

Brother N,

Many thanks for your kind interest.

Actually while I was very angry years ago, the Lord of peace does give peace.

The emotion I keenly feel is not anger but deep concern. I see not just in my situation but in many others deep evil.

I have watched great churches shrink to near nothing as members walked away seeking to be cared for.

We speak Gospel words. We affirm the Lutheran Confessions but are disconnected with putting them in practice.

As if since we affirm we are saved by faith and not works we are free from doing them.

The confessions, all Christianity, affirm the third use of the Law and the necessity of striving to put them in practice.

Yes we always fall short, but there is no excuse for not trying.

It is very uncomfortable and confusing to be dragged into a situation that has been going on for a long time. It is normal just to ignore the whole thing. But. There is the cry from a brother and it is about your own organization, you elect and fund.

You may have had such a situation in a parish. I have known Pastors who just closed their ears and eyes. People who have been damaged and left. "sore losers"

That is why I posted all those documents on the Web. So many that it is confusing.

<http://thesignofconcord.com> Pastoral Ministry

There are several items that make a good beginning.

I never thought this would go past the letter 2015-9-14. Astounded it got that far.

Public letters II and III followed.

The most succinct background is in the document 2001-9-10 Summary 1987 - 2001

Much of the rest is supporting stuff.

I was happy in retirement until I was removed from the SED email list.

Why strike me again? Leave sleeping dogs lie.

Be happy to answer your questions.

I do not know if this helps.

I do know the much prayer is needed.

Jesus said that makes a big difference.

Pray for me, for John, for us all.

Enjoy Love, grace, peace,

Concord,

Steve

On Oct 18, 2016, at 3:52 PM, Pastor N wrote:

Stephen,

I have skimmed through your letters. I'm sure it's in there and my personal memory is just failing me, but in 200 words or less what actually happened to you? I get that you are very angry with the leadership but what was the event that triggered all this? Thanks.

Peace in Christ,

NN

Name,  
Grace and Concord,

Since you have no issue with the DP of our SED ignoring my letters over major issues (he assured me he would do the same to our other brothers) I see no reason why you should be disturbed by my ignoring your request over a minor issue.

You, by including the others in your state, encourage them to also close their ears to a brother's cry.

As Bonhoeffer made clear this is not an issue between men. Closing one's ears to a brother, rejecting reconciliation is a direct rejection off the words of Jesus, the Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and the oath of office. It appears to be manifest and deliberate sin, and might under the Office of the Keys forfeit inclusion in the Holy Christian Church.

If someone does not like what I am doing, they should arrange a path that would bring reconciliation. If they cannot or will not, they have no right to complain. It might be proper for them to resign from their office as Ministers of the Gospel perhaps even remit from the position as disciple, follower, of Christ.

Normally among us "Lutheran Theologians", etc. attack, debate, attempt to defeat each other and establish their superiority without regard for seeking mutual reconciliation. Therefore we are used to seeing "brothers" fight and ignore them. Even when I agree with one or the other I am turned away by their lack of Christian Spirit. Proper Theology does not mean anything before the throne of Christ. Indeed as Bonhoeffer said our proper theology only means we will be judged by the stricter standard and may burn hotter in hell. Do you think the Lord of Love is honored, pleased by a denomination filled with antagonism? Willful callousness is not an improvement.

Pray for wisdom, pray for the indwelling Spirit of Love, Pray for our human denomination.

In the name of one called by God to proclaim His Love for all,

,  
Stephen H. Funck Ezekiel. 3:16ff

On Oct 17, 2016, at 12:52 PM, Pastor N N wrote:  
Steve,

I have requested that I be left out of this ongoing "letters" of yours for I feel, have felt, and continue to feel that this is NOT the way you should be handling your complaint. So, once again, I respectfully request that you remove me from your email list immediately and no longer continue to send me your "letters."

NN

Comments

Edited to remove all personal information about the sender.

Most recent on top

by phone, I am not happy you mentioned X. Would you remove that from what you posted?

Done!

Steve, I have sent the Public Letter on to Pres. Denninger, with a modification referring to the age-old church practice of letting the accused know of the charges against him and any relevant Scripture-based grounding of them, based mainly on John 18:23.

**Extremely well written and provocative! But who, what, and when? Peace.**

Steve, I can tell you that your distress certainly comes through in what you sent, but I must confess that the way it was expressed leaves me almost completely in the dark about what particular hurts you suffered during your ministry and what reasons were given you for district actions. I would be glad to read more, especially if you could take the time to explain details in such a way that someone like me who is completely new to the subject could grasp what it is you are talking about. Perhaps what you wrote was penned in great anger or haste, and a more relaxed approach would help. I managed to live out my time with very little contact with District officials, since all my places were the kind that didn't interest the bishops and their helpers that much. Sometimes it pays to be invisible, and I didn't expect or receive much attention from that quarter, and happily didn't give that level much attention from my side, either. As long as they left me alone, I was satisfied.

Dear Steve: please delete me from your email list for this kind of issue.

If you utilized the SED email list to send out this kind of email, perhaps that is why you were deleted?

Your use of the terms "blacklisted" and "blackballed" only works if you care and give energy to those who blackball or blacklist you.

Your YouTube video and letter don't serve you well. Defending yourself vehemently sounds like "Thou dost protest too much." Go translate the Scriptures for prisoners -- like Luther translated for the Germans. He wasn't just a "protestor." Luther was also a Pastor and proclaimer. Go and do likewise. Drop the issue and, in so doing, serve our Lord. Again, please delete me.

With much love and fraternity,

Since both video and written make plain the turning point was the harm to my children, can we think this person would stand quiet while his children were deliberately harmed?

Anytime you would like to talk, please come We can have lunch together. I had thought that I would never serve again in the LCMS I don't know what God has in mind for you, but His kingdom is exceedingly large, greater than we could ever imagine, and we can be thankful to God that the extension of the kingdom by Jesus' coming into additional human hearts, is not dependent on the Missouri Synod alone. Blessings in Christ,