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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

Withdrawer

KDB 9/5/2006

File Folder PRAYER IN SCHOOLS (2)

FOIA

F05-0103/01

Box Number 9086

HABERMAN

4

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	MEMO	BLACKWELL TO ELIZABETH DOLE RE TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOL PRAYER AMENDMENT	2	7/16/1982	B6
2	MEMO	SAME MEMO AS IN DOC #1	2	7/16/1982	B6

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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PENDING REVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH E.O. 13233
Ronald Reagan Library

Collection: Blackwell, Morton C.: Files
OA/Box: ~~9086~~ 9081
File Folder: Prayer in Schools (2)

Archivist: kdb
FOIA ID: F05-103/1, Haberman
Date: 4/9/07

gta 4/30/08


DOCUMENT NO. & TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
A. memo	Blackwell to Elizabeth Dole re proposed constitutional amendment on school prayer. 2p	5/5/82	<i>OJENSO 6/3/2009 JK</i>

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 10, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ANNE HIGGINS

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Letters on School Prayer and Balanced Budget Amendments

Attached is a letter from our good friend Walt Longyear, who is working with organizations strongly supporting the President's proposed Voluntary School Prayer Amendment and the Balanced Budget - Tax Limitation Amendment which has been "endorsed" by the Administration through Congressional testimony of Dave Stockman.

I believe it would be very helpful for the President to write letters to Martha Rountree, President of Leadership Action, and Senator Helms on these two topics.

Longyear attached drafts of proposed letters to be signed by the President.

I would appreciate your arranging for these drafts, or appropriately modified letters, to be signed by the President and sent to Miss Rountree and Senator Helms.

The Viguerie Company

A Direct Mail Advertising Agency

7777 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia 22043, (703) 356-0440

June 1, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Room 191
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Morton,

I'm sending these two letters to you with the hope that President Reagan will send them to our clients.

The first one is to Senator Jesse Helms. The letter deals with the Balance the Budget Amendment.

The second one is to Martha Rountree. It deals with prayer in public schools.

I would appreciate your help in securing President Reagan's approval of these letters. Please call me if you have any questions about them.

Cordially,



Walter Longyear
Account Supervisor

Enclosures:
Two letters

WL/bpk

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D.C.

Dear Martha

I appreciate the efforts you and Leadership Action are making to bring back voluntary prayer to our public schools.

As U.S. Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart stated, "we are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being."

We are a nation under God. We proclaim it in our Pledge of Allegiance. We engrave it on our coins. The Congress and the Supreme Court acknowledge it at the opening of every day.

The only public places where prayer is banned are our public schools. Yet prayers were permitted in school for the first 170 years of this nation.

Only since the U.S. Supreme Court decision of 1962 have prayers been banned in school.

Yet our Founding Fathers meant the First Amendment of the Constitution to enhance, not restrict, the opportunities of Americans to make religious observances in their daily lives.

Moreover, a wealth of national poll data shows overwhelming public support for restoring voluntary school prayer.

The best way to ensure a return to voluntary prayer in our schools is for Americans to make their views known to Congress.

It is important for Americans to contact their Senators and Congressmen, with letters, postcards, telegrams and phone calls, urging their lawmakers to support school prayer.

I want to thank you, Martha, and Leadership Action for your work to bring back school prayer and I support your efforts to rally Americans behind the school prayer movement.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Miss Martha Rountree, President
Leadership Action
7945 MacArthur Boulevard
Cabin John, Maryland 20818

THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington

Dear Jesse,

Thank you for all the work which you and The Congressional Club Foundation, Inc. are doing to pass a Balance the Budget Amendment.

Every American family knows that they must live within a budget. The same should be true for government.

Congress can't continue to spend more than what is available without causing serious economic problems.

We have seen that the liberal philosophy of high spending and higher taxes over the last 40 years has given us the longest sustained inflation in history, the highest rates in 100 years, 8 recessions since World War II and a trillion dollar debt.

The temptations to spend more money are always there for Congress. It is difficult for them to say "No". Only a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget will force Congress to stay within the limits of it's budget.

My Administration will continue to reduce the growth in the size and cost of the federal government.

Once my Administration has achieved a balanced budget I want to ensure that we keep it for many years, long after I have left office. There is only one hope for that; a Balance the Budget Amendment.

Great causes have been won or lost because one side or the other lacked that last reserve of character and stamina -- of faith and fortitude -- to see it's way through to success. That's why it's so important now for Americans to contact their Congressmen and Senators with postcards, letters and phone calls in support of a Balanced Budget Amendment.

I appreciate your role in making this happen. And I support the efforts of The Congressional Club Foundation, Inc. to rally the American people behind a Balance the Budget Amendment.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

U.S. Senator Jesse Helms
Honorary Chairman
The Congressional Club Foundation, Inc.
Post Office Box 27205
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611

School Prayer file

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 23, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH H. DOLE

THRU: DIANA LOZANO
FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL *MB*
SUBJECT: School Prayer

The attached memo from Gary Jarmin, who is co-chairman of the school prayer amendment coalition explains the critical situation we face on the school prayer amendment.

Even if we pass this amendment in the Senate, which is certainly possible, it will be bottled up in the U.S. House unless we implement the basic legislative strategy outlined in Jarmin's memo.

We are scheduling a meeting with Bob Thompson and the outside groups to discuss legislative strategy early next week. But if we cannot give credible assurances of White House commitment to fight fiercely to get signatures on a discharge petition, it is impossible to expect outside groups to expend major efforts to pass this amendment.

To date neither the President nor any major Administration figures have given the Congress any reason to believe that we are prepared to take vigorous action on this amendment this year.

