



ALASKA MISSION of Seventh-day Adventists

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718 BARROW ST.  
● ANCHORAGE, ALASKA  
March 10, 1960

REC'D MAR 14

Elder A. L. White  
6810 Eastern Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 12, D. C.

Dear Brother White:

The General Conference has given us a church manual as a guide for the organization in operation of our Seventh-day Adventist churches. This is the first time in my experience that I have had anyone challenge the church board in their interpretation of this church manual. Are there any references in the published volumes of the Spirit of Prophecy or any unpublished statements which would be helpful in interpreting the church manual?

To be specific, the Anchorage Seventh-day Adventist church has been renting its building to a Sunday-keeping organization. This organization has used the baptistry. The baptistry has been rented out to other organizations. A request came in to the church board to use the baptistry from an organization which had used it in November of 1958. The board took an action to permit them to use the baptistry. Certain members of the church, on learning of this, challenged the board's right to act on such a request. There were statements brought to us from Acts of the Apostles and also from Elder Montgomery's book, but there are none of these statements which says definitely that a church board shall not act on such a request. Different individuals interpret the statements in a different way. Is there any information which you can pass on to us that would be helpful in this situation? No doubt there will be a lively issue in our church business meeting which will be held the first Sabbath evening of April.

I would also appreciate any information concerning the counsel and policy that should be followed in desiring whether a Seventh-day Adventist church should be rented out to be used by a Sunday-keeping organization. Does the General Conference have a policy on this?

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Attached

Is there a policy in the denomination concerning members holding offices in civic, county, or state political organizations? We have those in our church who bring statements from the Spirit of Prophecy indicating that it is not in harmony with the teachings of the Spirit of Prophecy to take part in political organizations

"Voting"  
attached.

Elder A. L. White


-2-

March 10, 1960

or campaigns. They also contend that it endangers ones spiritual standing with heaven and against the teachings of the Spirit of Prophecy to vote in political campaigns such as governor, president, and so forth.

I would greatly appreciate it, Elder White, if we could have an early answer to these questions.

Sincerely yours,

  
A. L. ZUMWALT  
President

ALZ:hml