Edwin Randall "Randy" Becton Papers, 1970-2012

Edwin Randall "Randy" Becton

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Edwin Randall “Randy” Becton
Papers, (1970-2012)

Center for Restoration Studies
Manuscripts #458

Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives
Brown Library
Abilene Christian University
Abilene, TX 79699-9208

20 January 2021
About this collection
Title: Edwin Randall “Randy” Becton Papers

Creator: Becton, Edwin Randall “Randy” (1945-2015)

Identifier/Call Number: Center for Restoration Studies Manuscripts #458

Physical Description: 14 linear feet (16 boxes)

Dates (Inclusive): 1990-2012

Dates (Bulk): 1970-2012

Location: Center for Restoration Studies

Language of Materials: English

Scope and Content Note: This collection consists of articles, notes, speeches, publications, and correspondence related to Highland Church of Christ, Herald of Truth, Abilene Christian University, Pepperdine University, Care Ministry, and Cancer Ministry.

Biographical Note: Biographical information from ACU Today:

    Becton was born Sept. 17, 1944, in Nashville, Tenn. He grew up in Nashville and attended Lipscomb Academy where he was a basketball standout and pitched on the baseball team, beginning a lifelong love for baseball that included an extensive baseball card collection he shared generously with young players. He married Camilla Greer on Aug. 22, 1966.

    After graduating from Lipscomb University in 1966 with a bachelor’s degree in Bible, he began graduate studies at the Harding School of Theology but followed his major professor, Dr. George Gurganus, to Abilene Christian University where he earned his master’s degree in missions in 1971.

    In 1969, he began a career with Herald of Truth, serving in numerous roles including executive director from 1991 until his retirement in 2006, though he continued to serve as minister-at-large. Under his leadership at Herald of Truth, the international radio and television ministry expanded to include multiple programs. He was instrumental in creation of the annual Saving the American Family Conference; as editor of UpReach magazine and as speaker for Caring Touch Radio; and numerous television specials. He was the author of 15 books.

    In 1973, just months after the birth of his and Camilla’s third child, Becton was diagnosed with leucytic lymphoma, beginning a journey of treatment, remissions, surgeries, complications and side-effects spanning more than 40 years, defying his doctors’ predictions. The experience inspired the Bectons in 1978 to begin the Caring Cancer Ministry, an outreach of comfort and encouragement for patients and their families; publishing books and pamphlets for patients, caregivers and ministers; and personally corresponding with hundreds of individuals battling cancer.
For 16 years, Becton served as an elder at Highland Church of Christ, which honored him in 1994 for 25 years of service to many ministries. For the past several years he has been a member of University Church of Christ.”

Administrative Information
Immediate Source of Acquisition: The Becton family
Date of Acquisition: March 2016
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Using this collection
Processing Status: Processed

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Arrangement of Materials: Materials are arranged into 16 boxes.

Separated Materials: none

Subjects and Keywords
Churches of Christ -- History -- 20th century  
Churches of Christ -- Texas – Abilene  
Churches of Christ  
Stone-Campbell Movement  
Restoration Movement  
Highland Church of Christ  
Abilene Christian University
**Inventory**

**Box 1**
[First folder] Finding aid
Finances (1 of 2)
Finances (2 of 2)
Personal Finances
Health Documents
Randy Becton Letter Stepping Down From Highland Eldership
Highland Church of Christ
Minister Search Data
Highland Church of Christ Budget 1995-1996
Highland Church of Christ Elders Meetings
Highland Church of Christ Members Lists
Highland Church of Christ Member Directories (1 of 2)
Highland Church of Christ Member Directories (2 of 2)
Calendars
Memos
Herald of Truth
Speeches
Workshops (1 of 5)
Workshops (2 of 5)
Workshops (3 of 5)
Workshops (4 of 5)
Workshops (5 of 5)

**Box 2**
Written By Randy Becton
Friend of God
Evangelism Class
Conversations About Evangelism
Evangelism
Congregational Publications
Contact List (1 of 2)
Caregiving
Minister as Caregiver Note
Caring
Caring Reports
Caring Touch
Care Ministry
Caring Reviews- A Cancer Ministry
Caring Correspondence
Caring Finances (1 of 3)
Caring Finances (2 of 3)
Caring Finances (2 of 3)

Box 3
Cancer
Sharing Your Faith
Missions/ International Correspondence
Week of 4/9/03
Week of 5/15/03
Week of 5/23/03
Week of 5/29/03
Week of 6/20/03
Week of 7/18/ 03
Adoption Agency Report
Articles (1 of 4)
Articles (2 of 4)
Articles (3 of 4)
Articles (4 of 4)
The Nurses Lamp
Magazine Cutouts/ Article (1 of 3)
Magazine Cutouts/ Articles (2 of 3)
Magazine Cutouts/ Articles (3 of 3)
Publications (1 of 3)
Publications (2 of 3)
Publications (3 of 3)