Project Prayer

418 C Street, NE • Carriage House • Washington, DC 20002 • 202/546-7977

Coalition Members

Act Ministries Inc.
American Christian Cause
Americans for God
American Gold Star Mothers
American Life Lobby
Rev. Claud Logan Asbury
Dr. Ben Armstrong
National Religious Broadcasters*
Rev. Raymond W. Barber
Mr. George Benson
American Heritage Center*
Pastor Fletcher Brothers
John R. Bruehl
Mrs. Hill McAllister Burch
Catholics for Christian Political Action
The Christian Inquirer
Christian Service Corp.
Christian Voice
Christian Voice Moral Govt. Fund
Conservative Caucus
Conservative Victory Fund
Mr. Richard Ford
Enterprise Consultants
Faith Ministries
Family and Freedom Foundation
Family Life Seminars
Pastor Mels Garbonell
Peter B. Gemma, Jr.
National Pro-life PAC*
General Federation of Womens Clubs
Vernie R. Glasson
American Farm Bureau Federation*
Dr. Robert Grant
Richard Headrick
Robert Heckman
Young Americans for Freedom*
Rev. Morton A. Hill, SJ
Morality in Media*
Iowa Conservative Union
George B. Jones
Kentucky Heritage Foundation
Kim Ministries
Leadership Action
Rev. Tim LaHaye
Life Action Ministries
Life Amendment PAC
Rev. Ron Maar
Maryland Federation of Catholic Laity
Maryland Interfaith Community to
Restore Optional School Prayer
Mid America Conservative PAC
Moral Majority
National Alliance of Senior Citizens
National Back to God
National Christian Action Coalition
National Conference of American
Ethnic Groups
Howard Phillips
Dr. William Powell
Protect America's Children
The Right Woman
Ron Robison
Young America Foundation*
Louise Ropog
Family America*
Ed Rowe
Roundtable Issues and Answers*
Southern Baptist Journal
Kathy Teague
American Legislative Exchange
Council*
Texas Eagle Forum
Trinity Communicators
John C. Webb
LaNeil S. Wright
Project Director
Gary L. Jarmin

July 20, 1982

TO: Morton Blackwell
FROM: Gary Jarmin
RE: School Prayer Amendment Strategy in Congress

We have encountered a critical situation which will make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to get a vote in the House on the school prayer amendment. The following is based on my discussions with Virginia Chamberlain in Tom Kindness' office and with Dave Hoppe in Trent Lott's shop:

Because of the terribly late introduction of the amendment, we will only have 11 or 12 legislative days in late July and early August to acquire the necessary 218 signers on a discharge petition. Here are the reasons: (1) The discharge petition can not be filed until July 28th because of the required 30 legislative days it must sit in committee from the time the amendment was introduced until the petition can be filed; (2) The petition must sit for seven legislative days once it has acquired the 218 signers before it can be brought to the floor for a vote; (3) It can only be voted on the second or fourth Monday of the month; (4) The only Monday it can be voted on is September 13 (the House will not be in session on Sept. 27 and will be in recess as of October 11). Therefore, we have until August 13 at the latest to acquire the necessary 218 signatures -- at best 13 days to obtain 218 signers.

It will be virtually impossible to obtain the required 218 signatures in this short space of time unless we have the full and active support on the President, White House Congressional Liason and Republican leadership in the House. We will, of course, maintain an aggressive, grassroots lobbying campaign, however, this alone will not do the job. I have been through discharge petition wars before and none have been successful unless key leadership forces in Congress and the White House combine to mount an aggressive campaign.

*Organization listed for identification purposes only

Here, at a minimum, is what I and others believe must be done to make this discharge petition successful: (1) The President must give Duberstein's shop marching orders to pressure members to sign the discharge petition; (2) The White House must pressure Bob Michel to help lead the charge; and (3) The President must become personally involved to whatever extent is feasible; i.e., call Bob Michel, participate in publicity/media events, call other members of Congress, etc..

The primary reason we are in this predicament is because the White House waited much too long to get this legislation introduced. Thus, the Administration has placed upon outside pressure groups an almost impossible task to achieve. Had the White House initiated this amendment in March or April, we would have had more time to acquire signers. Instead we will only have 12 or 13 days to accomplish this difficult task.

Again, without some major backing by the White House, there will be no vote in the House. The best we can hope for is a vote in the Senate which looks almost certain. Should we fail to achieve a vote in the House, it will not be due to a lack of interest or effort on our part. But the White House must recognize the extremely difficult situation they have put us in and accept some responsibility to help apply pressure on Congress to move on this issue.

Please call me at the earliest possible convenience to discuss the above in more detail. Many thanks for your thoughtful consideration of the above.

cc: Connie Marshner

JUL 26 REC'D

[Handwritten signature]

Since 1860
For Christ and
His Kingdom

Wheaton
College

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 21, 1982

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

Recently I received a photograph of the luncheon held at The White House on Tuesday, April 13, 1982.

This is to thank you for the photograph and also for the invitation to be present for this very meaningful occasion.

For our part, we are seeking to do what we can to encourage initiative in the private sector in meeting the economic and social needs of our fellow citizens. Because of our character as a Christian college, we also are seeking to meet the spiritual needs of those with whom we come into contact.

Sincerely yours,

[Handwritten signature: Hudson T. Armending]
HUDSON T. ARMENDING
President

HTA:mab

JUL 24 REC'D

[Handwritten initials]

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MIAMI

FROM THE RISING TO THE SETTING OF THE SUN IS THE NAME OF THE LORD TO BE PRAISED

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

July 20, 1982

*file
School Prayer*

Ms. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ms. Dole:

May I thank you for your letter of June 7 enclosing the recap of the remarks of the President in the White House Rose Garden ceremony, when he announced his intention to submit legislation to the Congress to permit voluntary prayer in public schools.

Our President's concern over preserving the religious heritage of our nation is indeed heartening.

Sincerely yours,

Edward A. McCarthy

Edward A. McCarthy
Archbishop of Miami

EAM:mm



THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF
THE VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA

Founded in 1896 by Ballington and Maud Booth

SUITE 202, 3939 N. CAUSEWAY BOULEVARD, METAIRIE, LOUISIANA 70002

*file
School
Prayer*

Office of
Ray C. Tremont
Commander in Chief

July 29, 1982

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I appreciate your informing us as to the status of the President's proposed Voluntary School Prayer Amendment.

We have communicated our support for the bill to both houses of Congress.

Sincerely,

Ray C. Tremont

Ray C. Tremont
General

RCT:sl

file
School prayer

McAteer emerges as mover, shaker of religious right

By Helen Parmley
Religion Editor of The News

As President Reagan prepared to announce support for a constitutional prayer amendment last May, aide Morton C. Blackwell and New Right leader Edward E. McAteer nervously watched the heavy iron gate to the Rose Garden at the White House.

They were awaiting the arrival of Adrian Rogers, McAteer's pastor at Bellvue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tenn., a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention and an influential leader of the ultra-conservative wing that has gained control of the denomination in the past few years.

Nearly every mainline denomination and religious faith had gone on record opposing the prayer amendment. The SBC, the largest Protestant denomination in the United States, traditionally had rejected state-sanctioned school prayer to conform with its historic position favoring separation of church and state.

