

Inventory of the Bryant Wright Papers

AR 932



Bryant Wright speaking at 2011 Southern Baptist Convention

Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives

December 2018

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Summary

Main Entry: Bryant Wright Papers

Date Span: 2010-2012

Abstract: Collection of papers related to the presidential service of Bryant Wright, President of the Southern Baptist Convention from 2010 to 2012. Collection includes mostly correspondence, articles, committee files, and recordings of the Southern Baptist Name Change Committee. The correspondence is mainly letters of congratulations, communications from denominational executives, and seminary presidents, and also includes letters from Southern Baptist pastors about concerns in the denomination and the country.

Size: 1.25 linear ft. (3 document boxes)

Collection #: AR 932

Biographical Sketch

Bryant Wright was born in Columbia, South Carolina. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Carolina in 1974. Following graduation, he was employed as a salesman for Puritan Chemical in Augusta, Georgia. At the age of 24 he felt God's called to ministry. He completed his Master of Divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1980. He received honorary doctorates from SEFOVAN Seminary in Madrid, Spain and the University of South Carolina in May, 2011. In 1981, he became senior pastor of the Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in northwest metro Atlanta. In 1992, he founded Right From the Heart Ministries, a radio, television, and internet ministry that airs 30-60 second inspirational spots on secular radio and television. On November 25, 2018 he announced his plans to step down as pastor of the Johnson Ferry Baptist Church.

In 2010 he was elected as President of the Southern Baptist Convention. He won the election over three other candidates and was reelected without opposition in 2011, thus serving two years as president.

Scope and Content Note

The presidential papers of Bryant Wright include photocopies of his emails and correspondence as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. The correspondence is primarily with denominational leaders and pastors across the Southern Baptist Convention and some non-Baptist church leaders. It includes incoming and outgoing correspondence. The topics covered

in the correspondence include: the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force, same sex marriage, racism, homosexuality, congratulatory letters, and the SBC name change committee.

The collection also includes articles and statements by Wright as president of the Southern Baptist Convention, copies of *SBC Life* for 2011 and 2012, and audio recordings of the meetings of the SBC Name Change Committee. The articles in the papers include biographical stories, interviews with Wright, and stories about his role as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Most of the articles are from Baptist Press or state Baptist newspapers. The collection includes numerous stories related to the Name Change Task Force.

Arrangement

The collection is divided into two sections by his presidential terms and then arranged in alphabetical order by folder title.

Provenance

Donated by Bryant Wright, 2015.

Preferred Citation

Bryant Wright Papers, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Access Restrictions

None

Subject Terms

Wright, Bryant

Southern Baptist Convention. Name Change Task Force

Southern Baptist Convention. Great Commission Resurgence Task Force

Southern Baptist Convention – Presidents

Related Materials

Baptist History File, Bryant Wright

Container List

Box 1

- 1.1 Articles – June 2010
- 1.2 Articles – July - September, 2010
- 1.3 Articles – October – December, 2010
- 1.4 Articles – January – March, 2011
- 1.5 Articles – April – June, 2011
- 1.6 Correspondence – A-C, 2010-2011
- 1.7 Correspondence – D-F, 2010-2011
- 1.8 Correspondence – G-J, 2010-2011
- 1.9 Correspondence – K-L, 2010-2011
- 1.10 Correspondence – M, 2010-2011

- 1.11 Correspondence – N-R, 2010-2011
- 1.12 Correspondence – S, 2010-2011
- 1.13 Correspondence – T-Z, 2010-2011

Box 2

- 2.1 Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, 2010-2011
- 2.2 *SBC Life*, 2010-2011
- 2.3 White House, 2010-2011
- 2.4 Articles – June, 2011
- 2.5 Articles – July – September, 2011
- 2.6 Articles – October – December, 2011
- 2.7 Articles – January – March, 2012
- 2.8 Articles – April – June, 2012
- 2.9 Correspondence – A-B, 2011-2012
- 2.10 Correspondence – C, 2011-2012
- 2.11 Correspondence – D-F, 2011-2012
- 2.12 Correspondence – G, 2011-2012
- 2.13 Correspondence – H, 2011-2012

Box 3

- 3.1 Correspondence – I-L, 2011-2012
- 3.2 Correspondence – M-O, 2011-2012
- 3.3 Correspondence – P-R, 2011-2012
- 3.4 Correspondence – S-T, 2011-2012
- 3.5 Correspondence – U-Z, 2011-2012
- 3.6 Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, 2011-2012
- 3.7 *SBC Life*, 2011-2012
- 3.8 SBC – Name Change Task Force meeting, Oct. 26, 2011 (Includes audio recording)
- 3.9 SBC – Name Change Task Force Meeting, Dec. 7, 2011 (Includes audio recording)
- 3.10 SBC – Name Change – Articles, September – December, 2011
- 3.11 SBC – Name Change – Articles – January – June, 2012