Moravians In Crisis – A Call To Action

Thank: Non Moravian Guests

Jules Modlinski

John & Judy Tayloe

Our Czech and African Brothers and Sisters

All the CM Leadership Who've worked so hard

Bethabara Moravian Church For Gracious Use Of Their Facilities

A reporter once yelled at President Harry Truman, "Give 'em Hell, Harry". The President shot back, "I just tell them the truth. They think it's Hell!" Today, you might think I'm giving them hell, but I think you'll find what I say very close to the truth. It is a call to action.

If we continue to remain **silent and passive** in the face of the **serious and immediate** threats to our Moravian Faith in North America, we **deserve** what we get. To produce a change in direction, we have to become active and vocal.

Samuel Adams at the time of the Revolutionary war stated "It does not take a majority to prevail ... but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men." We KNOW what's going to happen if we do nothing. We know what might happen if we do something!

The burning question facing the Moravian Church in North America is this: <u>Will the</u>

<u>Moravian Church in North America be a moral compass for our culture or will the</u>

<u>culture be a moral compass for the Moravian Church.</u> Right now, the culture is winning. Together, we can change that. We **must** lead away from an altered Gospel back to a Bible based faith in Jesus Christ.

The Moravian Church hierarchy is so caught up in **being** Social Justice Warriors and in Wokeness (The Urban Dictionary Definition of Wokeness: "self-righteousness masquerading as enlightenment.) that they're completely oblivious to the Moravian Church Southern Province crumbling around their feet.

For example, what kind of leader would stand before the 2018 Southern Province Synod, decry declining finances and attendance, then <u>ram through</u> the very resolution that would shatter our province? Where was the foresight and awareness of the consequences? I ask you, has Resolution 14 strengthened the Southern Province or has it divided and damaged it?

Moravians are being asked to reject basic tenets of our faith that have endured since the time of Christ, and tenets for which John Hus was burned at the stake, Instead, we're told we should believe a Gospel that has been <u>altered</u> to suit the ever present Cancel Culture and the **Wokies**. The Seminary Faculty and the illiberal Church pastors are pushing these <u>altered Gospels</u> to North American Moravians.

<u>Believe:</u> The Bible is not essential! But I ask you, what is our source of the Word of God? Are we to trust the Word as given by the Seminary Faculty and people in positions of Church leadership, and **brush the Bible aside**? What's your decision?

<u>Believe</u>: We are not bound by the Old Testament! But the Old Testament is the very foundation of the New Testament! Are we to discard it and never refer to it again except as a relic? Can any house stand without a sound foundation?

<u>Believe:</u> We will grant God's blessing on same-sex marriages. The world's largest Christian churches, the Orthodox and the Catholic churches **flatly disagree.** The Catholic Church statement was, in essence, "Homosexuality is a sin. God forgives sin, He does not **condone** sin" Same sex marriages are completely contrary to direct and crystal-clear scriptural injunctions in <u>both</u> the Old and New Testaments.

St. Paul states this clearly in the first chapter of Romans, verses 24-28, New International version.

[&]quot;24 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. 25 They exchanged the truth about

God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

²⁶ Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed shameful acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their error."

What part of this do we not understand?

Believe: Our confirmands <u>must</u> have a new teaching catechism. The Moravian Catechism has been rewritten in obtuse, politically correct terms to the point that it has become a marginal, gutted document., "Did you know that the recently revised Moravian Catechism no longer states marriage is between a man and woman but rather refers to it as being between 2 persons?"

Some churches have indicated they will not use the 2021 revision. You should take the time to compare this document to older versions. Do you know what your children are being taught?

The Moravian Church hierarchy and clergy have become preoccupied with racism complete with seminars, reading lists, and meetings. All this only serves to exacerbate racial animosity.

<u>We're Being Asked to Believe that</u> America is a racist country. The very people that are saying that America is a racist country, are the ones preaching distrust, hatred and division. America's motto, "e pluribus unum", (Out of many, one) is being corrupted to "out of one, many" The media, and the politicians, are trying to turn America into a tribal society.

You can take this to the bank: Racism will die when, and only when, the media, the politicians, and the preachers can no longer gain profit, power, or position from pushing it.

Until that day, they have **every incentive** to continue rubbing salt into the wound, keeping it raw and open, never letting the wound heal.

