

Proposal for a Just Resolution
Between
Rev. Edwin A. Rowe and Rev. Melanie L. Carey and Rev. Elbert P. Dulworth

This Just Resolution agreement results from a complaint submitted by Rev. Melanie L. Carey and Rev. Elbert P. Dulworth against the Rev. Edwin A. Rowe for conducting a same-gender wedding ceremony on June 28, 2014. After receiving this complaint Bishop Deborah Lieder Kiesey conducted a supervisory response in this matter under the provisions of the Book of Discipline 2012 (§§363).

As a result of the Supervisory Response process conducted by Bishop Kiesey, the persons signing this document have entered into the following Just Resolution agreement:

- 1) Rev. Rowe acknowledges that he knowingly and intentionally violated §§2702.1b and §2702.1d of the 2012 Book of Discipline, as an act of personal faith and conscience, and acknowledges that others may have felt hurt by his action.
- 2) Rev. Rowe will work with the Michigan Area Episcopal Office to form a design team with clergy and lay persons from across the Michigan Area, including LGBTQ persons. The team is charged with planning, implementation and resourcing an area-wide series of events using a "Truth and Reconciliation" model at which LGBTQ and other interested United Methodists can have a safe place to tell their stories. These events will have the stated goal of reducing our church's harmful rhetoric and actions toward LGBTQ persons. These events will be planned to occur over the next 18 months.
- 3) Bishop Kiesey will extend an invitation to all lay and clergy from across the Michigan Area (including conference and district leaders) to participate in stated events, and to encourage participation by persons of all theological perspectives.
- 4) Each of the parties to this Just Resolution Agreement agree that the terms of this resolution may be shared with the public as needed. Further, they agree that they will not disclose the content of any other conversations which may have taken place during the Supervisory Response Process or speak on behalf of any other party to the agreement.
- 5) This Just Resolution having been agreed to by all parties shall be a final disposition of the complaint in this matter.

Rev. Melanie L. Carey
Rev. Edwin A. Rowe
Rev. Elbert P. Dulworth
Bishop Deborah L. Kiesey