

September 16, 1960

Dr. Robert E. Elliott
Perkins School of Theology
Dallas 5, Texas

Dear Bob:

Enclosed is the syllabus of the first two hour sequence of our year long four hour course in pastoral care. As you can immediately see, most of my ideas for structuring this study have been borrowed from you. I am afraid that the first page of the syllabus is rather threatening to students but I am not apologetic about it.

Classes are just beginning here and I suppose things are beginning to get underway at Perkins too. We will miss our friends there very much. We like Enid, and I regard this teaching opportunity as an exceptionally challenging one. In addition to the course in pastoral care, I will be teaching courses in Christian ethics, historical theology, and Methodist doctrine. I am hoping that before too long we can work an arrangement with one of our two hospitals here for some pastoral work in a clinical setting. One hospital is Roman Catholic and one is Southern Baptist, so I expect this to involve some planning and slow hammering out, but I have hopes that something can be arranged.

Our representative to COSTS is a brilliant young man who joined the Phillips faculty three years ago from the University of Chicago. His name is Eugene Peters. I am sure you will look forward to getting acquainted with him, and I have told him about you.

Good news! Edrita and I are expecting. The second young member of our family should be here around March 1. Bob, I want to keep in touch with you about things in general. I think things have been going pretty smoothly since I left Dallas. With all good wishes to you, Dorothy, and the Perkins community, I remain,

Yours cordially and sincerely,

Thomas C. Oden

TCO:ph

