



**LIBERIA UNITED METHODISTS FOR BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY
LIBERIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
12TH STREET, SINKOR, TUBMAN BOULEVARD
1000 MONROVIA 10, LIBERIA**

December 3, 2024

**A CALL TO ACTION: A STATEMENT CALLING ON BISHOP SAMUEL J. QUIRE, JR.
TO CALL THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE LAC/UMC AND LIFT THE ILLEGAL
SUSPENSION OF UMC PASTORS AND LEADERS**

Our dear brothers and sisters, the people called United Methodists in Liberia, the Liberian Christian community, our national leaders and the entire citizenry of the Republic of Liberia. We bring you Christmas greetings in the name of our Savior and Lord, Christ Jesus.

We, the movement called ***Liberia United Methodists for Biblical Christianity*** (LUMBIC), represent thousands of Liberian United Methodists spread all across the length and breadth of Liberia, and comprising of twenty (20) districts and two (2) circuits. We gather here today, on the grounds of the Central Office of the Liberia Annual Conference, the United Methodist Church (LAC/UMC), in a peaceful protest against the dysfunctional leadership of our Resident Bishop, Bishop Samuel Jerome Quire, Jr.

Over the past eight months (May to December), since the return of our delegation from the recent 2020/2024 General Conference of the worldwide United Methodist Church, held in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, Bishop Quire has refused to hold any form of dialogue with the Liberian Annual Conference over which he presides as episcopal leader. Instead, he has given in to the exercise of dictatorial leadership, and the breaking down of all the laws governing the effective leadership of the UMC in Liberia.

Every attempt to advise Bishop Quire against the poor quality of his leadership by both religious and political leaders in and outside of Liberia has met with stiff resistance from the Bishop. Consequently, the church is experiencing a drastic departure of many of our members from the sheepfold of the UMC. All of our systems, and church institutions seem to be breaking down. If nothing is done to address the situation, we fear that the UMC in Liberia will not only be subjected to public ridicule, but will also lose its spiritual relevance to serve as a Christian denomination in Liberia.

Over the past eight months, Bishop Quire's poor Episcopal leaderships has been characterized by the following:

1. Following the end of the recent General Conference, he posted a video calling upon all United Methodists in Liberia to support the "Regionalization Plan" passed at the General Conference so that it can be ratified by the Liberia Annual Conference. He carried out this action without providing any opportunity for the delegates to the General Conference to report to the Liberia Annual Conference that had sent them to represent it. Neither has he called a special session of the LAC/UMC to inform the church about major decisions that were made at the recent General Conference
2. On June 7, he conducted a press conference claiming that the UMC in Liberia does not support same-sex marriage, but will support the "Regionalization Plan" of the worldwide UMC Denomination.
3. When he realized that all of the boards and agencies of the LAC/UMC, including several church leaders were in opposition to his decision on regionalization, he began to take some drastic actions against key leaders as a strategy to intimidate them and silence some of them.
4. The Board of Ordained Ministry, headed by Rev. Dr. George D. Wilson, appealed to the Bishop to reconsider his actions and call the Special Session of the

LAC/UMC, as was agreed at the 191st session of our Annual Conference held in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, from 12-18 February 2024.

5. In response to the appeal of the Board of Ordained Ministry, Bishop Quire illegally suspended the Chair of the Board, as well as some of its members because, according to the Bishop, they had refused to support his “Regionalization Plan”. In furtherance of the suspension, Bishop Quire served the Board Chair and the Conference Secretary, along with some other board members letters of retirement from the Board, indicating that their tenures on the Board of Ordained Ministry had ended; while maintaining some on the Board members who support his “Regionalization Plan”.

6. In addition to the above illegal actions, Bishop Quire is currently carrying out the following actions that are fast destroying the UMC to its core:
 - (a) Bishop Quire is making unilateral decisions on behalf the UMC in Liberia, which is contrary to the church’s laws.

