



WORLD CHURCH AFFIRMATION SABBATH

www.affirmationsabbath.org

“In Case of Emergency” - A Call to L.A.I.T.Y.

The recent communication device *du jour* being used by ‘voices’ in our church is the “Open Letter”—statements declaring: “Here is what I believe,” “Here is how I am defying,” “And you can’t do a thing about it.”

This article is not an “open letter.” Not about defiance. It’s about support. A call to laity action.

As laity, most of us have been passively warming pews for nearly thirty years, listening to the endless bluster of influential leaders—pastors, educators, authors, scholars—debating, coaxing, mocking, diminishing their opposition. Their voices are loud and louder based on position and authority.

Their continuous bluster has caused international tremors within our church and created a dangerously widening crevice—a fearful reminder of the “big one” to come. Amid this chaos, we wonder, “Is there anything the laity can do? Can anyone hear our voices? Will anyone listen?”

God’s thoughts about ignoring such a crisis are sobering as revealed through Ellen White: “If God abhors one sin above another, of which His people are guilty, it is of doing nothing in case of an emergency. Indifference and neutrality in a religious crisis is regarded of God as a grievous crime and equal to the very worst type of hostility against God!” 3T 280

There is an action for this crisis—one rarely heard but sorely needed. An option of open, vocal support FOR the world church of Seventh-day Adventists. Despite the on-going bluster and “open letter” barrage, there are faithful Adventists around the world who remain supportive of world church of Seventh-day Adventists. To those faithful church members (not excluding the clergy), here is a call to action. It’s not a solution, but it’s a start.

From the true “grass-roots” level, individual churches can choose to speak in support the World Church of Seventh-day Adventists through their vote—a valid and powerful medium. How?

Please read the following page.

If you believe this “Statement of Harmony” to be valid and timely, follow these steps:

- Print the statement on the following page and share it with elders, board members, and pastors; requesting it be placed on the agenda of your next church board/church in business session.
- Approve this statement and abide by its message by actively promoting it through church publications, church websites, social media, etc.
- Share this “Statement of Harmony” with faithful, loyal Seventh-day Adventist members and church entities within your worldwide sphere of influence.

When your local Church Board/Church in Business Session has voted approval of this document, please notify “World Church Affirmation Sabbath” (WCAS) at affirmationsabbath.org. WCAS would like to share the names of supportive churches to encourage others throughout the Adventist world.

Is this action unusual? Yes. These are unprecedented times for our church. Will it take time and energy to accomplish this? Yes. But this is a “case of an emergency.” If ever there was a time to press together for the sake of harmony in our church, it is now.

Paul said it best in Philippians 2:2: “Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.” Let each of us be an active part of fulfilling that joy.

Statement of Harmony

with the world church of Seventh-day Adventists

"Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be Likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Philippians 2:2

We, the Local Church Board/Church in Business Session,
as members of the _____ Seventh-day Adventist Church,
as a member unit of the _____ Conference of Seventh-day Adventists,
as part of the _____ Union Conference,
located in the territory of the _____ Division
of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists,

VOTED on _____ the following Statement of Harmony:
(date)

TO PURSUE the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in harmony with the Fundamental Beliefs, programs and initiatives adopted and approved by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in its quinquennial (*every five years*) sessions.

TO AFFIRM the purposes, policies, voted actions and procedures of our local church shall be in accordance with the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy and in harmony with the working policies, voted actions, and procedures of the General Conference in Session and/or the General Conference Executive Committee of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

TO FURTHER DECLARE according to the General Conference Working Policy that the policies and voted actions of the General Conference shall retain authority in the local church congregation over all Division, Union, or Conference voted policies.

