



RELIGION UPDATE

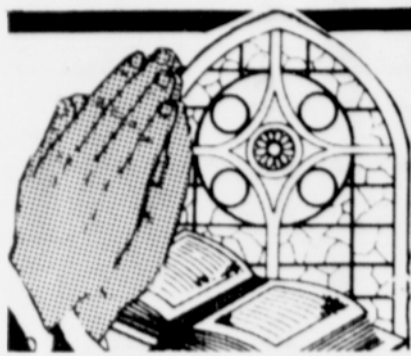
by Dee Armstrong

Religion Under Attack—Part III

The situation between church and state is more serious than one may think. We walk by schools, child care centers sponsored by churches, offering "Summer Bible" programs and recreation for our young everyday, without a second glance. The church and its function in our community is taken for granted. Well, not far away in the state of Nebraska, Pastor Everett Sileven of Faith Baptist Church went straight to jail and so did members for conducting a church school as part of their religious ministry.

Pastor Everett Sileven of Faith Baptist Church in Louisville, Nebraska testifies at a Subcommittee hearing on the Constitution and religious liberty, June 26, 1984, in Washington, D.C.:

"There are now approaching 7,000 cases in this country where Christians are being prosecuted. Just recently in Milwaukee, two pastors came to me and said



RELIGION

Send notice of your church activities and events to:
Religion Editor, Portland Observer
P.O. Box 3137
Portland OR 97208

we had started a church in a home, and we were told that if we opened our Bibles one more time in these homes, we would go to jail.

"Today there are parents in Florida who are about to lose their children because they refused to send them to a state-approved school. It is not because the quality and academic achievement is superior. Today, as I sit here, there is a church in Redding, California that is battling the state bureaucracy over its control of its day care center.

"In Gering, Nebraska, the Church of Christ was prosecuted. Its school had to move across the state line into Wyoming. In Morrill, the Independent Baptist church had to move across the state line to operate.

"In North Platte, my wonderful friend, brother Bob Gellsthorpe spent 93 days in jail. They have levied fines against him of \$200.00 a day, against his church. And now, within the next 30 days, they are going to sell his personal property, his home, and his church building to collect those fines.

"In Louisville, that is another story. In 1981, our church was padlocked for the first time. In 1982 I was arrested four times, spent 120 days in Cass County jail. On October 18, 1982, there were almost 100 praying ministers who were not a part of the case at all, who were carried out—physically removed—by 18 armed officers, and the church padlocked for the second time.

"Then in 1983, there were seven of my men who went to jail, their wives and 32 children fled the state to avoid arrest. And then I also, even in spite of the fact that I had filed briefs in my case, and my daughter had done the same, the judge put out a warrant for our arrest.

"I recently returned to the state of Nebraska on April 26th, voluntarily coming to the court, voluntarily closing our school now, since we have a new law to operate under, waiting until it comes into effect on July 10th.

"The judge was vindictive and he sentenced me to eight months in jail, stating right over the bench that he would have like to have given me two years in the state penitentiary. He admitted that they were not bound by the Constitution in this case.

"That is in the record. They do not believe that the Constitution applies. And this is one of the problems we're facing. And also, I was forbidden to have writing materials to write books and pamphlets while I was in jail. I am now out on appeal.

"It's very interesting to me, Senator [Hatch], that in Nebraska, the Attorney General of our state was impeached by the Legislature, and the Supreme Court

overturned the impeachment. He was then indicted on three counts of felony by the Grand Jury. He was given a \$10,000 bond, he was allowed to sign for his. I was given \$100,000 performance bond, and \$10,000 cash bond. I refused to pay it—thank God for friends who went out and collected the money to pay it. But I guess it's more dangerous to preach the Gospel and to train children than it is to commit felonies in the state of Nebraska."

Send comments to "Religious Update", P.O. Box 9331, Portland, OR 97201.

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John H. Jackson, Minister, M. Ed., M. D.
9:30 A.M. Church School
11:00 A.M. Congregational Worship
5:00 P.M. Vesper Service
10:00 A.M. Baptism Fourth Sunday
11:00 Communion Each First Sunday

The American Baptist Convention, American Baptist Churches of Oregon; Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention: National, Oregon, Portland Ecumenical Ministries, American Bible Society, M. & M. Board.

