

MAY YOUR KINDNESS, O LORD, BE UPON US - PSALM 33:22

January 15, 1974


Mr. James Byrne  
12242 Mallory Drive  
Largo, Florida 33540

Dear Jim:

The Spirit of God Community pastoral team met Sunday and we all want you to help us. What we want you to do is act as a consultant to our pastoral team. We have a long way to go and although we are nearly three years old much needs to be done to fulfill the needs of this region.

We would like to have you meet with us weekly and help us in every way. To be specific would be limiting and we hope to tap your creativity and experience without giving you any restrictions on your thoughts or ideas. We pray that the Spirit will move you and look forward to being with you.

Peace, love and joy,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill + Lee". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the closing of the letter.

c.c. Mr. & Mrs. Dan Morrison

I suspect that there are limits to what would be proper for us to speak about and I don't want again to speak to you about this. But I do need help in sorting out my own reactions.

(3.) The third area is Five House. My own feeling is that I probably will never be able to return. That's hard to face - though I have already accepted it. I can't express why I feel that way, but I do. I know very little of what's happening there, but feel in my bones that a new & very different direction is being taken - one which is based on more popular principles. I think there would be little that I could ever do in such a situation, though I may be wrong.

(4.) Here is an interesting problem. Lee Callaghan called Tues., saying they believed (in Clearwater) that God was calling me to settle there in the future. I have had the same strong leading. Someone on their pastoral team offered to pay my whole way through law school (well get to that later) if I would agree to spend 3 or 4 hours a week giving their pastoral team advice. Oh dear. What do I do about that? It would start in Jan or Feb., I would decline any authority over people, etc. but ~~is~~ should I just dismiss the offer out of hand?

(5.) law school. I don't know how to explain it, but I really am feeling drawn to it. I don't think I want to practice law, but as preparation for a job in business. I really want to talk openly with you about it, though, since I really

want to make the decision most pleasing to Our Lord. One thing about the school (Stetson) in St. Pete is that it's no great place (you need a D+ to get in & their acceptance rate is 100%) and so I would not be overly drained in school (good for me & marriage), and wouldn't be able to use it (law) for anything very flashy, but still could earn a decent living. I guess I feel it would give me an outlet for my talents & still ~~over~~ allow some leisure for other projects. I fear I never could be content just teaching, but would wind up administrating. I could take an MBA, but the math would kill me, hence, law. Now, if those organizational, etc. drives should be quieted & if that is the way my spiritual life can advance, I will & want to do that. I sense, though, that God has given them to me for some reason & that what I need to do is to learn to live with them & order them. Others have done this & I think I could too.

Thank you for all you've done for me. I pray for you often & miss you very much. I will be leaving here next wk & if you want to reach me by mail, you'd better write to Bethesda (Difatos). I'll let you know when I'll be in South Bend. It should be w/in 2 wks.

your son in Christ,



Sorry for the long letter.

November 20, 1973

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Reverend Bohdan Kosicki  
1234 Washington Boulevard  
Detroit, MI 48226

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Dear Bohdan:

Your letter, which has been sitting here on my desk as a reminder, is dated October 5, so I don't think I will win any prizes in your book for efficiency. At any rate, I have verified that the copies of Bill Storey's prayerbook have been sent to you as a belated token of thanks for your support in the summer conference.

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By now I presume you have talked with your brother and gotten an answer to your question about Jim Byrne. But just for safety's sake I will mention that he has taken this fall semester off to convalesce from the extreme nervous exhaustion into which he had gotten, that he is about to get married to Maria Difato at the end of this week (whether that is a remedy for nervous exhaustion, I won't presume to say), and that he plans to study law at Stetson University, beginning either this Spring if he is able, or next Fall at the latest. He is not withdrawing from participation in the Charismatic Renewal by any means, but he feels it would be best to take time out for a while and approach it on a new basis.

By this time you are perhaps aware that I have decided to resign from the Service Committee, effective the end of October. But I too intend to remain as active as ever in the Renewal.

All my best wishes,

(Rev.) Edward D. O'Connor, C.S.C.

EDO:cmr



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Apr. 4, 1974

Dear Father Ed,

Your weekend here was a blessing.... a great blessing.... and a real time of growth. Don't ever mistake "sweltering weather and tired fannies" for "lack of interest". Most people considered that day of renewal one of the finest! Thanks again.

The reflections you shared with me both at the beach and in your letter were most welcomed. But, lest you misunderstand, let me say that basically Jim and I should have no problem relating <sup>to</sup> and loving one another. Ever since Jim came to us last summer, Bill and I have been aware of our responsibility to him. God has made that clear in many ways. God has also made it clear that what He has planned for the Spirit of God Community .... at least for now.... is not meant to be

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the vehicle which is to be transformed into Jim's vision of intense Christian Community with an outreach to the whole Church. Some people may be drawn to this in time (from S.O. Comm.) but to begin drawing them and forming them now would be premature.