Rogers' presence at the presidential endorsement ceremony, therefore, would be a symbolic showcase of support for the Reagan stand. The scenario, carefully orchestrated by McAteer, turned out to be one of his few failures. Rogers didn't make the ceremony because of airplane connection problems; he did issue a statement supporting the prayer amendment.

McAteer has emerged as a rising star in the New Right politics of the Reagan administration and in the ultra-conservative power group of the 13.8 million-member SBC. He is founder-president of Religious Roundtable, which he organized in 1979 to work for New Right causes and the election of Reagan. He provided the launching pad for the symbiotic relationship between Reagan and the New Right by sponsoring a massive pre-election national rally in Dallas with Reagan as featured speaker.

That Dallas rally was an overwhelming success, as evangelists Jerry Falwell and James Robison shared the speaking platform with Reagan and drew national headlines.

McAteer, 56, is a tall man with thinning hair and rosy cheeks who wears a perpetual smile. Although he has an inexhaustible repertoire of stories he repeats to anyone who will listen, by his own admission he is no public speaker.

For 30 years, he was in the sales and marketing division of Colgate-Palmolive Co. and has marshaled those skills into an formidable national campaign to implement ultra-conservative principles into American life.

A fervent born-again Baptist layman, he flies around the country in a private plane, working behind the scenes to move people into place, setting the stage for the next

phase of his zealous crusade to return the country to old-time religion and morality.

He espouses a radical fundamentalist doctrine that opposes the Equal Rights Amendment, abortion and "abnormal, anti-Bible lifestyles," and promotes military buildup, tuition tax credits and the school prayer amendment.

It was his unstinting efforts to deliver Southern Baptist Convention support of the school prayer amendment to the White House that in recent weeks has propelled him from the shadows of the more flashy and flamboyant Falwells and Robisons to the center stage of the New Right movement.

Presidential aide Blackwell confirmed in a telephone interview that McAteer had predicted months ago that when the SBC's annual meeting convened in June, it "was going to pass a resolution in favor of the president's voluntary school prayer amendment."

It was a perilous forecast, since it would entail a 180-degree reversal from the traditional SBC position.

Blackwell had reason to doubt McAteer's boast that day in the Rose Garden when Reagan announced his support for the prayer amendment.

"Rogers didn't show up for the ceremony," McAteer recalled. "Later, Morton (Blackwell) called me and said he had gotten word that the reason Rogers didn't show was that he was going to oppose the prayer amendment at the Southern Baptists' annual meeting."

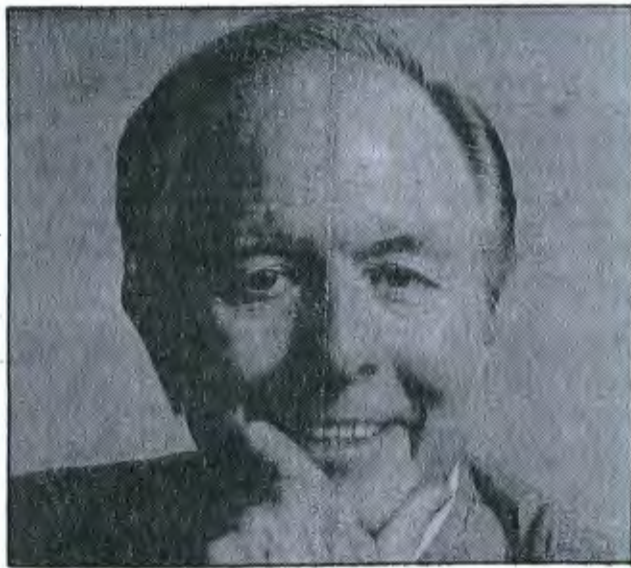
"I assured him that was absolutely, unequivocally not a fact," McAteer said.

McAteer's efforts to win Baptist approval of the amendment were assured when SBC President Bailey Smith appointed Norris W. Sydnor Jr., a longtime associate of McAteer and a director of the Maryland chapter of Religious Roundtable, as chairman of the annual SBC convention's resolutions committee.

It was the first convention Sydnor had attended. "He asked me to serve as his consultant," McAteer said.

When the appointment was announced, McAteer took Sydnor to meet the hierarchy of the denomination, guiding him through hotels and stopping to chat with the "right" people. McAteer attended the resolutions committee meetings with Sydnor and, finally, sat on the convention platform to "counsel" Sydnor as resolutions were brought to the floor.

Weeks before the convention, McAteer arranged for Charles Stanley of First Baptist Church in Atlanta (a member of Moral Majority) and Morris Chapman of First Baptist Church in Wichita Falls, two of the denomination's most eloquent fundamentalist preachers, to speak for the prayer amendment resolu-



Edward E. McAteer . . . a rising star in the New Right.

tion when it reached the floor.

When it was over, the messengers voted by a 3-1 margin in favor of the amendment. McAteer credited God with the victory; others claim it was McAteer who single-handedly delivered the approval.

"Ed McAteer is the one person most responsible for this dramatic shift in social and political attitudes as experienced in the SBC resolutions," said Stan Hasey of the Baptist Joint Committee in Washington, D.C., who reports on the convention for the Baptist Press.

"Smith, Rogers and McAteer indisputably accomplished one of McAteer's primary objectives as a mover and shaker in the New

Right," Hasey said. "They have for the first time put the SBC on record in support of extremist political causes."

Blackwell, elated by the results, said he relayed his appreciation.

Public Broadcasting Service for the past few months has been following McAteer around the country, filming his activities on behalf of New Right causes. The result will be aired nationwide as an hour-long documentary (in Dallas at 8 p.m. on Channel 13) July 30.

"It has several scenes in Dallas," McAteer said. "I'm about 80 percent pleased with that thing. I wouldn't have changed much, except I saw I need to lose about 40 pounds. I have no complaints."

COLLECTION I

Japanese in Chautauque

The 40-voice Konan Women's College Choir from Kobe, Japan, will present the second in a series of Chautauque programs at 8 p.m. Sunday at First United Methodist Church.

The choir, which is making its first U.S. tour, is under the direction of Mitsukazu Suwaki, who received a certificate in church music from Southern Methodist University and his master's degree in music under the direction of Lloyd Pfautsch of SMU.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Zelene Lovitt was elected president of Congregation Beth Torah Conservative synagogue in Richardson, this week. She joins a group of women who hold top leadership posts at Jewish houses of worship across the United States. A teacher at Akiba Academy, Mrs. Lovitt is studying for her master's degree in special education at the University of Texas at Dallas.

