

June 26, 2017

Rev. Larry Trotter, Senior Minister  
Concord United Methodist Church  
11020 Roane Avenue  
Farragut, TN 37934 www.concordumc.com

Subject: My intention to file a defamation suit against you

Dear Reverend Trotter,

While you apparently profess “love” as being why you will not file a misconduct complaint against me per the Book of Discipline - and President Bishop Taylor and her “gang” of cabinet members apparently will not allow any complaint I file to go forward - you also apparently baselessly defame me as a threat of violence - possibly motivated to stoke murderous violence against me - and engage in cyber-bullying against me. It seems to me that your “love” in this matter extends only to your professional standing and economic security.

The stakes could be the “redemption of the world” - I am trying to expose and end what I reasonably believe to be civilization-threatening federal agency law-breaking - while you, in my opinion, violate your membership vows and ordination covenant by tacitly enabling it.<sup>1</sup>

I think the reason you will not file a misconduct complaint against me per the Book of Discipline is because you fear what would be exposed about your misconduct against me at the church trial I would request. Apparently, it is all about you, your professional standing and economic security - nothing else - not even the “redemption of the world” - seems to matter.<sup>2</sup>

Therefore, because Holston Conference Bishop Taylor and her cabinet - apparently out of self-interest - will not allow any complaint I file to go forward and because you have repeatedly stated your refusal to file (or allowed anyone else to file) a complaint against me, I now intend to file a defamation suit against you in civil court.

I will NOT do anything disruptive on or with Church property as this proceeds. I will engage in no law-breaking. “Redemptive violence” may be a myth that you believe it, given how you have possibly tried to stoke acts of violence against me, but I reject it. I accept the truth of “redemptive suffering” though, and if my efforts to expose and end the corruption and

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<sup>1</sup> See 2016 Book of Discipline, Part 1, “The Constitution,” Preamble, last sentence of first paragraph; ¶ 165, first paragraph; and ¶ 217.

<sup>2</sup> The 2016 Book of Discipline, at ¶ 228(b)(5-9), describes how this situation should be handled - but that would require you to obey the order and discipline of The United Methodist Church.

institutional evil I now perceive present in Concord United Methodist Church, the Holston Conference and General Board on Church and Society results in my being murdered or otherwise wrongly persecuted, then I accept that God's will on earth can be advanced via such redemptive suffering. Such redemptive suffering was modeled and commended by Jesus, his apostles, and saints throughout the ages.<sup>3</sup>

Respectfully,

Joseph Carson, PE  
member, Concord United Methodist Church  
10953 Twin Harbour Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37934

copy:

Presiding Bishop Virginia Taylor, Holston Conference  
Rev. Dr. Susan Henry-Crowe, General Secretary, General Board on Church and Society  
John Eldridge, the attorney you and/or Bishop Taylor hired to intimidate me - I challenge him to take legal action he said he would if I wrote to you again - it will accomplish the same ends as the defamation suit  
Tracy Brison, Chair, Church Council, Concord United Methodist Church  
Dave Conklin, Chair, Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, Concord United Methodist Church

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<sup>3</sup> No one has yet attempted to justify your bystanding and/or that of other ordained leaders of The United Methodist Church to established legal records of corporation or government agency law-breaking that harms or kills people or reasonably evidenced claims of such law-breaking. I say it cannot be done by the 2016 Book of Discipline. However, if I am presented with contrary determinations of the Judicial Council or other authoritative precedent, I will accept it and move on, see <http://www.theopennetworkus.org/blogarchive/2017/1/20/resolute>.