My best wishes to you and Corretta. If ever you should come this way, stop to see us. We can always be located through Johnson C. Smith Univ. My prayers go with you in your work, in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

[signed] Jeanne Martin Brayboy

Do you see Rev. Crockett? What fun it'd be to reminisce of old times! Pardon bad pen.

ALS. MLKP-MBU: Box 91.

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3. Brayboy refers to Roosevelt David Crockett (1917-1968), a Dexter deacon and chaplain of Alabama State College who received his Ph.D. from Boston University shortly before King.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project

To William E. Newgent

26 April 1956

[Montgomery, Ala.]

Newgent, a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, wrote King on 20 April about a newspaper report that stated that he had been asked to resign as Dexter pastor. "In substance," Newgent said in his letter, "the thought was expressed that some of your members were being influenced by outsiders and they wanted only peaceful living, and had requested your resignation."

Mr. William E. Newgent
17 67th Avenue, S.E.
Washington 27, D.C.

Dear Mr. Newgent:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your very kind letter of April 20, expressing concern about my situation. If a Washington paper carried a report that I was asked to resign as pastor of my church, it has revealed a total erroneous impression. My congregation is with my stand now and has been with it one-hundred per cent. Actually, the mix-up probably came because of some difficulties which developed with a minister on the other side of town by the name of Rev. U. J. Fields. There were three or four members of his church who tried to bring some type of charge against him but they insisted that it had nothing to do with the bus protest. The charges were later dropped. Rev. Fields is Secretary of The Mont-
gomery Improvement Association and is still pastor of The Bell Street Baptist Church.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,
M. L. King, Jr.,
President
MLK:b

TLc. MLKP-MBU: Box 63A.

Address to MIA Mass Meeting at Day Street Baptist Church

[26 April 1956]
[Montgomery, Ala.]

At an MIA mass meeting at Day Street Baptist Church King reads the executive board’s recommendation to continue the bus protest after city and state officials contested the National City Lines’ decision to end segregated seating. Despite bus company officials’ unwillingness to meet with MIA leaders during recent negotiations with the city, King expresses appreciation for their stand, explaining, “Our action now is not aimed at putting the bus company out of business, but only at putting justice in business.” The crowd of three thousand greeted the resolutions with a “thunderous ovation,” unanimously approving the decision to continue the boycott.¹ CBS News recorded this excerpt.

[King:] Thank you very much my friends. That certainly is very kind of you. We never assemble with a feeling of a sense of bitterness. We always assemble with deep tones of love in our hearts. [Audience:] (Yeah) And we always assemble with great hope and with a feeling of the ultimate triumph of righteousness and justice. (Yeah) [applause] It is certainly gratifying to—(Can you turn the mike up? Turn on the mike) I don’t know if the mike . . . [recording interrupted] that to see you in such large numbers. We are very happy to see you. And I know you are here because of your interests in this movement and because of your determination to stand in the same sense of dignity that you’ve always stood in. (Yeah) Whereas it is unanimously agreed . . . [recording interrupted] the adjustment involved in the emergence of any new order. (Yeah, That’s right) And we must be willing to confront the onslaught of the recalcitrance of the old order. (Yeah, That’s right) And we must stand with the deep spirit of Christian love (That’s right) as we have always done. (That’s right, All right) We started out with . . . [recording interrupted]

Several things have happened since we met together on last Monday evening. (Oh yeah) We had a very fine meeting at the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church and we discussed in that meeting the decision which had been handed down that day,