The Rev. Walter A. Bennett, Presbyterian minister from Dallas, has been appointed director of church relations at Austin College in Sherman. The interim pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church succeeds the Rev. John P. Mintz.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD
721 Easton Rd.
Phone 341-0700
Rev. Edward Roush, Pastor
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
10:45 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:30 P.M.—Evening Worship
7:30 P.M.—Wednesday Family Night

CALVARY TEMPLE OF IRVING

1400 W. Graywyler—Irving
J. Don George, Pastor
251-2663
9:30 A.M.—Morning Worship
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship (Sunday School at both hours)
6:00 P.M.—Evening Praise
7:30 P.M.—Wednesday—Christian Growth Classes

"SUNDAY NIGHT LIVE"
Ch. 39—11 p.m.
"WHAT'S HAPPENING LINE"
251-1181

TRINITY ASSEMBLY NEW LIFE CENTER

1410 Pleasant Run Rd. (Between Cedar Hill and DeSoto)
David Smith, Pastor
SUNDAY: Phone 291-2501
Sunday School—9:00 A.M.
Worship Service—10:15 A.M.
Evening Celebration—6:00 P.M.
Wednesday:
Royal Rangers—7:15 P.M.
Missionaries—7:15 P.M.
Youth Meetings—7:15 P.M.
Word and Worship—7:15 P.M.
Trinity Christian School Grades K (3, 4, 5) thru 12
Glenn Fox, Administrator

BAPTIST

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Ervey at San Jacinto
Dr. W.A. Crieswell, Pastor
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
8:15 & 10:50 A.M.—Morning Worship
5:45 P.M.—Training Union
7:00 P.M.—Evening Worship
7:30 P.M.—Wed. Prayer Mt. Radio
KCB 189.3 FM 8:15 A.M.
KCB 189.3 FM 10:50 A.M.
KCB 189.3 FM 7:00 P.M.
KRLD 1080 AM 9:00 P.M.
KPBC 1040 AM 11:00 A.M.
KXAS-TV Ch. 5 9:30 A.M.

Church Directory

RICHARDSON HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

701 West Bell Line
Phone: 238-77243
9:00 A.M.—10:10—First Worship Service & Sunday School
10:30 A.M.—11:40—Second Worship Service & Sunday School
Sunday Evening Service—8:45 P.M.
Wed. Evening Service—6:00 P.M.

VICKERY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Jeff Moore, Pastor
5814 Ridgecrest Rd.
Just off Greenville
One Blk. N. Park Ln.
Phone 361-1639
9:45 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:30 P.M.—Evening Worship
7:00 P.M.—Wed. Worship Service

WILSHIRE BAPTIST CHURCH

4316 Abrams Road
Dallas, Texas 75214
Bruce McIver, Pastor
9:30 A.M.—Sunday School
11:00 A.M.—Morning Worship
5:45 P.M.—Church Training
7:00 P.M.—Evening Worship

CHRISTIAN

For a more exciting blend of music, worship, fellowship—attend this Sunday.

EAST BALLAS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

629 N. Peak 824-8185
(Your near downtown Disciple Congregation)
Dr. James K. Hempstead, Pastor
8:30 A.M.—Chapel Worship
9:00 A.M.—Children's Choirs
9:30 A.M.—Church School Classes
10:50 A.M.—Sanctuary Worship
4:00 P.M.—Youth Groups

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE Churches

DALLAS AREA

PRESTON ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

6408 Preston Road
Tom Gaumer, Minister
Dan R. Burden, Educational Director
9:00 A.M.—Sunday Bible Classes
10:00 A.M.—Worship
6:00 P.M.—Worship
7:30 P.M.—Wednesday Service
School of Preaching
626-7715
Teaching Ministers: Alfred Lee, Jimmy Wood

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

"The friendly church in beautiful North Dallas"
3330 Walnut Hill Lane, 352-3964
Danny Hawk, Minister
9:30 A.M.—Sunday Bible Study
10:30 A.M.—Morning Worship
6:00 P.M.—Evening Worship
7:30 P.M.—Wednesday Service
Make friends with our Young Marrieds Class

EPISCOPAL

ST. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL (Episcopal)

5100 Ross Ave. (at Garrett)
The Very Rev. C. P. Willes, Ph.D. Dean
Summer Sunday Services
7:30 A.M.—The Holy Eucharist (said) followed by breakfast
10:00 A.M.—Sung Eucharist and sermon.
12:30 P.M.—Sung Eucharist in Spanish
Weekday Services
Mon. 10 A.M., Tues. 6:30 A.M., Wed. 10 A.M., Thurs. 6:30 P.M., Fri. 12 Noon
Sat. 8:30 A.M.
Penance at 12:30 p.m. Fri. or by appointment

INDEPENDENT BIBLE

SCOFFIELD MEMORIAL

DALLAS AREA

LUTHERAN

CHRIST LUTHERAN
3001 Lovers L
4 Blks. W. of Cen
363-4352
Dr. A.P. Nassen, Sunday 9:30 & 11
Sunday School—Adult Bible Classes
Child Development Monday through 7:00-8:00 P.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

5121 East Love (at Skilma)
363-1639 or 36
Rev. Kenneth R. Klopp, Assistant Pastor
6:00 AM & 10:30 A.M.—Worship
9:15 A.M.—Sunday Bible Classes

ATTECHURCH SUNDAY

METHODIST

PRESTON ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6315 Walnut Hill (One Block E. of Pr)
363-4392
Sunday School
Worship Service M.Y.F.
Day Care-Fine Arts
Charles A. Nest
Jack Busby, Pt.

FIRST UNIT METHODIST CHURCH

Rose at Harv
Dr. Walker L. Ralle
8:45 A.M.—Morning
9:45 A.M.—Church
11:00 A.M.—Morning
1:00 P.M.—Fellowship

50th ANNIVERSARY Celebration
* DR. CURTIS HUTSON
Editor: Sword of THE LORD
Preacher

PRESCRIPTION COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1982

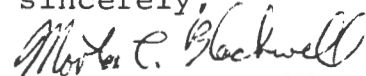
Dear Dr. Janney:

Thank you for your kind comments in your last letter. Although it will ultimately depend on God's will for Conservatives to stay in power, it will depend a great deal on the efforts of you and many other Americans.

