

INVENTORY TO THE
BAPTIST PEACE FELLOWSHIP OF NORTH
AMERICA RECORDS

AR. 712



Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

BAPTIST PEACE FELLOWSHIP OF NORTH AMERICA

RECORDS, AR. 712

Summary

Main Entry: Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Records.

Date Span: 1940 - 1998

Abstract:

The records include correspondence of the officers and executive director, articles and addresses on peace issues, brochures, flyers, programs, posters, newspaper clippings, annual reports, financial reports, membership lists, minutes, newsletters, press releases, and publications. The most recent files deal with conferences, the Persian Gulf War, Martin Luther King, racial reconciliation, and other peace issues. The majority of the records cover the period from 1962 to 1998.

Size: 7.5 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 712

Historical Sketch

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America began in the early days of the Second World War. By reading the Scriptures, a group of American Baptists became convicted that the New Testament forbade them to take up arms or to kill. They formed a fellowship of mutual support and encouragement. Later, with the advent of nuclear weapons and Cold War tensions, many others who were not pacifists joined the group out of a common concern to bear witness against the escalation of violence.

In 1979, a group from the Deer Park Baptist Church, a Southern Baptist congregation in Louisville, Kentucky, began meeting to discuss and pray about the need for a stronger witness for peace within the Southern Baptist Convention. The following year, a magazine, the Baptist Peacemaker - a free quarterly tabloid - was born out of that dialogue.

Peacemakers of both the American and Southern Baptist Conventions joined to visit Baptist brothers and sisters in the Soviet Union in 1983. Organized by the Baptist Peace Fellowship, the 50 member delegation wanted to affirm its common faith and Christian love. They returned to the U.S. more convinced than ever of the need to "pursue this testimony of our common Lord." In August of that year, some of the tour members met in Washington, DC, with the leaders of the Baptist Peace Fellowship. At that meeting, the idea of forming a Baptist peacemaking organization - representing Baptists of all North American traditions - was first explored.

March 30 - 31, 1984, representatives from the Baptist Peace Fellowship, the Baptist Peacemaker, local Baptist peacemaker groups, as well as other concerned pastors and lay people, met at Deer Park Church. The group formed and organized the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. The

purpose of the organization is outlined in its promotional brochure. "The purpose of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America is to unite and enable Baptist Christians to make peace in a warring world. We are called by God to witness to the Gospel of Peace. This calling is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ, who is our Peace, in whom God is reconciling the world, and through whom God calls us to the ministry of peacemaking. Peace is not only our goal, but our means. The foundation of Peace is Justice. The force of Peace is Love."

Offices for the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America were originally located in Memphis, Tennessee, and in 1995 moved to Lake Junaluska, North Carolina. In 1984, the Fellowship appointed Ken Sehested as the first executive director.

Scope and Content Note

The records of the Fellowship consist of 7 and 1/2 linear feet of material. Most of the records date from early 1962 to 1998, but the collection does include the Peace Breakfast program at the Northern Baptist Convention in 1940. The records include correspondence of the officers and executive director, articles and addresses on peace issues, brochures, flyers, programs, posters, newspaper clippings, annual reports, financial reports, membership lists, minutes, newsletters, press releases, and publications. Frequent correspondents in the papers from the early years of the collection are: Beverly Donald, James R. Lynch, Donna Reddy, Lillian Robertson, Donald Powers Smith, and Olive Tiller. Frequent correspondents in later years include: Henlee Barnette, Daniel L. But try, John Claypool, Luis Collazo, Paul Dakar, Marie Dennis, Isabel Doc, James Dunn, Ingrid Dvirnak, Paul Hayes, Augie Hillis, Glenn Hinson, Denton Lotz, Jim and Kathy McGinnis, Joe Phelps, Charles Shawver, Glenn Harold Stassen, John Sundquist, and Paula Womack.

The collection includes reactions to the Persian Gulf War and the response of Baptists to the conflict. Also included is information on racial reconciliation, Nicaraguan Baptists, Cuban Baptists, and nuclear weapons testing. The last box of the collection contains limited artifacts and memorabilia (mostly buttons, mugs, sweat shirts and T-shirts) and copies of the Baptist Peacemaker and Peace Work. Copies of Baptist Peacemaker and Peace Work are also located in the periodical collection.

The material in the collection relates to conferences, friendship tours, newsletter production, fund raising, and the issue of peace. The records include writings and reports by the executive director and clippings related to him. The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title. The records are in good condition and have been transferred to acid-free folders. The collection includes some photocopied material. The records were originally deposited in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives in 1989 by the Fellowship. Additions to the collection have been received since that time and are expected in the future.

Arrangement

The collection is arranged in alphabetical order by folder title

Provenance

Deposited in the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America beginning in 1989.

