

A Just Resolution has been reached

Prior to his retirement, Bishop Goodpaster, Rev. Dr. Valerie Rosenquist, and the Counsel for the Church that had been appointed by Bishop Goodpaster reached a Just Resolution in response to formal complaints filed against Rev. Dr. Valerie Rosenquist that date back to a same-sex wedding performed at First United Methodist Church in Charlotte on April 23, 2016.

Once the complaints were received, Bishop Goodpaster responded following the process outlined in paragraph 363 of *The 2012 Book of Discipline*. According to *The Discipline*, those proceedings were confidential.

On August 30, 2016, a Just Resolution was reached in the matter. The *Discipline* defines a just resolution as “one that focuses on repairing any harm to people and communities, achieving real accountability by making things right in so far as possible and bringing healing to all the parties.” (§2701.5) Such a resolution is the goal anytime a pastor violates the sacred trust of ordination and membership in an annual conference “in the hope that God’s work of justice, reconciliation and healing may be realized in the body of Christ.” (§363.1)

A part of the just resolution is an agreement “on any matters to be disclosed to third parties.” (§2702.5) The parties in this Just Resolution have agreed that the details of this resolution will be sealed pending action on the report from The Commission on a Way Forward being established by the Council of Bishops.