I enjoy speaking but we do not have an ample budget. Mrs. Dole enjoys speaking to Christian groups and I encourage you to write to her.

I also want to congratulate you on your nomination to participate with the Task Force on Private Sector Initiatives. Your help will be greatly appreciated by many.

sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Dr. Al Janney, President
American Association of
Christian Schools
1017 N. School St.
Normal, Il. 61761



American Association of Christian Schools

Dr. A. C. Janney
President

Dr. A. Q. Weniger, Jr.
Executive
Vice President

Rev. G. B. Carlson
Field
Director

Rev. James Munro
Educational
Consultant

Mr. Jack Clayton
Washington
Representative

June 23, 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Morton,

Thank you for being where you are, that you were willing in years past to pay the price when we Conservatives were outsiders and hang-in-there and now by your example we are insiders. God grant that it shall ever be so!

Thank you for the note about the Voluntary School Prayer Amendment. We are doing what we can to help in this matter.

I would also like to express my appreciation for you probably had something to do with my name being included in Task Force on Private Sector Initiatives. I suppose that we are a bit like the little boy who ask to kiss the girl and she said yes and he wasn't sure what to do next.

I feel deeply sympathetic for our President and I wish there was something that we could do to help more effectively. What would be the White House policy and your desire for you to be available to speak in any of our Conventions? If you would be available what kind of financial arrangements would be expected? One other question, is there any possibility of getting Mrs. Dole as a speaker for a Convention of Christian Schools?

Sincerely,

A.C. Janney

Dr. Al Janney

ACJ/cs

for Draft reply - I enjoy speaking but we do not have an ample amount of funds. Mrs. Dole enjoys speaking to groups. I can go to work.

JACKSON, WALKER, WINSTEAD, CANTWELL & MILLER
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS
43RD FLOOR FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202
(214) 655-2911

655-2002

August 16, 1982

CABLE-JWAL
TELEX-73-385
TELECOPIER-(214) 655-2032

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D. C.

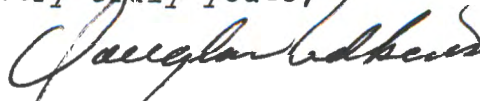
Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you very much for furnishing to me copies of the proposed Voluntary School Prayer Amendment to the Constitution and the proposed Tuition Tax Credit Bill. I am strongly in favor of each of the measures.

For some time now I have intended to send a letter to the President commending him for his outstanding leadership. Regardless of what is read in the press and regardless of politically inspired critical remarks made by members of the Democratic Party, the vast majority of people in this country give him extremely high marks as our leader. He is especially to be commended for "sticking to his guns" in connection with promises made during the time that he campaigned for the office. He remains alone in being a president who tries to fulfill campaign promises, regardless of how his party, the Congress or his advisors try to change his mind. I commend and encourage him to continue to strive to attain the goals of reducing inflation, making our Country stronger militarily and returning our Country to the basic values upon which it was built. I continue to pray for him daily.

With kindest regards, I am

Very truly yours,



M. DOUGLAS ADKINS

MDA/nbl

BOLIVAR COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER ONE

Phone
759 - 3587

J. Y. Trice, Assistant Superintendent

Post Office
Drawer 819

Rosedale, Mississippi 38769

May 31, 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for the communication dated May 27, 1982 relative to the President's proposed voluntary school prayer as amended, which he sent to congress, and is sponsored in the senate by Senator J. Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, and in the House of Representative by Representative Thomas N. Kindess.

Please be assured that our congressional deligation has been called upon to support the President's program.

Sincerely yours,


J. Y. Trice

P.S. Please make the following corrections in my name spelling.

It should be J. Y. Trice instead of A. J. Tryce.

Thank You.

See to
change.
MB

J. Y. TRICE

DONE -

Doug Martin

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 15, 1982

Mrs. John Cowell Fosgate
106 S. Interlachen, Apt. 619
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Dear Mrs. Fosgate:

Thank you for your letter of August 27 relating to the President's proposed voluntary prayer amendment.

There is much in your letter that I agree with, but I think there are excellent reasons to support the President's proposed amendment.

You say that "we may pray in secret every hour of the day wherever we are." One tragic result of the series of anti-prayer decisions by the Federal courts is that prayer in school has been reduced to the status of pornography, liquor, and other drugs. That is, prayer is so "dangerous" that school authorities must prevent any public expression of prayer.

Did you know that one Federal court upheld a principal's ruling that kindergarten children could not say grace before a meal? A Federal court has also ruled that public school children may not assemble voluntarily to pray on school premises before or after class.

Last June I delivered a commencement address at a public high school in Manassas, Virginia, and the principal apologized to me for "breaking the law" by having a Baptist minister offer an invocation. This is not neutrality; this is not freedom of religion; this is surely not what the founders of our country intended by the First Amendment.

This is a difficult problem, and honorable people can disagree as to what should be done about it. Enclosed is a copy of a White House Issue Update which discusses the matter in more detail.

I hope this information is of interest to you.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

①

Mrs. John Cowell Fosgate
106 S. Interlachen, Apt. 619
Winter Park, Florida 32789

August 27, 1982

My dear Mr. Blackwell,

I wrote Barbara Bush a letter concerning my opinion on the Prayer Amendment issue and she felt my expression was meaningful and enlightening and asked that I write to you giving me your name.

On a separate sheet I have listed a few of the silent majority of those deeply committed Christians who, like I, oppose the use of prayer, the most powerful force in the world, by the political right as a ploy for power and notoriety.

Pres. Reagan is just being exploited by this group that own

2.

our Lord would have said "Woe,
be it, you Pharisees."

If one understands the true
meaning of prayer, they know
that prayer is the deepest
impulse of the soul of man.

If true prayer (which is
listening as well as speaking) consisted
in outward practices only, then
it could be destroyed by laws
forbidding those practices. But,
true prayer is spirit and so
no law or jail or deprivation
prevents the Children of God
from Communion with Him
through the Avenue of Prayer -

God does not need the
moral majority or any man
to make prayer available
or ask its bestowal. He has
already seen to that.

We do not need organized

Mrs. John Cowell Fosgate
 106 S. Interlachen, Apt. 619
 Winter Park, Florida 32789

prayer or our Constitution meddled with. We already have prayer ^{in our} ~~in our~~ ^{Constitution}, as God sees it, protected.

