was asked to remain as a member. Cecil E. Sherman resigned from the Special Committee, October 22, 1986, and was replaced by Peter James Flammig.

Scope and Content Note

The records of the Peace Committee consist of two distinct divisions. The meeting files which include minutes of the meetings, attachments, and the correspondence received by the committee, comprise one division. Tape recordings of the Committee's meetings comprise the second division. The first two meetings of the Committee were not recorded.

The meeting files include the actions of the committee, with attachments such as subcommittee reports and informational material. The correspondence received by the committee from Southern Baptists comprises another section within this division. The material is arranged in numerical order. Each correspondence was assigned a number by the committee when it was received. Some subcommittee minutes are also included in the records. The minutes and tapes are filed in chronological order.

The collection became open to researchers in 1998, 10 years after the committee ended its work and was dissolved.

Arrangement

Meeting files with minutes, subcommittee reports, and attachments are arranged in chronological order. Correspondence is arranged numerically. Audio tape recordings are filed in chronological order.

Provenance

Donated by the Peace Committee, 1988.

Preferred Citation

Southern Baptist Convention. Peace Committee Records, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

Access Restrictions

Collection was opened to researchers in 1998, 10 years after the committee ended its work

Subject Terms

Fuller, Charles
 Pressler, Paul, 1930 –
 Sherman, Cecil E., 1927 –
 Hull, William E.
 Vines, Jerry, 1937 –
 Poe, William
 Cuttino, Bob
 Henry, Jim, 1937
 Moore, Winfred, 1920 –
 Rogers, Adrian

Vestal, Daniel, 1944
 Pickering, Charles
 Young, H. Edwin
 Robert, Ray
 Gregory, Christine
 Chapman, Jodi
 Bennett, Harold C.
 Cavender, Norman
 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
 Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary
 Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary
 Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
 Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
 Southern Baptist Convention. Sunday School Board
 Southern Baptist Convention. Home Mission Board
 Southern Baptist Convention. Foreign Mission Board
 Southern Baptist Convention – History – 20th century
 Church controversies

Related Materials

Albert McClellan Collection, AR 610. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Charles Martin Jacumin. *A theological and historical analysis of the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee, 1985 – 1987*. 2008.

Paul Pressler Papers. Microfiche 145. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

Southern Baptist Convention controversy oral history collection. R553vt. Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives.

William Randall Wayde. *Role of the Peace Committee in the Southern Baptist Convention Inerrancy Controversy*. 2001.

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Reports to SBC Executive Committee and SBC, 1985 – 1988
- 1.2 Meeting File, August 5 – 6, 1985
- 1.3 Meeting File, October 8 – 9, 1985
- 1.4 Meeting File, December 10 – 11, 1985
- 1.5 Meeting File, January 20 – 21, 1986
- 1.6 Meeting File, February 24 – 25, 1986
- 1.7 Material from Harold C. Bennett's report, "Selective Support"
- 1.8 Subcommittee to visit Foreign Mission Board, 1986
- 1.9 Subcommittee to visit Home Mission Board, 1986

- 1.10 Subcommittee to visit Sunday School Board, 1986
- 1.11 Subcommittee to visit Southern Seminary, 1986
- 1.12 Subcommittee to visit New Orleans Seminary, 1986
- 1.13 Subcommittee to visit Southeastern Seminary, 1986
- 1.14 Subcommittee to visit Southwestern Seminary, 1986
- 1.15 Subcommittee to visit Midwestern Seminary, 1986 (1 of 3)

Box 2

- 2.1 Subcommittee to visit Midwestern Seminary, (2 of 3)
- 2.2 Subcommittee to visit Midwestern Seminary, (3 of 3)
- 2.3 Subcommittee to visit Golden Gate Seminary
- 2.4 Subcommittee to visit Christian Life Commission
- 2.5 Subcommittee to visit Historical Commission
- 2.6 Meeting File, April 3 – 4, 1986
- 2.7 Southern Seminary Ad Hoc Comm. on Denominational Concerns, April 29, 1986
- 2.8 Political Activities Subcommittee, May 12 – 13, 1986
- 2.9 Correspondence related to Political Activities Subcommittee meeting
- 2.10 Exhibits from Paul Pressler for Political Activities Subcommittee
- 2.11 Documents from James Slatton & Norman Cavender for Political Act. Subcomm.
- 2.12 Political Activities Subcommittee, May 12 – 13, 1986
- 2.13 Meeting File, May 13 – 14, 1986
- 2.14 Meeting File, June 8, 1986
- 2.15 Meeting File, July 28 – 29, 1986