<u>Our Seminary faculty and clergy have fallen prey to the propaganda of the Black Lives Matter movement.</u> The Black Lives Matter movement was founded by self-described Marxists. Read that as self-described communists. Black Live Matter have received some 90 million dollars, much of it from the Chinese Communist Party which funneled the money through third party organizations. The Chinese Communist Party wants nothing but to create chaos in this country. America is under attack by Russia and China, both communist countries.

The Critical Race Theory is nothing but **cultural Marxism**. Children are being taught to criticize and hate each other in our schools. Anything old and historic is being pulled down. This very same thing happened during China's Cultural Revolution. The educated and elites were sent to the rice paddies and re-education camps. **Angry and vicious Chinese students were the law of the land.** Mao Tse Tung would be pleased to see America in this condition. The idea of being anti-racist is right, but with the addition of "wokeness", it has become a lightning rod for **identity politics** and **radical activism**.

Why can't the educated and so-called elite of the Moravian Church see through this sham and turn away from it? Why can't they stick to preaching an unaltered Gospel? Where are they trying to lead us?

The Daily Text of June 6 was so appropriate. From Jeremiah 8:6 "Since the wise have rejected the Word of the Lord, what wisdom is in them?" And from Hebrews, 2:1 "Therefore, we must pay greater attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." And we are drifting fast.

Your Moravian Church is a <u>black church</u>. Of the 1.25M members worldwide, **78% live** in Africa and are black. By comparison, 3 % of the Moravians worldwide live in North America. Without our black brothers and sisters, there would probably be no <u>Moravian Church</u>. Yet, when we at Home Church were discussing Africa's position on same sex marriage in Elders, a member of the clergy made the statement that "Africans live on another planet!" Isn't that a racist statement? That very pastor was

Co-chair of the 2018 Southern Province Synod. She, and other clerics, have erroneously stated that the Tanzanians could not discuss homosexuality without being arrested. Jules Modlinski's book, "The Moravian Voice" disproves that statement in its entirety. There are plenty of statements from Tanzanian's in that book on that subject.

The Moravian Seminary is a train wreck when it comes to producing pastors. The good news is that nothing is wrong at the Seminary that a really good house cleaning wouldn't cure. In the Northern Province, 11 of 85 churches are without pastors. In the Southern Province, according to the 2021 Directory and Statistics, 22 of 54, or 31% of our churches are either vacant, have interim pastors, or acolytes. The Seminary is only sending 2-3 pastors a year to the provinces. Where are the needed Pastors to come from? If the Provincial Elders cannot fill the pulpit vacancies, why not give the individual Congregations the authority and latitude to fill their own pulpits? Why not bring in pastors from Africa?

Many Moravians are receiving requests for donations from the Seminary. Before you ante up, you may want to dig deep into the Seminary's websites. Specifically, look at:

- a. The number of graduates in each discipline. Note the scarcity of Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Formation and Ministry.
- b. Google the Seminary Catalog and look at what they're teaching.

Read some of the textbooks they're using. Find the statements on social justice. This statement is found in one of their textbooks that is required reading for one of their courses: "Our fight is for justice and we're up against oppression. Let's talk about the enemy: the no-good, good-for-nothing, but usually not actually that bad, lay person and I'm talking the layest of the lay. We're up against people who wouldn't know privilege if it hit them squarely in the mouth."

In another textbook, also required for seminarians, the following is written: "we cannot be shackled to the ways the gospel has always had been printed. Christian innovation cannot abandon the past, but it must find new ways to express itself for the future."

- c. Become involved with the Seminary and find out for yourself what is really going on.
- d. Pay attention to the statements coming out of the Seminary. The Gospel is being altered to conform to America's cancel culture and political wokeness. Islam is being given equivalency to Christianity. This naivete reminds me of the poem, "There was a lady from Niger, who smiled as she rode on the tiger. At the end of the ride, the lady was inside, and the smile on the face of the tiger. Your church is in great danger from within.

In a fund-raising brochure from the Moravian Seminary, one of the faculty stated that he had written 10 resolutions for the 2018 MCSP Synod, 5 of which were adopted. Is it wise for the Seminary to have this much influence on the Province? Have those resolutions had a positive effect or a negative effect on the province? What voice do the churches have? I leave you to make that evaluation.

If you look at the Seminary closely, I think you'll find it to be something greatly different than what you think it is.