Preferred Citation

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America Records, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Tiller, Olive M. (Olive Marie), 1920 – Correspondence.
Robertson, Lillian – Correspondence
Lynch, James R. – Correspondence
Reddy, Dona – Correspondence
Sehested, Kenneth L.
Smith, Donald Powers – Correspondence
Barnette, Henlee – Correspondence
Buttry, Daniel L. – Correspondence
Claypool, John – Correspondence
Hinson, Glenn – Correspondence
Stassen, Glenn – Correspondence
Womack, Paula – Correspondence
Religion and peace
Peace – Religious aspects – Baptists
Pacifism
Baptists – North America
Baptists – Societies, etc.
Peace – Societies, etc.
Persian Gulf War, 1991 – Religious aspects

Related Materials

Dekar, Paul R. Collection, SBHLA # AR840
“Peacework” – Periodical published by Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America, 1981 - 2007

Folder Listings**Box 1**

- 1.1 American Baptist Convention, 1965
- 1.2 American Baptist Convention - Positions taken on peace issues
- 1.3 American Baptist Peace Action Task Force
- 1.4 American Baptist Peace Conference, 1976
- 1.5 Articles, Addresses, Etc.
- 1.6 Brochures/Flyers Baptist Peace Fellowship
- 1.7 Bryant, Alice Franklin
- 1.8 Buttons
- 1.9 Church Peace Mission, 1965 (Newsletter)
- 1.10 Clippings, 1984 - 1987

- 1.11 Conference Programs - BPFNA, 1986 - 1989
- 1.12 Correspondence, 1963 - 1965
- 1.13 Correspondence, 1971 - 1976
- 1.14 Correspondence, 1977 - 1979
- 1.15 Correspondence, 1980
- 1.16 Correspondence, 1981 - 1984
- 1.17 Correspondence - Dues, Membership, 1968 - 1971
- 1.18 Correspondence - Dues, Membership, 1972 - 1974
- 1.19 Correspondence - Dues, Membership, 1975 - 1983
- 1.20 Director's Report and Financial Statement, 1984 - 1989
- 1.21 Essay Contest - Correspondence and Essays, 1980 - 1981
- 1.22 Fellowship of Reconciliation
- 1.23 Financial Reports, 1962 - 1981 (Scattered)
- 1.24 General Membership Letters, 1985 - 1989 (BPFNA)
- 1.25 King, Martin Luther - Resource Material
- 1.26 Membership
- 1.27 Membership Lists
- 1.28 Minutes, 1964 - 1983 (Scattered)
- 1.29 Nicaragua Baptists
- 1.30 Newsletters, 1970, 1972, 1974
- 1.31 Notices, Flyers, Programs
- 1.32 Officers
- 1.33 Peace and Friendship Tours
- 1.34 Peace Breakfast Program, 1940
- 1.35 Peace Prize
- 1.36 Plowshare, 1975, 1977
- 1.37 Policies, Procedures, Agreements
- 1.38 Posters
- 1.39 Press Releases, 1983 - 1989
- 1.40 Publications (Other Peace Organizations)
- 1.41 Purpose/History
- 1.42 "Seek Peace and Pursue It" - Proceedings from the 1988 International Baptist Peace Conference, August 3 - 7, 1988
- 1.43 Sehested, Ken - "Baptist Peacemakers in North America: A Story, a Strategy, and a Theology." Faith and Mission, fall, 1986
- 1.44 Sehested, Ken "Recipe for Peacemaking"
- 1.45 Tennessee Baptist Peace and Justice Fellowship

Box 2

- 2.1 Applications (pen pals)
- 2.2 Booklet - Williamson, George - "Who is God in the Heat of War in the Hope of Peace?"
- 2.3 Brochures, Flyers, etc.
- 2.4 Brochures, Flyers, etc., 1995 - 1998
- 2.5 Conference Papers, 1991 - Summer Conferences
- 2.6 Conference Papers, 1992 - Summer Conferences

- 2.7 Conference Papers, 1994 - Summer Conferences
- 2.8 Conferences and Meetings
- 2.9 Congressional Directory and Action Guide, 1993
- 2.10 Contribution Letters, August, 1995; July, 1998
- 2.11 Correspondence, January - February, 1984
- 2.12 Correspondence, March - May, 1984
- 2.13 Correspondence, June - August, 1984
- 2.14 Correspondence, September - October, 1984
- 2.15 Correspondence, November - December, 1984
- 2.16 Correspondence, Sent, 1984
- 2.17 Correspondence, January, 1985
- 2.18 Correspondence, February, 1985
- 2.19 Correspondence, March, 1985
- 2.20 Correspondence, April, 1985
- 2.21 Correspondence, May, 1985
- 2.22 Correspondence, June, 1985
- 2.23 Correspondence, July - August, 1985
- 2.24 Correspondence, September, 1985
- 2.25 Correspondence, October, 1985
- 2.26 Correspondence, November - December, 1985
- 2.27 Correspondence, (Sent) -1985
- 2.28 Correspondence, January - February, 1986
- 2.29 Correspondence, March, 1986
- 2.30 Correspondence, April, 1986
- 2.31 Correspondence, May, 1986
- 2.32 Correspondence, June, 1986
- 2.33 Correspondence, July, 1986
- 2.34 Correspondence, August, 1986
- 2.35 Correspondence, September, 1986
- 2.36 Correspondence, October, 1986
- 2.37 Correspondence, November, 1986
- 2.38 Correspondence, December, 1986
- 2.39 Correspondence, (Sent), 1986
- 2.40 Correspondence, January, 1987
- 2.41 Correspondence, February, 1987
- 2.42 Correspondence, March, 1987
- 2.43 Correspondence, April, 1987
- 2.44 Correspondence, May, 1987
- 2.45 Correspondence, June, 1987
- 2.46 Correspondence, July, 1987
- 2.47 Correspondence, August, 1987
- 2.48 Correspondence, September, 1987
- 2.49 Correspondence, October, 1987
- 2.50 Correspondence, November - December, 1987
- 2.51 Correspondence, (Sent), 1987
- 2.52 Correspondence, January, 1988

