

**Agreement for Just Resolution of Complaint Against  
Rev. Cynthia Meyer**

It is agreed by the undersigned that the following steps constitute a just resolution of the complaint filed against Rev. Cynthia Meyer by Rev. David Watson on January 5, 2016.

1. Rev. Meyer admits to being in a committed, loving relationship with a woman characterized by the words “partnership” and “covenant.” She agrees that this violates ¶2702.1(b) of *The Book of Discipline, 2012*. She admits that she is, as understood by the *Book of Discipline*, a self-avowed, practicing homosexual in disobedience to the discipline of The United Methodist Church.
2. Rev. Meyer further says that her relationship with her partner is in harmony with higher, biblical values and that the rules prohibiting practicing gay and lesbian persons from serving as clergy violate the foundational Wesleyan spirit of the General Rules, paragraph 104 “to do no harm, to do good and to obey the ordinances of God.” She wishes to continue to serve faithfully as an ordained elder under appointment in The United Methodist Church. At the same time, she regards her current relationship with the UMC as an abusive relationship and she does not want to continue in that abusive relationship. She seeks by this act of civil disobedience to the law of the church to prompt the church to change its rules.
3. All parties agree that they wish to avoid a trial by abiding by the decisions of the 2016 General Conference. Thus, the parties agree on two courses of action, one of which will be followed depending on decisions of the 2016 General Conference. After the signing of this agreement and its publication, no other procedural actions will be taken until after General Conference adjourns by which time its decisions will be known.
4. Course of Action 1. If General Conference acts to permit the appointment of self-avowed, practicing homosexuals, then this complaint will be dismissed on or about May 25 and Rev. Meyer will continue as an elder under appointment in the Great Plains Conference.
5. Course of Action 2. If General Conference retains the rules prohibiting the appointment of self-avowed, practicing homosexuals then on or before May 25 Cynthia Meyer will surrender her credentials and withdraw from the ministry of The United Methodist Church in accordance with ¶361. Bishop Jones will then explain the process found in ¶2548.2 to a church conference of Edgerton United Methodist Church on or about May 31 to assess their interest in withdrawing from the UMC and retaining Rev. Meyer as their pastor in a new denomination. If Cynthia Meyer surrenders her credentials and, along with the Edgerton congregation, forms a new denomination that meets the standards of ¶2548.2. Bishop Jones will facilitate this process to the best of his ability.
6. Upon the signing of this agreement by all parties, the agreement in its entirety will be published on the Great Plains Conference website and all parties will be free to say whatever they wish about the case publicly.

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Cynthia Meyer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Watson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott J. Jones

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date