

Up to \$5000.00 Reward Offered By Concord UMC Member and Whistleblower Joseph Carson, PE ¹

How to obtain it: File a complaint against CUMC member Joseph Carson, PE (professional engineer), based on his years-long “harassment of,” and/or “behaviors that undermine the ministry of Rev. Larry Trotter at Concord United Methodist Church,” per the Book of Discipline.² If there is a final determination of any wrongdoing on Engineer (Engr.) Carson’s part, the complainant(s) will receive \$2500.00. If the complaint results in a “just resolution,” the complainant(s) will receive \$5000.00.³

Engr. Carson went to court with his claims that Rev. Trotter, in “disobedience to the order and discipline of the UMC” subjected Engr. Carson to “harassment.” How? By his willful and knowing violation of the eight commandment in baselessly defaming Engr. Carson as a threat of violence, who needed to be searched and accompanied at CUMC.⁴ Why? Because Engr. Carson had filed a complaint against him, per the Book of Discipline, that he and CUMC were enabling evil - not resisting it - by their bystanding to: 1) the established legal record of repeated federal agency retaliatory law-breaking against Engr. Carson, and 2) Engr. Carson’s well-evidenced claims of continuing federal agency law-breaking that he publicly contends puts America and civilization at unnecessarily increased risk of a nuclear 9/11 or other catastrophe.⁵

At no time has Rev. Trotter - or anyone else on staff at CUMC or serving on its security team - claimed their actions against Engr. Carson are based, in any way, in the “law and doctrine” of the UMC - the Book of Discipline. Instead, the Bishop Virginia Taylor of the Holston Conference

¹ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness’ sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Matt 5:6,10-11

² Engr. Carson’s website www.revtrottersvows.com describes, in extensive detail, his efforts to be faithful to his membership vows in this matter. Relevant excerpts of the current version of the Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, which constitutes its “law and doctrine,” are included with this letter.

³ The money will be placed in escrow at escrow.com or in some other mutually agreeable arrangement, to be split between no more than ten complainants (as one might expect, Engr. Carson would prefer complainants who are long-time CUMC members and who provide CUMC significant financial support). However, by the Book of Discipline, anyone - not just CUMC or UMC professing members - can file a complaint. Engr. Carson hopes this appeal generates dozens of complaints, expressions of concern, and/or withholding of financial pledges - too many for Rev. Trotter and Bishop Taylor to ignore. Consistent with the emphasis in the Book of Discipline of complaints being resolved with a “just resolution,” the reward offered is doubled for that outcome.

⁴ Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. Exodus 21:16; Deuteronomy 5:20. In some traditions, this is the ninth commandment.

⁵ Rev. Trotter did not contest Engr. Carson’s claims, which is the same as admitting them for purposes of legal proof. To Engr. Carson’s knowledge, he has never contested them.

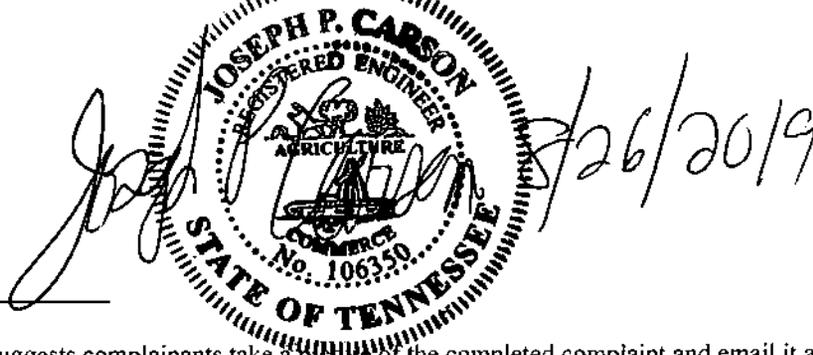
and her handpicked cabinet of district superintendents have repeatedly refused to allow any investigation of this matter per the Book of Discipline, using a technicality not available to prevent an investigation if a complaint is filed against Engr. Carson, a lay member of CUMC. Hence this reward offer.

So which is it? Who is resisting evil and who is enabling and/or advancing it? Who is risking and sacrificing to adhere to their UMC membership vows and who is disobeying the order and discipline of the UMC? Well, Engr. Carson is willing to pay up to \$5000.00 to have his actions investigated by the Book of Discipline, while Bishop Taylor and her cabinet use technicalities to evade any investigation of this matter.

A suggested complaint, per the Book of Discipline, ¶228.2(b)(5), is enclosed.⁶ If you do not wish to file a complaint, but wish to advance a resolution of this troubling, long-standing, situation, then Engr. Carson suggests you inform the Church office that you intend to withhold all or some of your pledged support until a committee on investigation is appointed as a result of a judicial complaint against Engr. Carson, per Book of Discipline ¶¶2704-2706, or a just resolution is reached.

Finally, please contact Jennifer Stansberry in Congressman Burchett's Knoxville office to ask Congressman Burchett to use his office to advance on objective resolution of Engr. Carson's 15 year-long, still unresolved, whistleblower disclosures involving federal agencies. Her email is jennifer.stansberry@mail.house.gov. Her phone number is 865-523-3772.⁷

Engr. Carson has a legal obligation to make public statements as this, relevant to public health and safety, in a "truthful and objective" manner. At end of it, Engr. Carson contends Rev. Trotter's professional misconduct enables and contributes to much harm and risk to public and workplace health and safety. Therefore, his use of his PE stamp in this reward offer.⁸



⁶ Engr. Carson suggests complainants take a picture of the completed complaint and email it as an attachment to Rev. Trotter, Rev. Robins and him. Engr. Carson does not wish to discuss this matter on Sunday mornings at CUMC, there are better times and places. His phone is 865-300-5831, his email is jpcarson@tds.net. He welcomes a skeptical attitude to his claims and motivations, he has nothing to hide.

