



New Light Christian Center Church
"One Church, Multiple Locations"

Dr. J.V. and Bridget E. Hilliard

NEW LIGHT CHURCH
WORLD OUTREACH AND
WORSHIP CENTERS
(CORPORATE AND MAILING ADDRESS)

P.O. BOX 670167
HOUSTON, TX 77267
PHONE 281-87-LIGHT
FAX 281-872-4057
WWW.NEWLIGHT.ORG

HOUSTON-NORTH LOCATION

1535 GREENSMARK DRIVE
HOUSTON, TX 77067

HOUSTON-SOUTH LOCATION

14415 FONDREN ROAD
HOUSTON, TX 77489

HOUSTON-EAST LOCATION

7317 EAST HOUSTON ROAD
HOUSTON, TX 77028

GOLDEN TRIANGLE LOCATION

3395 HIGHLAND AVENUE
BEAUMONT, TX 77705
409-838-1588

AUSTIN LOCATION

5811-A BERKMAN DRIVE
AUSTIN, TX 78723
888-352-2226

December 21, 2011

Members of the Board of Directors
New Destiny Christian Center Church, Inc.
505 E. McCormick Road
Apopka, FL 32703

Dear Members of the Board of Directors:

I am in receipt of your letter dated December 19, 2011, concerning recent statements I made concerning the New Destiny Christian Center Church ("NDCCC") Pastoral selection process. Despite the representations made in your letter, I remain convinced that the selection process lacked integrity, the pastoral selection was the product of manipulation and deception, and lastly, the selection process departed from agreed upon principles established by the NDCC Board ("Board") and communicated to me and the congregational members.

You allege that I was "...never a member of the Bishop's Council in the first place." Your statement is contrary to what the Board has publicly stated and at the very least, it is contrary to what the Board led me to believe regarding my role in the Pastoral selection process. It is contrary to what the congregation was publicly told and contrary to what the Board personally said to me in our meeting on December 4, 2011. This is also contrary to the public statements made by Pastor Paula White (which were recorded on video) on October 16, 2011 and December 4, 2011. It was represented to the congregational members that I was one of the four Bishops who would provide input into the Pastoral selection process.

Your letter only mentions my participation in a telephone conference call which gives the deceptive appearance that my role in the Pastoral selection process was very limited. Your letter conveniently fails to mention the numerous phone calls and text messages to me about the process, potential candidates and protocol. I firmly believe your efforts to minimize my role in the Pastoral selection process is a veiled attempt to deflect the truth of my opinions concerning the lack of integrity that permeated the Pastoral selection process.

Further, if I was not part of the process in any meaningful way, why would the NDCC Board request to meet with me after service to discuss the Pastoral selection process on Sunday night December 4, 2011? Why were my concerns about the derailed Pastoral selection process addressed during the conference call on Sunday night December 11, 2011? In that conversation, I clearly expressed my displeasure with the compromised Pastoral selection process. To say that I did not speak out at that time is not true. I insisted that the NDCC Board honor the process and the criteria it had established and communicated to the members of the church.

Your letter alleges that my "allegations are entirely false" and that the "Board has not departed from any promise made to the congregation." Please review the taped conference call and you will be reminded that several of the Board members denied that the Pastoral selection criteria had been communicated to the members of the church. Have you forgotten that one of the board members stood firm and insisted that on several occasions Pastor Paula announced the Pastoral selection criteria to the church? I stated that I had seen the criteria in print on an internet news service that interviewed one of your NDCC Board members. The Board is fully aware that the Pastoral selection criteria communicated to the members of the church was not followed when Pastor Paula was selected to succeed Pastor Tims.

I am amazed at the Board's attempt to deny that the Pastoral selection criteria had been thoroughly communicated to the church's membership. I was amazed that Pastor Paula remained silent when the Board attempted to deny that the membership had been informed about the criteria knowing she had informed them. It was also during that conference call that I challenged Pastor Paula concerning how this matter was handled. I addressed with her Bishop Ellis' conversation with her on this matter and my concerns about the lack of integrity in changing the established criteria without informing the membership.

As to Archbishop Duncan's statement, I was in agreement with telling the congregation that the criteria had changed and that there was another candidate. However, I still think and expressed that it would have been prudent for Pastor Paula to have been presented as a viable candidate, have her step away from the selection process, and then have the original procedure and protocol followed. It was clear to me that I was in the minority as to this proposal being the appropriate process that should have been followed to maintain integrity.