THIS IS YOUR CALL TO ACTION

What is the solution to the situation in the Moravian Church of North America?

We can no longer afford to be passive and ignore foundational changes to God's Word. We must get actively involved in the affairs of our church.

The 2022 Southern Province Synod is just around the corner. It's nice to present resolutions to the Synod, but it's futile to present resolutions to a synod stacked full of Woke and Cancel Culture delegates. The process has to start in YOUR church with the Nominations Committee. Your pastor appoints the nominating committee. To get conservative delegates, you have to have conservative members on the nominating committee. ASK YOUR pastor if YOU can be on the synod nominating committee.

Then, work to get conservative delegates nominated and elected. At Home Church, for the 2018 Synod, no conservative delegates came from the Nominating Committee. Three well qualified conservative candidate were nominated from the floor with one elected, one alternate, and one not elected. It's very hard to get candidates elected from the floor at Church Council. **Better still, offer to be a delegate yourself.**

In spite of the Synod likely being stacked, we need a committee to write good resolutions to be submitted to the Synod. At the very least, we can be the conscience of the Synod, and at best, get some of the resolutions passed. If you wish to lead or be on that committee, contact John and Judy Tayloe.

We are in a fight for the very existence of the Moravian Church of North America. If we believe in the Moravian Faith, it's time for us to take a stand.

It is becoming somewhat widely discussed in Moravian circles that the following items will be issues at the 2022 Southern Province Synod:

- a. Gender It is my considered opinion that if gender issues are passed in the Southern Province Synod, In 5 years, the Moravian Church of North America will not exist. It will complete the destruction of the Province started by 2018 SP Synod Resolution 14.
- b. Merger of the Northern and Southern Provinces
- c. Election of a new PEC President.

In my view, some of the names bandied about for PEC President would be very detrimental to the very existence of the Southern Province. The Synod must have delegates with wisdom and the votes to elect a strong, effective, and Biblical based President who will carry out the Great Commission.

Probably the most effective thing we can do to turn the situation around is to fully inform the rest of the Moravian world about the altered Gospel being put forth in North America.

Resolution 44 from the 2016 Unity Synod <u>has been winked at</u>, all along since its passage, and <u>not enforced</u> in any way.

Resolution 44 of the Unitas Fratrum 2016 Synod states: Resolved that the Unity Synod 2016 declares to the American Northern Province that the actions of its June 2014 Synod concerning the marriage of same gender couples and the ordination of homosexual people is <u>not</u> in accordance with the 2016 Unity Synod's understanding of marriage based on Unity Synod 2016's understanding of COUF, the Moravian Covenant for Christian Living and Scripture; and be it further Resolved that the Unity Synod 2016 commissions the Unity Board to observe the development in the American Northern Province, to take necessary measures." This resolution has been <u>willfully ignored and studiedly dismissed</u> by the hierarchy of the Moravian Church of North America. Do we really have a Unity or do we have a free for all? You decide!

The people who are preaching altered Gospel may think they're leading the world, but in fact, they're corrupting the Gospel. It's my impression that, particularly in Africa, they want nothing to do with the Woke and Altered Gospel. Africa needs to be aroused from their slumber and press for strong, binding, and enforced resolutions at the 2023 Unity Synod. Africa has the votes. They just need to know what's going on in North America, and know the disrespect the North American Provinces have for the Resolution 44. Without this action, there is no Unitas Fratrum, it will only be an impotent, empty shell, full of people worried about whether they'll have a pension.

I've given you a lot to think about, **but most importantly**, I've given you a call to action and the **time is now!**

To Recap:

- 1. Every one of us **MUST** get involved in the affairs of the Church.
- 2. Every one of us must work to get conservative delegates nominated and elected as delegates to the Synod. Offer to be a delegate yourself.

- 3. Good Synod resolutions must be written and submitted on time to the proper channels.
- 4. <u>Push for enforcement action</u> on Resolution 44 by the Unity Administrator and Board. Write the President of every Province in the Unity with copies to Jorgen Boytler, Administrator, and to the President of the Unity. Addresses are in the 2021 Directory and Statistics Book available from the Moravian Book Store, Bethlehem.

In closing, from 2 Corinthians, Chapter 6, Verse 2 New International Version:

For He says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you. I tell you, <u>NOW</u> is the time of God's favor, <u>NOW</u> is the day of salvation. "

Given by: John Dyer
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