Our little ones can learn to pray with their parents before school. There is nothing to hinder them praying on the bus or walking to school, at lunch time, in the rest room or the play ground — We may pray in secret every hour of the day wherever we are — even in the classroom and no one need know but God who is everywhere and always available and hears our prayers and answers —

If we had prayer in the classroom, led by a teacher or ^{over}

person who would police the class to see if the leader were a Moonie, Scientologist, Kama cultists, or one of the other hundreds of cults? — a new one is a "rebirth-ing" cult. Tragic!

I would rather my seven precious grandchildren learn their A B C's in school and leave the prayer to our churches and parents.

Since our marvelous President is beginning to see "the light" in other decisions, maybe he will be enlightened by God to realize how naive he has been regarding this issue of prayer and its pushers.

God must have seen the danger of prayer "brainwashing" in our schools by some of our "way out" religions and allowed

5.

Mrs. John Cowell Fosgate
106 S. Interlachen, Apt. 619
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Madelaine O'Hare to take it
out for this very reason!

"Gods Kingdom cometh without
observation" and there are
thousand of us who have been
silent long enough - we are not
known, but we have God on
our side - He will not be
mocked and He will not let
the Falwells of this world ~~to~~
use Him for self glory.

I have taught an in-depth
prayer study group for ten
years in my Pres. Church
and I do not want organized
prayer forced on anyone.

Our Gen. Assembly of The Pres.

Church recently declared opposition
to any prayer amendment as
did the United Methodist Church
Bishop.

I have had correspondence
from those names listed and
they too oppose the issue.
They are all for prayer, yes.
but what are we talking
about when we say the word
prayer?

My sincere best wishes
to you in your responsible
and awesome position.

May God's will prevail.

Sincerely yours

Kathryn B. Fosgate
Mrs. John C.

Mrs. John Cowell Foegate
106 S. Interlachen, Apt. 619
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Dr. John F. Anderson Jr. Moderator of
Gen. Assembly of Pres. Church U.S.
408 Park Ave. Dallas Texas

Dr. Chas Allen - First United Methodist
Church of Houston Texas 1320
Main St. (Largest Methodist)
Noted author + pastor Church in U.S.

Dr. Wm B. Ogleby Jr. Prof. of Pastoral
Counseling Union Theo. Seminary
Richmond Va.

The Right Rev. Wm H. Folwell D.D.
Bishop of Diocese of Central Fla
Episcopal Church.

Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh C.S.C.
Pres. of Notre Dame

Pres. A. Bartlett Giamatti Pres.
of Yale Univ.

over Herbert H Lambert - Editor of ^{Box 179}
Christian Board of Publications St Louis ^{Missouri}

Arthur M. Field Editor of These Days
widely received and used daily
devotional.

341 Ponce de Leon Ave N.E.
Atlanta Ga.

There are a few of the better
known opposition.

I'm sure our leading Catholics
and Jewish friends are also
in opposition.

TOM KINDNESS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Here is the information
you requested. I hope
it will meet your needs.

Let me know if our
offices can be of any
further assistance to you.

Best regards,

Tom Kindness

JUN 08 1982

Office of the Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 7, 1982

The Honorable Tom Kindness
U.S. House of Representatives
2434 Rayburn HOB

Dear Tom:

I am glad to have this opportunity to outline for you my position on the issue of prayer in the public schools.

On May 17, 1982, when President Ronald Reagan announced his intention to send to Congress a proposed constitutional amendment on this issue, the debate over prayer in the schools became focused on the specific language of his proposed amendment. The substantive language in the President's proposed amendment reads as follows:

"Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to prohibit individual or group prayer in public schools or other public institutions. No person shall be required by the United States or by any State to participate in prayer."

Let me first set down basic ideas that have long governed my own approach to the subject of prayer in the public schools.

There is a widespread perception among the American people that the courts, at various levels, have in recent years played too much of an activist role in our daily lives. Americans are angry, and I believe they have every right to be, over a whole range of issues in which the courts (and most specifically the Supreme Court) have interfered in areas traditionally left to families, communities and states. The school prayer issue is but one of these issues and perhaps the most sensitive one. Americans don't want their children to be coerced to pray in school by the government--but they don't want their children to be forbidden to pray in school by the government either.

Personally, I'd rather see an American child not pray in school than pray under circumstances that involve either coercion, intimidation, embarrassment, or harassment. I am opposed to state-mandated, state-composed or officially sanctioned prayer in schools. Compulsory prayer services or prayer composed by agencies of the government and mandated by organizations of the state have no place in our system.

June 7, 1982

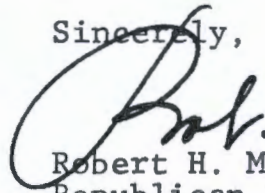
Once we have agreed that the government should neither forbid nor coerce in the area of school prayer, we leave the question up to the people, where it belongs.

Concerning the President's proposal I do have one question. While it specifically forbids the United States or any of the 50 States to "require" participation in prayer, it does not seem to me to clearly and unambiguously rule out the possibility of the United States or a state composing and distributing through official channels such as county, or local school board, or a school faculty, some version of a prayer to be used by those who choose to participate. I think this question deserves some investigation, for if the amendment does not forbid such state action, it will be unacceptable.

I would hope that full and adequate opportunity for expression of opinion by the religious and theological leadership of our country be afforded in the hearing process.

In summary, then, I believe that we should have extensive hearings on this proposed amendment. For the present, I support the basic principles of non-coercion and non-interference which are at the heart of the President's bill. If, after Congressional debate, these principles are retained and an amendment is passed, I have every reason to believe that the American people, acting on the local neighborhood and school-district level, can come up with various approaches to have constitutional voluntary school prayer.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Michel
Republican Leader

RHM:mbg

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHOOL PRAYER MEMO SENT

TO:

Ken Cribb
Kevin Hopkins
Gary Bauer
Dan Oliver
Bob Thompson
Bill Barr

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1 MEMO

2 7/16/1982 B6

BLACKWELL TO ELIZABETH DOLE RE
TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE FINANCE
COMMITTEE FOR SCHOOL PRAYER
AMENDMENT

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

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2 MEMO

2 7/16/1982 B6

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 12, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR KEVIN R. HOPKINS

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: School Prayer Issue Update

I have a number of suggested changes in the Issue Update Draft of July 10. They are:

1. On Page 3, paragraph 3, inserting the words "voluntary expression of". It is expression of religious belief, not religious belief, which the courts are proscribing.
2. On Page 3, paragraph 3, striking the words "the exercise of". This is a tightening of the language.
3. On Page 3, paragraph 4, deleting the sentence suggesting other freedoms of expression are endangered. Unless we are prepared to enumerate, upon questioning, other endangered freedoms of expression, we should omit this sentence.
4. On Page 3, paragraph 5, insert the word "voluntary". This is a stronger construction.
5. On Page 3, paragraph 5, delete the words "to be practiced only at certain times and places" and replace them with "not to be countenanced in public institutions." This change makes the sentence more to the point regarding rights denied.
6. On Page 4, paragraph 1, substitute the word "unquestionably" for "effectively". This is a very important change. We must be very careful not to offend the many school prayer activists who have heretofore been working to pass legislation designed to limit the jurisdiction of the Federal courts in this matter. These people are a major element in the coalition favoring school prayer. There is no need to imply that the remedy they previously concentrated on would not be effective. Because the efficacy of limiting future court jurisdiction has been questioned, supporters of the remedy will not be offended if the wording is changed as I suggest here.