Box 4
Publications (4 of 5)
Publications (5 of 5)
Correspondence (1 of 13)
Correspondence (2 of 13)
Correspondence (3 of 13)
Correspondence (4 of 13)
Correspondence (5 of 13)
Correspondence (6 of 13)
Correspondence (7 of 13)
Correspondence (8 of 13)
Correspondence (9 of 13)
Correspondence (10 of 13)
Correspondence (11 of 13)
Correspondence (12 of 13)
Correspondence (13 of 13)

**Box 5**
Pamphlets
Teaching Material
Harding University
Pepperdine University
Oklahoma Christian University Lectureship
Abilene Christian University
ACU Classes
National Religious Broadcasters
Why?
To His Praise of His Glory
As I Remember It
What are We to Make of Jesus Christ
Discovering Jesus
Why Jesus?
Who is Jesus?
Jesus and Law
Living Jesus
For Those Who Love Them
Why I am United Methodist
The New Testament Church
I Learned to Keep My Own Balance
Sermons and Worship
Overheads
The Church for the Modern Man
Central COC Inner City Work and Youth Work
Conflict in the Church (1 of 3)
Conflict in the Church (2 of 3)
Conflict in the Church (3 of 3)
The Churches of Christ Salute You
RB/Com. HW/AW/ E-mail
International Replies- Coupons

**Box 6**
A Place to Stand
Tommy Smith/ Pat Langston- Richmond, VA
Gordon and Thelma Mills
Diving Into the Deep Waters
Letter Solicitation List
How to Survive
Nutrition
RB Permanent Records
Living With The Diagnosis of Cancer
ABCs of Natural Church Development
Things that Matter
Personal Notes on Loose Leaf Paper (1 of 2)
Personal Notes on Loose Leaf Paper (2 of 2)
Newspaper (1 of 2)
Newspaper (2 of 2)
Notes from Well Wishers (1 of 2)
Notes from Well Wishers (2 of 2)
Why I am a Member of the Church of Christ
Altamesa COC
Articles and Critical Mail
Personal Notes to Bro. Haddox
Chappell, Nancy- Nashville, TN
DLU Folder
Esther

**Box 7**
International Communication
What Does Islam Really Stand For?
Caring Records 1990-1991 (1 of 2)
Caring Records 1990-1991 (2 of 2)
Pony Express- David Lipscomb High School 1961-1962
Caring Price List/ Order Form
Family Tree
Article on Caring
Lectureship
Seminars
Stationery & Logos
Appeals- Caring

**Box 8**
Letters Responding From Christianity Today (1 of 2)
Letters Responding From Christianity Today (2 of 2)
Bluecross (1 of 2)
Bluecross (2 of 2)
What is Caring Ministry
Caring Excerpts
Questionnaire on Printed Material
Article on Becton’s Faith
Caring Ministry Catalog
Caring Ministry Questionnaire
Caring/ Share Pieces
How Does A Christian Handle A Cancer Operation?
Caring
Though I Walk Through the Valley
Caring- Sharing Piece #2- God Uses Suffering
Share Piece #8: The Light Through the Window
How to be Secure in Our Parenthood
C.O.P.E
Caring :Visiting the Sick
Intro Letters
Who Cares for our Children? The Status of Child Care in Texas
Cancer Hurts Before it Kills
Grand Parenting in Today’s World
Where is God When the Going Gets Tough
Reflections on the Shepherd's Psalm
Hogg Foundation News
Lord, Teach Us
The Gospel for the Person Who Has Everything
What's Right With the Church
Adult Children of Alcoholics
Texas Pulpit Christian Preachers
Growing Up Scared in America
Stories for the Heart
Who is This Jesus
7 Ways God Can Help You be Happier
“Struggling” Column in International
Why Am I Still A Christian
The New Paganism
Evangelistic Preaching that Connects
A Cry of Absence
**Box 9**

What Really Matters
Tapes (Others)
Tapes (RB)
Caring/ Hospice
Alister McGrath
The Biblical Doctrine of Man
His Love Compels Us
Conspiracy of Kindness
The Bible and the Role of Women: A Case Study in Hermeneutics
The Imitation of God in Christ
Cosmopolis
Credibility/ Mass Media Religion
Jesus and Generation X
Articles/ Tapes
RB Summer Course (ACU)
America, It's Not Too Late
William Barclay: A Spiritual Autobiography
Jesus as They Saw Him
If I Were Starting My Family Again
Edwin Friedman
Everyday Evangelism
The Challenge of Postmodernism

