

A Note From the Editor

Some observers of contemporary world affairs have characterized the decade of the Eighties as one of the most crucial in the history of our world. Perhaps so. Certainly issues of paramount importance confront us and present special challenges for Christian people. If our world survives the threat of chaos and if the hurt and anger of the previous two decades are to pass, surely the witness and action of the followers of Christ must be evident. The articles of this journal are all timely challenges to a Christian witness in our world and pertinent to those issues that need our witness.

Each of the men who wrote these articles are Christian prophets, professors, and leaders. They write because of their commitment to Christ and because of their love for college students. Bill Pinson, James Dunn, Glen Stassen and Paul Simmons all presented their articles as addresses to the Fourth Annual Session of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers, June 8-9, 1980, in St. Louis, Missouri. An additional article, "Sexuality in Christian History," by Paul Simmons is presented in this issue. This issue of **The Campus Minister** deals with "Campus Ministry and Ethical Issues in the Eighties."

Glen Stassen and Paul Simmons are assistant professors at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Bill Pinson is the President of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary. James Dunn, formerly the Director of the Christian Life Commission in Texas, is now the President of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The contributions these men have made to the ministry of campus ministers will be evident in their articles.

A journal of professional quality has been a priority since the founding of the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers. Such a journal should contribute to the professional growth of the membership and raise the professional competence of the Southern Baptist campus ministry as a whole. Such is the intent of this issue and of future issues. It is important that the membership use this journal as an

avenue to develop their own writing and research skills. Therefore, this editor welcomes manuscripts from the membership.

The quality of the articles should be a credit to the profession and, most of all, should be in keeping with the highest standards of being a disciple of Christ. Therefore, I suggest some criteria that I believe will insure that quality.

(1) Articles published should be on the cutting edge of theology. The practice of our campus ministry task should be challenged by the articles in **The Campus Minister** and the theological foundations for ministry on campus should be examined!

(2) Articles in **The Campus Minister** should maintain the best of our Southern Baptist heritage. Our roots are found in Baptist heritage and Southern Baptists make it possible for us to fulfill our calling. Of course, our first concern should be the biblical message as illumined by the Spirit, a significant part of our Baptist heritage.

(3) The focus of the articles should be directed towards a ministry to college students. They are the persons to whom God has called us to minister. While articles of diverse subjects may be appropriate for **The Campus Minister**, they should ultimately lead us to be better ministers to students.

(4) Finally, **The Campus Minister** should uphold the call that God has extended to those of us who are campus ministers. It should challenge us in the task of carrying the redemptive message of God in Christ to the campus and to grow as men and women in the profession of campus minister.

The next issue (October-November 1981) will deal with the general subject of "The Church and Campus Ministry." Your ideas and assistance will be appreciated.

—Neal Schooley