⁷ Engr. Carson's website www.merit-principles.org describe his whistleblower disclosures in extensive detail.

⁸ In 2015 the TN Engineering Board considered whether Engr. Carson's whistleblower disclosures and implications for public and workplace health and safety were "truthful and objective." After considering their basis in law and fact, it took no exception their "truthful and objective" nature.

Date: _____

Printed name of Complainant(s) _____

Signature of Complainant(s)

Address of Complainant(s) _____

Phone no. of complainant(s) _____

Per the Book of Discipline at ¶228.2(b)(5), I lodge a written complaint against CUMC professing member Joseph Carson, PE, for his possible: 1) disobedience to the order and discipline of the UMC; 2) harassment of Rev. Larry Trotter, and 3) behaviors that undermine Rev. Trotter's ministry at CUMC - all chargeable offenses by the Book of Discipline at ¶2702.3. I use the word "possible" because Engr. Carson is willing to pay up to \$5000.00 to be investigated by the process described in the Book of Discipline because he believes such an investigation will find his claims and actions in this matter are justified, if not mandated, by his membership vows and the Book of Discipline.

Engr. Carson's website, www.revtrottersvows.com, details this years-long, troubling, situation. I understand Engr. Carson, consistent with the Book of Discipline, hopes this matter can be resolved by a just resolution. I do too.

Per the requirements of the Book of Discipline, I am serving this complaint by postal mail, or email, or personally (please circle the process used to serve each person) upon:

Rev. Larry Trotter, Senior Minister (service method used: personal; email; or US mail)

CUMC

11020 Roane Drive

Knoxville, TN 37934

<larry@concordumc.com>

Engr. Joseph Carson, PE, professing member, CUMC (served by: personal; email; or US mail)

10953 Twin Harbour Drive

Knoxville, TN 37934

<jpcarson@tds.net> phone: 865-300-5831

Rev. Ann Robins, District Superintendent (served by: personal; email; or US mail)

Tennessee Valley District of the Holston Conference

P.O. Box 26384

Knoxville, TN 37912

<AnnRobins@holston.org>

The (current, 2016) Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church Constitutes its Law and Doctrine.

Excerpts from 2016 Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church:

Preamble of Constitution (page 25):

...Under the discipline of the Holy Spirit the church seeks to provide for the maintenance of worship, the edification of believers, and the redemption of the world.

Our Theological Task ¶105, The Present Challenge to Theology in the Church, pages 88-89

....

The perils of nuclear destruction, terrorism, war, poverty, violence, and injustice confront us. Injustices linked to race, gender, class, and age are widespread in our times....

We seek an authentic Christian response to these realities that the healing and redeeming work of God might be present in our words and deeds. Too often, theology is used to support practices that are unjust....

The Social Principles ¶165, The World Community, pages 142-43

God's world is one world. The unity now being thrust upon us by technological revolution has far outrun our moral and spiritual capacity to achieve a stable world. The enforced unity of humanity, increasingly evident on all levels of life, presents the Church as well as all people with problems that will not wait for answer: injustice, war, exploitation, privilege, population, international ecological crisis, proliferation of arsenals of nuclear weapons, development of transnational business organizations that operate beyond the effective control of any governmental structure, and the increase of tyranny in all its forms. This generation must find viable answers to these and related questions if humanity is to continue on this earth.....

Church Membership ¶217, page 157

When persons unite as professing members with a local United Methodist church

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They covenant together with God and with the members of the local church to keep the vows (of membership, including).....To renounce the spiritual forces of

wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of their sin;

Care of Members ¶228.2(b)(5), (6) and (7) pages 165-166

(5) A written complaint or grievance may be filed against a professing member by serving the complaint or grievance on the professing member, the pastor of the professing member and the district superintendent of the professing member.

(6) The pastor and district superintendent of the accused professing member shall attempt a just resolution process similar to the supervisory response in ¶ 362.1(b, c) with the professing member's district superintendent or designee leading the process.

(7) If the procedures of ¶ 362.1(b, c) do not result in resolution of the matter and if the conduct alleged in the complaint or grievance, if true, would be a chargeable offense found in ¶ 2702.3, then the procedures of ¶ 2701 and following paragraphs are to be followed...

Administrative Fair Process, ¶362.1 - Complaint Procedures, pages 314-15

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A just resolution is one that focuses on repairing any harm to people and communities, achieving real accountability by making things right in so far as possible and bringing healing to all the parties....

.....

Just Resolution—The supervisory response may include a process that seeks a just resolution in which the parties are assisted by a trained, impartial third party facilitator(s) or mediator(s), in reaching an agreement satisfactory to all parties....

Chargeable Offenses and Statute of Limitations §2702.3, page 789

A professing member of a local church may be charged with the following offenses, and, if so, may choose a trial ...disobedience to the order and discipline of The United Methodist Church;... harassment; ...behaviors that undermine the ministry of persons serving within an appointment.