7. On Page 4, paragraph 2, replace the word "conditions" with the word "decisions". What we want to emphasize is local self government. Thus the word decisions. We should not introduce the concept of local conditions because this plays into the hands of those who create horror stories about theoretical, conceivable abuses in areas where one denomination or another predominates.
8. On Page 4, paragraph 3, I strongly suggest that we print the entire text of the amendment, set off in reduced margins in the Issue Update. This will make the Issue Update more useful as a reference for our friends.
9. On Page 4, paragraph 3, insert the word "at". This addition will make the sentence end a little more smoothly.
10. On Page 5, paragraph 1, this paragraph should be changed to read "Furthermore, while the amendment does not require school authorities to permit, to conduct, or to lead prayer, it permits them to choose. If they decide to permit prayer, the selection of the particular circumstances would be left to the judgment . . . ". The issue of government sponsored prayers is adequately discussed later in the Issue Update. The original text of this paragraph would be seized upon by opponents of the amendment who are looking for ways to suggest great danger of sectarian abuses in the designation of authorized prayers.
11. On Page 5, paragraph 3, insert the word "voluntary". Again, the construction "voluntary prayer" is stronger.
12. On Page 5, paragraph 4, strike the words "a coerced vow to" and replace with "any expression of". I suspect this may have originally been intended to refer to a "vow". In any case, we should not insert the negative term "coerced" into our paper. Far better to refer to "protected expressions".
13. On Page 5, paragraph 5, replace the word "infringed" with the word "abridged". What is at issue here is not an encroachment but a prohibition. Abridged is a stronger word.
14. On Page 6, paragraph 4, replace the word "pass" with words "go to". As we say two paragraphs later, it is not necessary for the amendment to pass the House Judiciary Committee. We could conceivably bring this matter to a vote in both Houses without prior Committee passage.

15. On Page 7, paragraph 1, insert "(S. J. Res. 199)". It is important that readers of the Update have at hand the bill numbers in both Houses.
16. On Page 7, paragraph 2, change the first sentence to read: In the House, the prime sponsors of the amendment (H. J. Res. 493) is ". Same reason as above.
17. On Page 7, paragraph 2, insert "Representative" before "Peter Rodino". We owe Congressman Rodino the same courtesy we gave Congressman Kindness in the previous sentence.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 21, 1982

FOR: MORTON C. BLACKWELL
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *FFP/RSW*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Further Correspondence from Anne
Neamon re: School Prayer Amendment

Thank you for forwarding to Peter Rusthoven the additional letter and enclosures you received from Ms. Neamon about the school prayer amendment.

Given the nature of Ms. Neamon's "legal" arguments and the fact that we have already set forth for her the President's position on the amendment, I think it would be futile to engage in further correspondence with her on this topic. Ms. Neamon's interpretations of the Constitution and relevant case law are unusual, to say the least, and it seems apparent that nothing we could say will either dissuade her from those views or persuade her that the prayer amendment as submitted by the President to the Congress is sufficient.


Please feel free to call Peter if you have any questions; thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 21, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ED GRAY

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Issue Up-date on School Prayer - Constitutional Amendment

I suggest the following additions to the draft you sent me on Friday. Add on Page 3 before the last paragraph:

1. One unfortunate and unpopular result of the changes mandated by the Supreme Court's anti-prayer decision is the negative implication inevitably given to school children.

The great majority of American children in their formative years from six to 18 go to public schools. There they cannot fail to get the strong implication that prayerful expression of religious faith is somehow illicit, somehow unacceptable, somehow illegal. This is not neutrality. Surely the framers of our Constitution did not intend such a result.

It is true that in some public schools across our country aspects of free exercise of religion survive. Some public school authorities wink at students saying grace before meals and even at student prayer groups meeting before, between, or after classes on the school grounds. Many school districts still permit prayers to be said at school on special occasions such as graduation ceremonies. But these surviving remnants of voluntary prayer in schools are under systematic and successful attack in the courts by militants determined to stamp out all vestiges of school prayer.

Children are compelled by law to be in school. Voluntary prayer should not have the same status for students as pornography, liquor, or smoking; something illicit which the state must vigilantly protect them against. The many public opinion polls on this subject offer convincing proof that the American people believe court rulings have gone overboard in restricting the free exercise of religion by school children.

Sponsors of a constitutional amendment to remove the court-imposed prohibition on voluntary school prayer often suggest that voluntary prayer is available to students at any time during the school day. In fact the right American public school children now have is

similar to the right Soviet school children have. They can pray as long as they are not caught at it. Surely public expressions of prayer should have more legitimacy in our country than in an officially atheistic country.

2. My second suggested addition would be a new section to be added immediately prior to the summary on Page 5:

OPPOSITION TO THE AMENDMENT

The principal argument advanced against the President's proposed constitutional amendment is that school authorities will impose "government-sponsored prayers".

Past experience makes it totally unwarranted to conclude that most school authorities will draft prayers or that government-sponsored prayers will be universal or even very widespread. Here are more likely decisions local authorities could make:

1. Permit a brief period of silent prayer at the start of the school day.
2. Permit students around a school lunch table to join in asking God's blessing on their meal.
3. Permit students to organize voluntary prayer groups which could meet at school before or after classes or during recess.
4. Permit individual students to alternate each morning, leading those who wish to participate in a short prayer or reading from the Bible or other religious or inspirational work chosen by the individual.

All of these are voluntary activities which a growing majority of school authorities now forbid as a result of the Supreme Court decisions.