Box 3

- 3.1 Report to Midwestern Seminary Trustees re: Sparkman Controversy, Oct., 1986
- 3.2 Meeting File, October 20 – 22, 1986
- 3.3 Meeting File, December 1 – 2, 1986
- 3.4 Meeting File, January 8 – 9, 1987
- 3.5 Meeting File, February 18 – 19, 1987
- 3.6 Meeting File, April 2 – 3, 1987
- 3.7 Meeting File, May 4, 1987
- 3.8 Report Draft to Southern Baptist Convention, June, 1987
- 3.9 Meeting File, June 14, 1987
- 3.10 Southern Baptist Convention Resolution of Appreciation
- 3.11 Meeting File, May 2 – 4, 1988
- 3.12 Agency Reports to Committee, May 2 – 4, 1988
- 3.13 Responses to Report Draft to Southern Baptist Convention, June, 1988
- 3.14 Meeting File, June 12, 1988
- 3.15 Agenda Committee
- 3.16 Memorandums and Letters to and from Martha T. Gaddis and Charles Fuller

Box 4

- 4.1 Miscellaneous Material brought to Meetings of Committee
- 4.2 Crowder Suit
- 4.3 Summaries of Correspondence to Committee or Chairman, 366 items

- 4.4 Correspondence to Committee, Items 1 – 30
- 4.5 Correspondence to Committee, Items 31 – 79
- 4.6 Correspondence to Committee, Items 80 – 139
- 4.7 Correspondence to Committee, Items 140 – 158
- 4.8 Correspondence to Committee, Items 159 - 194

Box 5

- 5.1 Correspondence to Committee, Items 195 – 205
- 5.2 Correspondence to Committee, Items 206 – 280
- 5.3 Correspondence to Committee, Items 281 – 328
- 5.4 Correspondence to Committee, Items 329 – 341
- 5.5 Correspondence to Committee, Items 342 – 366

**SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION PEACE COMMITTEE
TAPE COLLECTION INVENTORY
Boxes 6 – 8**

The audiotape collection of Peace Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, consists of 145 audio cassette recordings. Most of the recordings are the proceedings of the full committee meetings. The Political Activities Subcommittee proceedings were recorded as well. The additional tapes are related tapes provided by members of the committee or other Southern Baptists. The tapes are maintained in their original order, which does not follow a chronological order. Most of the proceeding tapes are recorded on both sides. The quality of the recordings varies from meeting to meeting. The first two meetings of the committee were not recorded.

Tape # Description

Box 6

- 1 – 5 Committee proceedings, December 10, 1985
- 6 – 14 Committee proceedings, January 20 – 21, 1986
- 15 – 21 Committee proceedings, February 24, 1986
- 22 – 29 Committee proceedings, April 3, 1986
- 30 – 33 Committee proceedings, May 13 – 14, 1986
- 34 – 39 Committee proceedings, July 28 – 29, 1986
- 40 – 44 Prayer retreat, October 20 – 22, 1986
- 45 Seminary presidents, October 22, 1986
- 46 – 49 Prayer retreat, October 22, 1986

- 50 – 56 Committee proceedings, December 1 – 2, 1986
- 57 – 62 Committee proceedings, January 8 – 9, 1987
- 63 – 67 Committee proceedings, February 18 – 19, 1987
- 68 – 73 Committee proceedings, April 2 – 3, 1987
- 74 – 77 Committee proceedings, May 4, 1987
- 78 – 81 Committee proceedings, June 14, 1987
- 82 – 95 Committee proceedings, May 2 – 4, 1988
- 96 – 97 Pre-Convention meeting, June 12, 1988
- Box 7**
- 98 – 101 Committee proceedings, January 29, 1986
- 102 – 108 Committee proceedings, February 5, 1986
- 109 Edward Taylor, Louisiana College Chapel, November 27, 1984
- 110 – 117 Political activities subcommittee, May 12 – 13, 1986
- 118 – 121 Political activities subcommittee, July 28 – 29, 1986
- 122 – 127 Seminary Presidents meeting, September 18 – 19, 1986
- 128 – 131 Political activities subcommittee, December 1, 1986
- 132 – 133 Political activities subcommittee, January 8, 1987
- 134 Political activities subcommittee, February 18, 1987
- 135 C. R. Daley, July 24, 1984
- 136 “Firestorm Chats,” Judge Paul Pressler, July 6, 1986
- 137 Jack H. Maguire, June 15, 1986
- 138 – 139 Paul Pressler
- 140 – 142 Paul Pressler, Wichita, Kansas, February, 1982
- 143 – 144 Paul Pressler and Laverne Butler, April 26, 1985

145 Paul Pressler, Second Baptist Church, Houston, TX

Box 8

Duplicate set of 145 Audio Tapes, #1 – 145.