 - (b) Bishop Quire has set up an illegal interim board of ordained ministry to investigate pastors who are preaching and teaching against same-sex marriage and many of the vices that were passed at the recent General Conference that contradict the clear teachings of the Holy Bible and our national law.

 - (c) Bishop Quire is carrying out illegal suspension of pastors and leaders of the UMC in Liberia in an attempt to silence all the critical voices in the church, in the hope that he can render them incapable of participating in the forthcoming Annual Conference, scheduled for 11-16 February 2025.

 - (d) Bishops is facilitating the practice of cultural Christianity in the LAC/UMC above biblical Christianity.

- (e) Bishop Quire, has set up a ratification of the “Regionalization Plan” Task Force who are currently parading all of the districts and circuits of the LAC/UMC and providing misinformation to members of the church about “Regionalization” that they do not know about. The head of the task force has never represented the LAC/UMC at the level of the Central Conference, not to talk about the General Conference.
- (f) Bishop Quire has failed to listen to the counsel of political as well as spiritual leaders in the land-Liberia Council of Churches, The Church of Liberia, headed by Arch Bishop, Isaac Winker, and many other prominent church leaders, the Inspector General of the Liberia National Police, the Vice president of the Republic of Liberia, just to name a few.
- (g) Contrary to the teaching of Scripture (1 Corinthians 6:1-7), Bishop Quire is now taking some of the pastors and leaders of the UMC to court to restrain them from attending the local churches to which they are assigned and are members. This is because these pastors and leaders of the laity would not stop preaching against same-sex marriage and his purported “Regionalization Plan”.
- (h) Bishop Quire is now focusing more on contending for the property of the church than contending for the faith

Therefore, this purpose of the peaceful assembly of local churches from some of the districts of the LAC/UMC has been two-fold.

1. To present a position statement to Bishop Samuel Jerome Quire, Jr., demanding that he calls for a special session of the Liberia Annual Conference, The United Methodist Church, as was agreed upon at our recent annual conference session held in Buchanan, Grand Bassa County, from 12-18 February 2024. He must demonstrate a Christ-centered leadership by listening to the people, and not make any decision on their behalf.

2. To express our disapproval and rejection of Bishop Quire's plan to force the UMC in Liberia to approve the recent decisions of the General Conference of the worldwide UMC that contradict the clear teachings of the Holy Bible, and the law of Liberia.

Some of the sinful and unorthodox decisions passed at the recent 2020/2024 General Conference that Bishop is attempting to impose upon members of the UMC in Liberia include:

- (a) The legalization of the practice of same-sex marriage in the UMC
- (b) The legalization of the ordination and consecration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons as pastors and bishops in the UMC
- (c) The legalization of a change in the biblical definition of marriage that says, "Marriage is a union between two consenting adults", in addition to marriage being a covenant relationship between a man and a woman.
- (d) The ratification of the "Regionalization Plan" of the worldwide UMC that is a mere cover up for the practice of same-sex activities in some regions of the same denomination whose culture and national laws permit the practice of same-sex marriage.

As Christian disciples of Jesus Christ, we believe that we cannot endorse these sinful practices, and we cannot continue to be a part of a denomination that preaches different gospels, and practices Christianity according to its sinful culture and tradition, contrary to biblical teachings. Additionally, homosexuality is a crime under our law.

We therefore call on Bishop Quire to follow the teaching of the Holy Scripture in leading the people called United Methodists in the path of righteousness. He must abolish his plans to impose the unpopular "Regionalization Plan" upon the people called United Methodists in Liberia. God bless you.

Grace and peace,

Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah, I.

Rev. Dr. Jerry P. Kulah, I.

Rev. Dr. George D. Wilson

Rev. Dr. George D. Wilson, Jr.

Rev. Dr. Julius YZK Williams, I.

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On behalf of **Liberian United Methodist Standing for Biblical Christianity:**