

February 9, 2018

Ms. Beth Crawford, Chair Church Council
Concord United Methodist Church
11020 Roane Drive
Knoxville, TN 37934

Mr. Dave Conklin, Chair Pastor-Parish Relations Committee
Concord United Methodist Church
11020 Roane Drive
Knoxville, TN 37934

Subject: Joseph Carson, PE, complaint about apparent deep-seated corruption in Concord United Methodist Church to the President of the College of Bishops of the SE Jurisdiction of UMC

Dear Ms. Crawford and Mr. Conklin,

Attached is my recent complaint to Bishop Carter.

As I understand the Rules of Civil Procedure of the State of Tennessee, it is now a legally established fact that Rev. Trotter hoped to foment my murder by a mentally unbalanced member of Concord United Methodist Church by sharing with many his baseless claim that I was a threat of a murderous rampage in the Church.

He may well still harbour such a hope and I may end up being murdered by as a result of his professional misconduct. Outside of my being murdered by an mentally unbalanced member of CUMC, how else will my claims his professional misconduct on his part be resolved, absent people like you finally demanding that the Book of Discipline process be employed to resolve them? Until the Book of Discipline process is applied to this matter, I pledge that I will do everything I legally can - without doing anything disruptive on or with CUMC property - to engage in “behaviors that undermine (his) ministry” at CUMC.¹ I will do so as the duty of Christian discipleship and faithful membership in CUMC.²

I have nothing to hide about my actions, taken or planned, and motivations - if you (or anyone else) in CUMC, Holston Conference, wish to meet, fine. But I insist a written complaint be filed against me first, per ¶ 228.2b5.

¹ See 2016 UMC Book of Discipline (“Discipline”) ¶ 2702.3j

² See Discipline ¶ 217. If I am murdered as a cost of Christian obedience, then I think you will bear some measure of responsibility.

In contrast to me, Rev. Trotter apparently has quite a bit to hide, which is why I write things as this to you after he tells my wife that he won't allow a complaint to be filed against me "out of love." "Love" to Rev. Trotter apparently means he hopes that his describing me as a threat of violence results in my being murdered, according to his court filings. He apparently would also consider my being murdered a "just resolution" of my claims.³

It is bystanding of lay leaders to my claims of corruption and professional misconduct on Rev. Trotter's part that have allowed this matter to reach this point. I don't see it changing until lay leaders at CUMC stop bystanding and start complying with their vows and Book of Discipline. To advance this objective, I have created a website, <http://revtrottersvows.com/>, which I will start publicize widely via social media, unless a written complaint is filed against me in near future - or unless the lay leadership of CUMC informs me in the near future that if I file another complaint against Rev. Trotter that Bishop Taylor and her hand-picked cabinet will NOT dismiss the complaint, per ¶362.1*etl*.

Your brother in Christ,

Joseph Carson, PE
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³ "Just resolution" is repeatedly described as the objective of the Book of Discipline process. As described in ¶ 362.1, "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."