Box 3

- 3.1 Correspondence, February, 1988
- 3.2 Correspondence, March, 1988
- 3.3 Correspondence, April, 1988
- 3.4 Correspondence, May, 1988
- 3.5 Correspondence, June, 1988
- 3.6 Correspondence, July, 1988
- 3.7 Correspondence, August, 1988
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- 3.25 Correspondence, January, 1990
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- 3.31 Correspondence, July, 1990
- 3.32 Correspondence, August, 1990
- 3.33 Correspondence, September, 1990
- 3.34 Correspondence, October, 1990
- 3.35 Correspondence, November, 1990
- 3.36 Correspondence, December, 1990
- 3.37 Correspondence, January, 1991- Persian Gulf War
- 3.38 Correspondence, February, 1991- Persian Gulf War

Box 4

- 4.1 Correspondence, March, 1991- Persian Gulf War
- 4.2 Correspondence, April, 1991
- 4.3 Correspondence, May, 1991

- 4.4 Correspondence, June, 1991
- 4.5 Correspondence, July, 1991
- 4.6 Correspondence, August, 1991
- 4.7 Correspondence, September, 1991
- 4.8 Correspondence, October, 1991
- 4.9 Correspondence, November, 1991
- 4.10 Correspondence, December, 1991
- 4.11 Correspondence, (Sent), 1991
- 4.12 Correspondence, January, 1992
- 4.13 Correspondence, February, 1992
- 4.14 Correspondence, March, 1992
- 4.15 Correspondence, April, 1992
- 4.16 Correspondence, May, 1992
- 4.17 Correspondence, June - July, 1992
- 4.18 Correspondence, August, 1992
- 4.19 Correspondence, September, 1992
- 4.20 Correspondence, October, 1992
- 4.21 Correspondence, November, 1992
- 4.22 Correspondence, December, 1992
- 4.23 Correspondence, (Sent), 1992
- 4.24 Correspondence, January, 1993
- 4.25 Correspondence, February, 1993
- 4.26 Correspondence, March, 1993
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- 4.30 Correspondence, July, 1993
- 4.31 Correspondence, August, 1993
- 4.32 Correspondence, September, 1993
- 4.33 Correspondence, October, 1993
- 4.34 Correspondence, November, 1993
- 4.35 Correspondence, December, 1993

Box 5

- 5.1 Correspondence, January, 1994
- 5.2 Correspondence, February, 1994
- 5.3 Correspondence, March, 1994
- 5.4 Correspondence, April, 1994
- 5.5 Correspondence, May, 1994
- 5.6 Correspondence, June, 1994
- 5.7 Correspondence, July, 1994
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- 5.11 Correspondence, November, 1994

- 5.12 Correspondence, December, 1994
- 5.13 Correspondence, (Sent), 1994
- 5.14 Correspondence, January - October, 1995
- 5.15 Correspondence, November, 1995
- 5.16 Correspondence, December, 1995
- 5.17 Correspondence, (Sent), 1995
- 5.18 Correspondence, January, 1996
- 5.19 Correspondence, February, 1996
- 5.20 Correspondence, March, 1996
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- 5.29 Correspondence, December, 1996
- 5.30 Correspondence, (Sent), 1996
- 5.31 Correspondence, January, 1997
- 5.32 Correspondence, February, 1997
- 5.33 Correspondence, March, 1997
- 5.34 Correspondence, April, 1997
- 5.35 Correspondence, May, 1997
- 5.36 Correspondence, June, 1997
- 5.37 Correspondence, July, 1997
- 5.38 Correspondence, August, 1997
- 5.39 Correspondence, September, 1997
- 5.40 Correspondence, October, 1997
- 5.41 Correspondence, November - December, 1997
- 5.42 Correspondence, (Sent), 1997
- 5.43 Director's Report, 1987 - 1996
- 5.44 Financial Report, 1990 - 1991, 1994
- 5.45 Financial Statement, 1996
- 5.46 Financial Statement, 1997
- 5.47 Food Bus Project
- 5.48 Gavel - Eileen Rockwood
- 5.49 General Letters to Fellowship/Board, 1986 - 1995
- 5.50 Minutes, 1991 - 1997
- 5.51 Nicaraguan Baptist
- 5.52 Persian Gulf War
- 5.53 Photographs
- 5.54 Practice Hospitality, summer, 1993