At the most, it was agreed that the Board would tell the church of its decision to consider another candidate (and not mention any name) fully knowing it had already voted to give the Pastorate of NDCC to Pastor Paula. In my opinion, this is deceptive. Further, there was no discussion at all with the Bishop's Council that was to give oversight to the Pastoral selection process. As I perceived it, the church membership was deceived by the action by the Board to pretend there was another viable candidate when the decision, offer and acceptance had already been made.

I resigned because it was easy to see that Pastor Paula and the NDCC Board were determined to adhere to this decision even though, in my opinion, the Pastoral selection process had been severely compromised. To be clear, I resigned as one of the four Bishops announced to oversee the process because I will not stand idly by and allow others to impugn my integrity or character by their actions or inactions.

I do believe that any displeasure from the membership could have been avoided if every thing was done properly and not in a compromised manner. As I have expressed to the Board and Pastor Paula, I believe that it is unethical and difficult for a person who is overseeing a selection process (and knowingly desiring to be the one selected) to give proper impartial direction to the process. It is akin to a referee betting on the game he or she is working. It is the essence of "insider trading!"

My desire, as stated on the conference call and to Pastor Paula, was to honor what the congregation had been told about the Pastoral selection process. It would have been better to announce Pastor Paula as a candidate and let the church know and have full knowledge that the criteria had changed. What would have been wrong with respecting the process with an impartial person giving the oversight? At the time of my resignation, what was at issue (and remains an issue) was the integrity of the established process and protocol explained to me at the December 4, 2011, meeting and the process understood by the congregation.

As you are aware, you invited me to participate in the Pastoral selection process. You invited me to New Destiny in order to minister and teach in a service on December 4, 2011. I have not overtly inserted myself into your Pastoral selection process as you allege in your letter. You attempted to give credibility to the Pastoral selection process by using my name and the long standing reputation of integrity that I have established. I am not saying that none of the other Bishops lack integrity. All of them that I know personally are honorable men. With respect to my involvement in this matter, all I have done is tell the truth and attempt to uphold the integrity of the Pastoral selection process.

I have made no attempt to divide the congregation but simply to inform them of my stepping back from whatever participation you stated that I had. My integrity would not allow me to lend my approval to what I perceived was taking place and actually took place during the Pastoral selection process.

You can attempt to spin this matter by saying that I was not part of the now "official" Bishop's Council. However, the truth is it was announced publicly more than once that I was part of four Bishops that would give oversight to the Pastoral selection process.

The division among the members (if any) was not caused by my statements about the selection process. It was your failure to be forthright with the members and

your failure to communicate the change in the criteria to be used on selecting a successor Pastor.

If the NDCC membership wants Pastor Paula to be their Pastor, so be it! If the congregation is pleased with what you have done, so be it! If you feel you have obeyed God, prayed and operated in integrity, so be it! If you feel that you have been fair in all your ways, so be it!

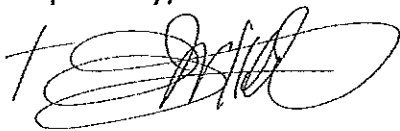
Unless provoked, I have already decided (before receiving your letter) not give any public statements about this matter or use any social media directed toward certain specific issues. Further, I will not entertain any grievance or displeasure about what you have done from the NDCC membership's perspective. I choose to leave this to the Lord who sees and judges all! My account of what has happened still stands and I have only told the truth. I am not a novice in matters like these and my sole desire is to do what pleases God and what is right in the sight of both God and man.

It is unfortunate that you would attempt to negatively characterize me in your letter when the issues presented were created by the Board's actions or inactions. All of this could have been avoided if there had been no rush to abandon the established criteria, protocol and process.

I assure you that I am not intimidated in any fashion by your false accusations that I am the cause of any alleged division among the members of NDCC and for allegedly harming the reputation of NDCC. I have not defamed anyone. The truth is a defense respecting any claim for defamation. I stand ready to truthfully defend everything that I have said and done.

This matter really should have been handled with prayerful diligence. I beg that you will not forget that the church is the Lord's, you are only caretakers and people do matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. V. Hilliard", written in a cursive style.

Bishop I. V. Hilliard