Somehow Jim is simply going to have to understand that we love him, will do everything in our power to welcome him into the existing community, and will encourage and support him, but that his vision must take form in God's time or he will end up a disillusioned man. The very thing which is his greatest asset or blessing, i.e., his powerful, <sup>genius and</sup> personality, is also his curse. (Perhaps I understand this so well because "it takes one to know one"!) And perhaps that's why God led Jim here.... so that Bill and I could minister to his weaknesses, which the world thinks of as strengths, and he could share his lights in return.

At any rate, the two visions should not collide, since they are



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both moving toward God. I think the only reason for friction — at least from my point of view — has come out of the fact that I'm operating in "the now" and Jim should be operating in "the future." ... which is the Pastoral Team's fault ... for we have encouraged, and even begged Jim to help us.

This, I promise you, will be remedied immediately. I pledge that the Pastoral Team will help Jim: first, by loving one another in spite of our differences; second, by loving Jim so much that we will not ask too much of his "know-how" now, but simply love <sup>him</sup> and build up his strength for what God plans for him in the future; and third, by demanding respect for one another's visions. Isn't it beautiful when we begin understanding one another? And respecting the differences in one another?

Father, you are so right when you say that "you wouldn't be surprised if strong leaders such as yourself, Jim and Bill will forever find yourselves in something of a struggle.... but this is not<sup>so</sup> bad, so long as each one put's God's will ahead of his own." The important thing is that we continually keep our eyes on Jesus.... that we don't get bogged down with our own plans.... that we keep<sup>in</sup> constant touch with His plans!

The Lord has truly blessed me with many favors — especially these past two months. (And I thank Sister Amata for not betraying a confidence) I realize these favors, or graces, have nothing to do with holiness, but are given to upbuild and encourage me to go on. For these I thank Jesus daily, And I thank you, Father Ed, for understanding without even knowing.

Our shabing on the beach is a memory I have drawn upon many times since to give me strength. I am looking forward to another such encounter in God's time.

Love in Him,  
Lee +



The Spirit of God working in Clearwater meets too much opposition. Too many hearts are not allowing the healing and transforming love of Jesus work in them and through them. The biggest obstacle is from those who are busy deciding what should be. Only the Lord knows what should be. And he can only share His vision with those who are open to Him in prayer, those who bring nothing to their prayer but the real desire to hear the voice of the Lord. Anyone who judges on the basis of human wisdom or apparent need is open to making grievous errors, even for a good purpose. If anyone has what he thinks is a legitimate need or insight let him pray on it and take it to the Community for discernment. Even if several agree on a suggestion it must be taken to the Lord. If he does not feel it, let it be placed in His hands completely to be acted on when He so leads. Many are the good things that might be done, but in the way of the Lord only one is what is necessary and of greatest value right now. God does have a plan. It must be that we follow him step by step. We can't skip steps with the Lord. All must be patient waiting on the Lord. He is total activity and will not leave those who are truly open without direction or activity to pursue. But we all must remember that prayer too, is activity, in fact, the central essential activity of the disciple (one who is disciplined to follow) of Jesus Christ.

When I asked the Lord how to begin this letter these are the words that came, I offer these words to you in love to be discerned by leadership for the Community. My prayers are with you.

Jim Humrich  
March 24, 1974

Father, this prophesy came from a young man who joined the Franciscans last September. He has prophesied many times for our community and it has always been an incredible piece of timing.... This, for instance, arrived a few hours before our last Pastoral Team meeting with Jim B. Since Jim Humrich is in Loretto, Pa., and hasn't corresponded with us since Christmas, I felt it was a communication we should all take quite seriously.

March 30

Dear Lee,

I greatly enjoyed my visit to Clearwater, and am grateful to you and all your community for making my visit so pleasant. You were also very generous in the stipend you gave; thank you for that likewise.

I hope that what we had to say was profitable. I have the impression that some did not find it interesting; but we tried to pick the topics that most prayer groups seem to need to hear about. I hope it will bear fruit in good time.

Since my return, I have been reflecting prayerfully about the tensions between Jim and yourself, about which you spoke to me, I don't have any practical recommendations on how to resolve them; and I think it would be wrong for me as an outsider to enter into them too far. But here are some general reflections, for whatever they are worth.

Basically, it seems to be a situation of two people of good will trying to serve the same Lord, but out of two different visions and with two different gifts. This happens often in the Church. In a way, it seems a pity, because we would rather make common cause against the enemies of the Kingdom, rather than expending our energy tussling with one another. But I think that God allows this in His Providence to humble us, purify us, and make us recognize that He alone is able to accomplish anything real and lasting. None of us is more than a 'useless servant,' even though it is important that we do the things we are supposed to do.