**Box 10**

Our Lord
The Body
Making Sense of Pain and Suffering
Telling Secrets
Tracks of a Fellow Struggler
The Broken Covenant
Accountability
The Practice of Ministry as Caregiver
Things That Matter
Yankee Doodle Went to Church
Lifestyle Evangelism
The Healing Power of a Positive Mind
Message of Psalms
A Hero: Jean Valjean
Healing Journey of Adult Children of Alcoholics
The Search for God: A Christian Perspective
Everyday Evangelism: Making the Most of Life’s Everyday Moments
Be Happier Starting Now
Pastoral Care Emergencies
A Christian Manifesto
How to Improve Your Minimum
The Highway of God
The Higher Happiness
A Historical View of Elders
On Being a Real Person
Solzhenitsyn

Box 11
Recovering From the Loss of Life
Finding Contentment
Bridge- 1/9/94
Plain and Simple Step Away From the Rat Race- 2/23/94
The Way We Never Here-1/12/94
When You Feel Like Giving Up- 2/18/94
Carl Sagin- Rules to Live By
Stephen Carter- The Culture of Discipleship
Living Above Life’s Loses
Fractured Relationships
When Your Dreams Have Died
When Your Dreams Have Died
Famous Last Words- 3/1/94
Script - Famous Last Words- 5/94
Oskar Schindler “Ripper of Charity”- 3/1/94
Lord, Help My Hurting Family- 1/26/94
God’s Blessing- 1/18/94
C.S. Lewis “Joy Unattainable”- 6/94
The Future of God- 3/1/94
Death: The Relief From Life Imprisonment- 3/9/94
Facing A Crisis Alone- 4/9/94
New Life is Possible- 3/1/94
New Life is Possible- 6/94
Violence in America- 3/8/94
Violence in America (Folder 2)
When You Decide to Look for Treasure- 1/7/94
Is Hollywood Getting the Message- 1/10/94
The Excellence of Being Average- 11/1/94
Richard Okill- “Love Thy Enemy”- 1/12/94
When the Foundations are Shaken- 2/4/94
Pain: The Gift that Nobody Wants- 2/14/94
Life Without Illusions- 2/24/94
The Changing 7- 1/5/94
And Then She Just Disappeared- 1/6/94
Vance Script
Pain & The Community of Faith Pt. 3- 2/28/94
When You Feel Like Giving Up- 4/94
Notes From The Caring Touch Meeting- 2/6/94
The Sandwich Generation- 1/3/94
How Do you talk to A Threatener?- 1/14/94
Katie’s Story
Pablo’s Story
The Two Little Girls No One Wanted- 1/10/94
The Fugitive in Each of Us
Our Heart’s Deepest Longing- 1/3/94
Childhood Abuse- 1/17/94
Finding a Way to Forgive- 3/9/94
Harlem Knight- 4/18/94
The Matter Money
From Victim to Victor- 4/18/94
Healing for Dysfunctional Families
Home Alone- Latch Key Kids
Home Alone: Latch Key Kids
Tribute to All Graduates
Nature’s Healing Power
Blessed is the Man That Endures Temptation
Blessed is the Man Who Endureth Temptation
Removing Stones with Self Sacrificing Love
A Life Touched by the Master- 1/3/94
Is Religion Good For You
Invincible People- 1/3/94
Face of the Dark- 3/14/94
The Other Charles Dickens- 4/18/94
A Cry of the Heart
Her Children Rise and Call Hr Blessed- 4/19/94
The Silhouette of My Mother- 3/14/94
Bloom on Love- 1/10/94
Bloom on Love Pt. 1- 1/10/94
When Your Child Rebels- 1/18/94
Kids that Plan Their Own Funerals- 1/21/94
Real Music, Real People
Little Girl on the Prairie
Happiness Radio Script
The Fine Art of Rebounding
The Boy From the Seminary
Triumph in the Midst of Tragedy
Winning Over Despair- 1/4/94
Dads that Make a Difference
The Robert Allen Story
Prayer of Surrender- 3/26/94
Hollywood Love Affair with Psychiatry
Health is Not Forever
Prison: The Story of Rochelle
That Other Best Selling Writer
How Do I When I’m a Success
The Danger of Shortcuts in Life
Suddenly Unemployed
Slowing Down in the Fast Lane
Deadly Words- 1/3/94
The Changing of Harold
A View from the Hospital Bed
Finding A Reason for Hope
Carols Private War
Unconditional Love (Becoming a Child)
Making it Through December
Walking- 1/14/94
Making A Difference
Self-Created Stress- An American Disease- 2/9/94
Modern Day Job- 2/8/94
The Wandering Child
President Clinton’s Speech- 1/27/94
Presence: What the Sick and Dying Need- 1/7/94
Can I be Forgiven
Nancy Drew-- On Blessing Our Children
Marcus: Where Is His Security?
City of Joy-- The Slum that Changes People’s Lives
Love is Stronger, Love is Stronger

