

January 9, 2019

To: Membership of Concord United Methodist Church (CUMC) www.concordumc.com

From: Joseph Carson, PE, deeply concerned member of CUMC, jpcarson@tds.net

Subject: My allegations of “chargeable offenses” against Rev. Larry Trotter and my offer of up to \$2500.00 to advance their resolution, per Book of Discipline.

Related Websites: www.revtrottersvows.com and www.merit-principles.org.

The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church (UMC) constitutes its law and doctrine.¹ Paragraph (¶) 217 of the Book of Discipline contains our membership vows, and states that we “covenant together with God and each other” to keep them. By our membership vows, we “reject the evil powers of the world” and “resist evil, injustice, and oppression.”

It is increasingly apparent that if we fail to individually and collectively uphold our vows, even at risk to our professional standing and economic security, the redemption of the world will be imperiled (if humanity destroys earth’s life support systems, what will there be to “redeem”?). The Book of Discipline says much the same at ¶165 - that UMC members must be individually and collectively faithful to their vows if planet earth of the year 2119 is to have much chance of being other than a burnt-out, depopulated, cinder.²

The website www.revtrottersvows.com details my allegations of Rev. Trotter’s chargeable offenses and my offer of up to \$2500.00 to CUMC member(s) who file a complaint against me, per the Book of Discipline.³ None of this is in any corner, this letter follows years of my trying to comply with my vows and the Book of Discipline process to obtain what the Book of Discipline calls a “just resolution.”

I have nothing to hide about my actions or motivations – and if there is anything in this for me other than to “act justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God,” (Micah 6:8), then what is it?

Finally, another way to be in covenant with our vows in this matter would be to inform the leadership of CUMC of your intention to withhold all or a portion of your financial support until an investigation, per the Book of Discipline, is started.

Sunday morning at CUMC is for worship and Sunday School. If you wish to communicate with me about this matter, including critiques of my motives and actions to resolve it per the Book of Discipline, fine, but, please, not on Sunday morning at CUMC.

¹ See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Discipline_\(United_Methodist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book_of_Discipline_(United_Methodist)). Both it and UMC Book of Resolutions are edited every four years at the General Conference. The Book of Discipline is organized by paragraphs even though many of its “paragraphs” are pages in length and contain sub and sub-sub, etc. paragraphs.

² However, neither I nor the Book of Discipline describe such faithfulness as sufficient to prevent large scale civilizational collapse in coming decades, only that it is necessary.

³ Based on my allegations against him being baseless harassment that undermines his ministry at CUMC.