Still, we must seek to cooperate, and here it is of prime importance that we recognize that a person who has a different vision from our own is not thereby our enemy. There are different ways of going about any practical undertaking, and we must respect the legitimacy of other views, even when we don't share them. However, if we are going to collaborate, it is necessary that we reach some kind of agreement, even if this means that someone must sacrifice his views.

Of course, sometimes this is not possible, and it is necessary for people to go their separate ways, like Abraham and Lot, each to serve as he sees fit. But I have an idea that it would be a

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Don't  
C. P. J.

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great loss if this should happen in Clearwater. You have several gifted people there, whose combined action can well be expected to accomplish great things for the Lord. Going separate ways, you would do much less. And you can be sure that Satan will do all in his power to divide.

Perhaps the most important key to collaboration consists in discovering what each one's proper gift is, and then respecting his competence in that domain. This is the way the Body of Christ functions healthily, with each one making the contribution the Lord has given him. Where there is as much basic agreement, and good will, as you have there, this will surely be able to be worked out, though only at the cost of much renunciation of self on the part of all concerned.

I wouldn't be surprised, however, if strong leaders such as yourself and Jim (and Bill, too, I suppose) will forever find yourselves in something of a struggle, as long as you are associated in the same work. But this is not so bad, so long as each one puts God's will ahead of his own, and is willing to make sacrifices, where he sees that this is called for. The important thing is that we constantly raise our eyes to the Lord, and not get mired in our own works and plans.

Sister Amata told me she is convinced that you have received some very precious graces of prayer (she did not of course say anything that would be betraying a confidence). I know that she has very reliable judgment about this sort of thing, and I would only like to add that if you are faithful to the grace Our Lord gives you, you will find it leading you into a deeper and deeper union with Him, that will become more and more the locale of your true life. It will give you the strength for all the struggles you have to carry on for Him, and you will find, I think, that your real life lies in your relationship with Him, and that your activities, whether they succeed or fail, are secondary.

It was a pleasure getting to know you, Lee. I will keep your intentions in my prayers. Best wishes to Bill, Don, Jeanne and all the community.

In Christ,

P.S. Under separate cover, I will send you a copy of the statement I made concerning the Service Committee, which some of you were asking about at table.

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Feb-9  
J.P.P. J. D. -X



Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation 77151333

C. R. 4602 PAGE 1832

THIS WARRANTY DEED, Made this 13th day of September, A.D. 1977, between CHARISMATIC CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION, INC. a non-profit corporation existing under the laws of the State of Florida hereinafter called the Grantor, and DAVID C. SLICK and BONITA L. SLICK, as Joint tenants with right of survivorship and not as tenants in common.

15125916 70 nonl. 285E77
40 4.00
41 81.00 DS
42 29.70 ST
114.70 CK

whose mailing address is 38045 Aurora Road Solon, Ohio Zip 44139 hereinafter called the Grantee,

WITNESSETH, that the said Grantor, for and in consideration of the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00) and other valuable considerations to said Grantor in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has granted, bargained, and sold unto the said Grantee, and Grantee's heirs, or successors, and assigns forever, all that certain parcel of land in the County of Pinellas and State of Florida, to wit:

40 Rec 4.00
41 St 81.00
42 Sur 29.70
43 Int
Tot 114.70

Lot 28, WESTWOOD VILLAGE, according to plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 67, page 78, Public Records of Pinellas County, Florida Subject to restrictions and easements of record.

SEP 28 2 47 PM '77 PINELLAS COUNTY CLERK'S CIRCUIT COURT

STATE OF FLORIDA DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX DEPT. OF REVENUE SEP 28 1977 8 1 00

DOCUMENTARY SUR TAX 29.70 FLORIDA SEP 27 1977

And the said Grantor does hereby fully warrant the title to said land, and will defend the same against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever, except taxes for year 1977 and subsequent.

Attest: CHARISMATIC CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION, INC. a non-profit corporation Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Our Presence: By William D. Callaghan, Jr. President

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That on this 13th day of September, A.D. 1977 before me, an officer duly authorized in the State and County aforesaid to take acknowledgements, personally appeared William D. Callaghan, Jr. President of CHARISMATIC CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION, INC. under the laws of the State of Florida to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing conveyance and acknowledged before me that he executed the same in the name of said corporation; that as such corporate officer he is duly authorized by the corporation to do so; that he affixed thereto the official seal of said corporation, and the said instrument is the act and deed of said corporation.

WITNESS My signature and official seal in the County and State last aforesaid. Notary Public My Commission Expires...

This instrument was prepared by: Barbara Smith Instrument prepared by: LAWYERS TITLE INSURANCE CORPORATION P.O. Box 2514, Clearwater, Florida 33617 Incident to issuance of a title insurance policy L-9820 9-15C HOLD FOR: LAWYERS TITLE INSURANCE CORP.