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the Bible says...
Follow peace with all men, & holiness without which no man shall see the Lord

Tuesday: Bible Band 7:30 p.m.
Thursday: Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:15 a.m.
Y.P.W.W. 6:30 p.m.
Evangelistic Worship 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday Friday: Noon Day Prayer
Friday: "The Pastor Speaks" 7:30 p.m.
Saturday: Morning Prayer 9:00 a.m.
"Shows of Blessings," broadcast Sunday morning, 10:00 A.M.
Session KAAR 1:00AM Day

ALLEN TEMPLE CME CHURCH
Corner of 8th and Skidmore
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Sunday Worship 11:00am
Christian Youth Fellowship 6:00pm
(second and fourth Sundays)
Elonza J. Edwards (Pastor)

A Public Service of the Portland Observer

Albina Ministerial Alliance
284-6023

The Royal Esquire Club's Community Service Statement
by A.D.S. Volume III

Les Williams, musician, philosopher, and all-round civic-minded good guy—

Les came to Portland, Oregon, in March, 1947. He has traveled throughout the U.S.A. He has played music with Walter Bridges, Nat King Cole, Diana Washington, Lionel Hampton, Joe Turner, Sanders King, Sonny King and many other less known musicians and singers.

However, this summer I have seen Les on the street corner at 17th and N.E. Alberta St. teaching and sharing his wealth of experience and knowledge with young potential musicians who live in our immediate neighborhood. These children range in age from 6 to 11 years old and are building upon Les' knowledge and their talent. Their instruments are saxophones, flutes and clarinets.

It is heart-warming to see a man like Les sharing himself along with his musical knowledge with young children. Les told me that, "The rest of my life will be spent in sharing myself, my experience, my talent with my community. I love to see growth, development and I love children. Come down and bring your flute and play with us; call your own shot." I said OK.

The true spirit of a Royal Esquire is sharing. Major community service benefit coming up!

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284-2334

Nathan Barnett, Pastor
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Services:
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11:00 a.m., Morning Worship
6:00 p.m., Evening Worship

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Community Directory and profiles
Ads On This Page Are Of Local Businesses That Are Helping Build A Better Community

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at Broadway
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Attorney at Law
5315 N. Vancouver Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97217
(503) 249-0555

NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO? HAVE A PROBLEM? CALL:

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284-3932

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CARRY-OUT - 285-1944
838 N. Killingsworth

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Friday 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Phone: 284-3979

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Metropolitan Life Insurance Youth Grants available

Youth groups, sponsored by non-profit organizations, are now eligible for a new grant program offered by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

The Metropolitan Life Community Improvement Youth Grants Program is designed to encourage young people to become involved in their community. "Today's youth can play an increasingly vital role in our society," said Stephen Bow, Senior Vice-President of Metropolitan's Western Corporate Headquarters. "Our grant program will fund many worthwhile projects, which in turn, will give our young people the opportunity to use their creativity and energy on behalf of their communities."

Metropolitan grants of up to \$250 will be awarded for specific projects to youth groups submitting the best proposals for improving their communities. The project may be one to beautify a neighborhood, such as painting a fence or planting flowers in the park, or it may be in the form of offering a needed product or service not already available in the community.

Any group of five or more young people, between the ages of 12 and 18, are eligible to apply. The youth group must be sponsored by a non-profit community organization and must have an adult as a project supervisor. The grant program is restricted to the 13 Western states, including Hawaii and Alaska, which comprise Metropolitan's Western Territory.

For applications to enter the competition, write to Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, Community Improvement Youth Grants, Public Consumer Affairs, P.O. Box 7750, San Francisco, CA 94120.

The deadline for all youth grant applications is September 15. Winners will be announced by September 30. All group projects must be completed by December 31, 1985.

Metropolitan Life supports a wide range of programs to strengthen the quality of life in our communities. Special emphasis is placed on programs which help develop and educate young people. Another competitive grant program for our youth is Metropolitan's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Program.

Metropolitan Life has contributed funds to promote a variety of activities in the areas of health, education, civic affairs and culture throughout the United States.

Professional Services

JAMES L. ANDERS
Attorney at Law
1500 NE Oregon St.
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281-9542

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