It is true that some local authorities might draft prayers, as some did before the 1962 Supreme Court decision, but the proposed amendment prohibits anyone being required to participate in any prayer. Many Americans might urge their school authorities not to draft prayers. Very similarly, many Americans have strong preferences about sex education, foreign language instruction, science curriculum, phonics, proper school discipline, etc. Local decisions on these matters are in the American tradition and greatly preferable to national mandates by the federal courts.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 4, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB THOMPSON

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL *McByes*

SUBJECT: Below Items

1. I would appreciate if you could work with Senator Thurmond and Congressman Kindness on a proposed timetable for committee and floor action in both the House and the Senate on the Voluntary School Prayer Amendment. The outside groups are working well but they need to know the time frame in which we are operating. We expect to be able to get votes in both houses before the elections.
2. I strongly suggest that we not hold separate meetings with the Catholics, the Protestants, and the Jewish supporters of tuition tax credits. They all are in agreement now, having been separately kept informed. It is important now that we make them accustomed to working together on this topic. Jack Burgess and I are in agreement that a single meeting rather than separate meetings will be helpful next week. I have left the office for a TV interview and to participate in the Virginia Republican State Convention, but would appreciate your calling my staff this afternoon on this subject. If you, Jack, and my staff will coordinate this afternoon the calling of the meeting for early next week, we can get them started on this issue.
3. Thank you for your cooperation on the Woody Jenkins appointment to the Advisory Committee on Trade Negotiations. I trust this will spring loose this appointment from Ed Rollins' office.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 7, 1982

Dear Ms. Neamon:

Thank you for your recent letter to Morton Blackwell, to which I have been asked to respond, concerning the proposed school prayer amendment recently submitted by the President to the Congress.

It is not the purpose of the proposed amendment to resolve or even to address all issues involving proper church/state relations in our constitutional system. Rather, the amendment is designed, as the President stated in his transmittal message to the Congress, to "remove the bar to school prayer established by the Supreme Court and allow prayer back in our schools."

The proposed amendment, if adopted by the Congress and ratified by the States, will accomplish that objective, and the President is confident the proposal is supported by the vast majority of American citizens.

Sincerely,

~~Orig. signed by FFF~~

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Ms. Anne Neamon
Truth in Press, Corp.
777 National Press Building
Washington, D.C. 20045


cc: ✓ Morton C. Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 8, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB THOMPSON

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Meeting with House Republican
Study Committee

Jack Clink of the House Republican Study Committee has invited me and either Gary Bauer or Bill Barr to come give their staff a briefing on the President's Voluntary Prayer in School Amendment. The meeting is scheduled for 9:30 to 10:30 on June 21 at Room 340, Cannon House Office Building.

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE COALITION

AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
235 Second Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 546-3086



JOHN R. DELLENBACK
President
JOHN A. BERNBAUM
Director

September 16, 1982

Ms. Carolyn Sundseth
Room 191
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Sundseth,

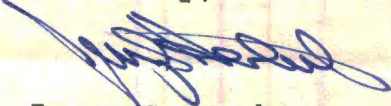
Thank you so much for arranging to have our class meet with Mr. Morton Blackwell on Monday, September 20, at 4 p.m., in the Vice President's Meeting Room (Rm. 248) of the O.E.O.B. We all are looking forward to it.

Please find attached a list of the names of our students and staff who will be attending the meeting. We will plan to be settled in the room by 3:55 p.m.

As you know, our students are studying the President's proposal to amend the Constitution to permit voluntary prayer in the public school and institutions. We would appreciate Mr. Blackwell briefing us on the rationale and intended results of the President's proposal.

Thank you once again for arranging this meeting. You have been very helpful.

Sincerely,


Jerry S. Herbert
Associate Director

JSH/kh


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH DOLE

THRU: DIANA LOZANO

FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Proposed Constitutional Amendment on
School Prayer

The language which is discussed in the packet I received this morning is the same language which was previously submitted to the White House by the Justice Department.

It had been my impression that the delay of the past few days was for the Justice Department to consider certain changes which we had proposed in the working draft of the amendment. Specifically, I had asked that we insert the words "individual or group" so that the amendment would begin: "Nothing in this Constitution shall prohibit individual or group prayer . . ."

The reason for this insertion is that conservative legal scholars I contacted feel that without such an insertion, it would be possible for biased judges to hold that the amendment referred only to individual and not to voluntary group prayer. This might not occur, but when crafting Constitutional amendments, we should take care of all significant contingencies.

The fact that the Justice Department did not comment on this suggested insertion of "individual or group" indicates either that Mike Uhlmann failed to communicate this suggestion to them or that the Justice Department attorneys declined to comment on the suggestion.

In my judgment, the inclusion of "individual or group" prayer language will politically strengthen the amendment and enhance its chances of eventual passage. Thus it is important to consider this change.

I have looked through the memorandum of Theodore Olson who critiques the proposed amendment. Nothing he says would justify substituting the short version suggested by Jonathan Rose.

The criticisms which Olson makes are surprising in light of the fact that most of those problems were inserted by the

Justice Department's draft of the current working language. Gary Bauer and I submitted language drafted by University of Texas Law School Professor Grover Rees which would answer virtually every critique raised by Olson of the working draft of the Justice Department. For instance, Rees proposed the seven year time limit be included in the congressional resolving clause, not the body of the amendment.

A copy of the language proposed by Professor Rees and his discussion are appended. It might be better to go back to the original language proposed by Professor Rees because the criticism made by Olson will be made by others. I do not, however, believe that Olson's criticisms would cause the amendment to be defeated or to be ineffective. Either the Justice Department's working draft or the original Rees draft would be adopted by the Congress and by the States in my judgment.

In summary, the alternate (Rose) amendment is not well crafted and is less politically palatable. The draft which is discussed in the packet from the Justice Department will be accepted with great enthusiasm by virtually every significant supporter of voluntary prayer in schools. The grass roots pressure for the Congress to pass this amendment would be irresistible, and the States should promptly ratify it. The amendment could be significantly improved if we would insert the words "individual or group" before the word prayer in the first sentence.

If changes are to be made in the working draft to accommodate Olson's critique, the original Rees language would answer virtually all of Olson's criticisms and still be very popular with the supporters of voluntary school prayer. Either way we legitimize voluntary school prayer, and end the threat to military chaplains and otherwise encourage the free exercise of religion.

Attached also is a set of questions and answers prepared by Professor Rees regarding the working draft which was the subject of Olson's memorandum.