**Box 12**

It’s Time of Launder Your Money
A World that Has No Children
Peace-- Not Absence of Turmoil
Never Be a Quitter
Great Expectations
The Hole
Children of Captivity
Her Last Drink of Water
Ripples
Caring “Share Pieces” #1-#16
Family
The Role of the Family in Spiritual Formation
How to Assess and Meet the Needs of Families in the Church
Your Aging Parents (When Love is Not Enough)
Quotes about Grandparents
Models for Evangelism in Family Issues/ The Asian Model and Evangelism Through Crisis Intervention
Family Stress Literature Suggest
Context/ Why are there So Many Happy Families (Notes)
Blessing
Family Stresses- Opportunities To Minister in the Name of Christ
Evangelising Through Family Ministry/ Can We Move From Repair to Prevention in Christian Family Life
Encouragement: The Lifeblood of Family Life
Family Unity: Making Memories That Last
The Biblical Basis for Ministering to the Family
Marriage
Can We Move From Repair to Prevention I
Change (1 of 2)
Change (2of 2)
Dealing With Tiny Minorities
Going Home
You Have Cancer: How Will You Deal With It
Lessons About Community and Church
Why Am I a Member of the Church of Christ
Hermeneutics in the Church of Christ
On Passing the Test
Who is Jesus
Church of Christ
Brokenness
Cancer
All Things Work for Good
Suggestions for the Healing Helper
What the Sick Need the Most
Coping With Catastrophes
Talking Time: Support for People with Cancer and the People Who Care About Them
Facing Forward: A Guide for Cancer Survivors
A Caring Community
Life Made New
Discovering Jesus
Bible Correspondence Course: They Followed God
Basic Bible Course
This Man was the Son of God: The Message of the Gospel of Mark
Steps to a Successful Family Inquiry
Search for Truth
World Bible School/ Bible Study Course
Accountability
Training With a Championship Coach
An Open Letter to Becky’s Father
Aids Articles
America and Christianity (1 of 2)
America and Christianity (2 of 2)
Alcoholism
Alzheimer’s Disease & the Caregiver

Box 13
Evangelism and Discipleship
Seeking God
Reasons We Believe
Can Americans Still Hear the Good News
Give God the Praise
Developing a Christ-Like Spirit
A Time for Healing: Coming to Terms with Divorce
Marriage and Divorce
Divorce
Depression
Robert Coles
Evangelism
BIBM 740- Theology of Evangelism
Evangelism Training
Evangelism Through Family Ministry
Family For Evangelism: ACU Lectureship 1991
Subscription
The Highway of God
Stonewalls Do Not Make a Prison
Why Am I Still a Christian
Religion without Wrappings
On Being a Real Person
Everyday Evangelism
Anchors in Troubled Waters
When Life Tumbles In: Conquering Life’s Problems
When Home is a Danger Zone- CTS 374
A Trip to the Prison- CTS 364
Our Fear of Dying- CTS 363
Spiritual Growth Reading List
There's More to Life: Show IQ- CTS 468
When Bad Things Happen to Good People- CTS 467
If Jesus Talked with a Homosexual- CTS 460
Money and Marriage- CTS 469
There is More- CTS 392
The Silence of God Pt.1- CTS 397
The Silence of God Pt. 2- CTS 398

Box 14
The New Spirituality- CTS 391
A Plan for Simplicity- CTS 389
Spiritually Single- CTS 410
Spiritual Grandparenting- CTS 406
Whistleblower- CTS 403
Radio Love and My Pain- CTS 445
When Parenting Means Pain- CTS 428
Memories- CTS 426
Overcoming Fatigue- CTS 422
God’s Love and My Pain- CTS 445
Herald of Truth Donor Status Report
February
March
Correspondence
Faith Village Church of Christ Member List
Hot Incorporation
Bank Of America Statements
Misc Office Supplies
Bank Deposits 2001
Phone
Printing
Water/ Electric
Advertizing
Gift Letters 00
Preparing for the Holidays Grief Seminar
Caring: Advertising
What is the Caring Ministry
Caring Ministry
God and Me
Caring Misc
Caring Team
Randy Becton
Caring Ads. Publication
Preparing Ads Nov. 1994,92,93
Preparing Nov. 1994 Attendees
Seminar
Beatitudes for Friends of the Aged
2 Col. x4/ 2 Col. x3
Grief Seminar 1997
Caring Report 1997
Caring Reports
Thanksgiving Dinner 1996- Caring
Christian Chronicle
Ink Windgeword Blue
It Hurts to Lose a Special Person
Preparing for the Holidays: Coping with Grief
It Hurts
**Box 15**
Books
Books Written by Randy Becton

**Box 16**
CDs
Tapes
Floppy Discs