

November 8, 2018

The Rev. David Guthrie  
President, Provincial Elders' Conference  
459 South Church Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Dear Brother Guthrie,

We are sending our petition and final signatures to the Provincial Elders' Conference to act on behalf of the Concerned Moravians' appeal to restore the Southern Province to unity within its own boundaries and back into the unity of the world-wide church. We currently have over 900 signatures from concerned Moravians throughout our province, with the involvement of congregants from over 30 churches to support this appeal.

This group, which continues to grow, is seeking possible actions that can be taken to rectify the unconstitutional synod decisions and to restore our church to the unity that existed before synod. We are making a final plea for strong action to be taken by the leadership of our church. We believe correcting these issues by repealing any unconstitutional resolution is within the realm of power of the church leadership. This is evidenced by the text of Resolution 44 of the COUF, from the Unity Synod, which, while addressed to the North American Northern Province, states that their synod's 2014 action "does not involve only the American Northern Province, since the issue of ordination and marriage concerns the very essence of practice and life of the world-wide *Unitas Fratrum*". This resolution gives the Unity Board power to act for the Unity Synod, as does the text of the COUF's Article 885, section a, which states "Unity Synod should speak to [this issue] as it relates to the ministry of the church".

We have been disheartened to learn of grave shortages in monthly budget reports from many of the churches represented within our group. We are aware many congregants have stopped tithing to their church and are diverting their giving to the causes that support God's work in other ways. They are not tithing to a province that has broken the unity that makes up the world-wide Moravian Church, a church which has stood firmly for five hundred and sixty-one years! We are also concerned that little or no action to bring our province back into alignment with the Church Order of the *Unitas Fratrum* and with the Southern Province Book of Order by our provincial and world-wide leadership will create even more division and destruction of our churches within the province. More congregants are making the decision to leave our churches and/or pursuing other actions to bring the Southern Province back into agreement with our constitutions.

Please take our plea and our petition seriously. We are asking that, per COUF Resolution #602, the Provincial Board will make an appeal to the Unity Board for resolution of this unconstitutional action. You have the authority to do this. We are requesting a response by November 19th. This matter is critical to the future of our church family. We look forward to receiving your response and would like to meet with you at a December meeting. We feel the Southern Province congregants deserve an answer. We are hopeful that a resolution to this unconstitutional action will be achieved before the Christmas Holidays and the end of this year.

Concerned Moravians

Kay Adams, Diane Hubbard, Eddie Hubbard, Dick Joyce, Richard Key, Compton Lane.  
Cynthia Morgan, Judy Tayloe, JohnnieTayloe, and 900 other Concerned Moravians