BENOÎT, CECIL R.  
Cecil R. Benoît Correspondence  
with James C. Whitaker, 1960-1994

Emory University  
Pitts Theology Library  
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**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Benoît, Cecil R.  
**Title:** Cecil R. Benoît Correspondence with James C. Whitaker, 1960-1994  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 298  
**Extent:** 0.50 cubic ft. (1 box)  
**Abstract:** Consists of correspondence from James C. Whitaker to Cecil R. Benoît.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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**Administrative Information**

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**Citation**  
[after identification of item(s)], Cecil R. Benoît Correspondence with James C. Whitaker, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

**Processing**  
Processed by Joan Clemens, 2004.

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**Collection Description**

**Biographical Note**  
Cecil Roy Benoît is an ordained United Methodist Church minister and retired psychologist. He received his B.A. in sociology from Southern Methodist University in 1956 followed by his M.Th. from Perkins School of Theology in 1959. He studied Gestalt Therapy at the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland, receiving his diploma in 1974. In 1983 he was awarded his Ph.D. in

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psychology from California Coast University. He retired from the ministry in 1979 but continued his career in counseling until he retired from private practice in North Carolina in 1997. His publications include *God is Always with Us* and *When Love is Not Enough, A Child’s View of Parenting*. Benoît now resides in Port Arthur, Texas.

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection consists of correspondence from James C. Whitaker to Cecil R. Benoît. The correspondence began in 1960 and continued until 1994 with a gap from 1964 to 1976. Whitaker created a “study group” in the early 1960s and corresponded with this group about his views on numerous theological issues. Whitaker’s letters to Benoît are often copies of letters he wrote to different members of the study group. Topics discussed in the letters include Soren Kierkegaard, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, existential Christianity, segregation and civil rights, psychotherapy, and death.
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