

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE  
BEFORE THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURT

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EPISCOPAL  
DIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE, INC.

OFFENSES:  
Canon IV.1.1(j)

Presenter,

v.

THE REVEREND MARTHA ENGLERT

Respondent.

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PRESENTMENT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

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The Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee ("Diocese") having received communications from several former or present members of the parish of Grace Church in Madison, Wisconsin, accusing Respondent of acts which, if true, would constitute an Offense, and the Bishop having referred the matter to the Standing Committee, acting as Diocesan Review Committee for the Diocese ("Standing Committee"), for further action pursuant to Canon IV.3.5, and the Standing Committee, proceeding pursuant to Canon IV.3.5 as if a Charge had been filed, and the Standing Committee having determined that an Offense may have occurred if the facts alleged in the Charge be true and thus referring the matter to the Church Attorney pursuant to Canon IV.3.11, and the Standing Committee having communicated said Charge to the Respondent pursuant to Canon IV.3.9, and the Church Attorney having investigated the matter and having submitted a confidential report to the Standing Committee pursuant to Canon IV.3.12 and 3.13, and the Standing Committee having considered the report of the Church Attorney at

meetings duly called and noticed, and the Standing Committee, pursuant to Canon IV.3.14(c), having determined, at a meeting on April 25, 2006, by a majority vote of its entire membership that the information before it, if proven at trial, provides reasonable cause to believe that (i) an Offense has been committed, and (ii) the Respondent committed the Offense:

NOW THEREFORE, the Standing Committee of the Diocese issues this  
PRESENTMENT.

The Standing Committee charges that:

1. Respondent, the Reverend Martha Englert, is a priest canonically resident in the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, Inc. and the Rector of Grace Church (Madison, WI).
2. At numerous times throughout 2005, the Respondent made inappropriate disclosures to or about Grace Church parishioners (present and former) and to or about Grace Church staff members (present and former) concerning personal, private, sensitive, sexual, medical, confidential, or pastoral information about parishioner, staff, or Grace Church matters.
3. At numerous times throughout 2005, the Respondent made inappropriate remarks: about giving communion to frustrating parishioners; wanting to harm the Grace Church congregation; speaking profanely; speaking about people in sexual terms; in the presence of children; misleading parishioners with false information; discussing the incompetence of parishioners and staff members; revealing unauthorized actions she had engaged in; and naming parishioners who had left or should leave Grace Church.
4. The individuals to or about whom the inappropriate disclosures and remarks were made were parishioners (present and former), staff members of Grace Church (present and former), and family members of present and former parishioners.

5. At the time of Respondent's actions, Respondent, as the Rector of Grace Church, was in a position of authority and responsibility, and with duties as a member of the Clergy, that preclude the disclosures or remarks.

6. The disclosures and remarks of the Respondent were harmful to Grace Church, parishioners (former and present), their family members, and affected staff members (former and present).

### COUNT I

#### Canon IV1.1(j) Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy (Pattern of Inappropriate Disclosures)

7. Paragraphs 1 through 6 of this Presentment are repeated and realleged, as if set forth fully herein.

8. The inappropriate disclosures Respondent made form a pattern of behavior and the pattern of inappropriate disclosures is what the Presentment addresses.

9. Examples of inappropriate disclosures by the Respondent include without limitation:

- A. [REDACTED]'s mental stability, family problems, the circumstance of her father's death by suicide, her response to her father's death by suicide, the state of her marriage, her parenting abilities, and her work in the Christian Education program.
- B. The incompetence of named Grace Church employees.
- C. The incompetence of named Grace Church volunteers.
- D. Grace Church personnel matters.
- E. The sex lives of named parishioners.
- F. Marital issues of named parishioners.
- G. Personal issues of named parishioners.
- H. Medical issues of named parishioners.
- I. Family issues of named parishioners.
- J. The parenting abilities of named parishioners.
- K. Financial issues of named parishioners.
- L. Adequacy of a parishioner's pledge.
- M. Reading an e-mail regarding Mary Pat Barnett-Lewis pastoral counseling.
- N. Naming parishioners who were forced out of Grace Church.
- O. Naming parishioners of Grace Church who should leave the parish.

- P. False, misleading and inaccurate disclosures to or about parishioners.
- Q. Saying she gave a child communion over known parental objections.

10. People to whom the Respondent made inappropriate disclosures include without limitation:

- A. William Barnes
- B. Mary Ann Cook
- C. William Lewis
- D. Kabura Mukasa
- E. Nalu Mukasa
- F. Linda Newman
- G. Elizabeth Steinhoff
- H. Anne Strauss
- I. Melissa Thompson
- J. Tracy Thompson
- K. Pat Werk

11. People to whom the inappropriate disclosures relate include without limitation:

- A. [REDACTED]
- B. [REDACTED]
- C. [REDACTED]
- D. [REDACTED]
- E. [REDACTED]
- F. [REDACTED]
- G. [REDACTED]
- H. [REDACTED]
- I. [REDACTED]
- J. [REDACTED]
- K. [REDACTED]
- L. [REDACTED]
- M. [REDACTED]
- N. [REDACTED]
- O. [REDACTED]
- P. [REDACTED]
- Q. [REDACTED]
- R. [REDACTED]
- S. [REDACTED]
- T. [REDACTED]
- U. [REDACTED]
- V. [REDACTED]
- W. [REDACTED]
- X. [REDACTED]

12. Respondent's actions, as set forth above, are in violation of Canon IV1.1(j) because they constitute disorder and neglect prejudicing the reputation, good order and discipline of the Church, and constitute conduct which brings material discredit upon the Church and the Holy Orders conferred by the Church.

## COUNT II

### Canon IV1.1(j) Conduct Unbecoming a Member of the Clergy (Pattern of Inappropriate Remarks)

13. Paragraphs 1 through 12 of this Presentment are repeated and realleged, as if set forth fully herein.

14. The inappropriate disclosures in Count I form a pattern of inappropriate remarks for a member of the Clergy to make.

15. Additional inappropriate remarks were made by Respondent which also constitute a pattern of inappropriate remarks for a member of the Clergy to make.

16. Examples of the additional inappropriate remarks the Respondent made include without limitation:

- A. Referring to communion as hemlock for named parishioners.
- B. In frustration saying Grace Church congregation members should be shot or poisoned.
- C. Angry and emotional outbursts with parishioners.
- D. Naming parishioners she wanted out of Grace Church.
- E. Using profane language, including in front of children.
- F. Making false and misleading statements to certain parishioners.
- G. Discussing her personal sex life.
- H. Using sexual language regarding Grace Church staff.
- I. Discussing unauthorized activities in which she had engaged.
- J. Telling sexual jokes in the Sacristy.

17. People to whom the Respondent made the additional inappropriate remarks include without limitation:

- A. Mary Pat Barnett-Lewis
- B. William Lewis

- C. Kabura Mukasa
- D. Roger Mukasa
- E. Stanley Richardson
- F. Zoe Richardson
- G. Pat Size
- H. Elizabeth Steinhoff
- I. Anne Strauss
- J. Tracy Thompson
- K. Pat Werk
- L. Wolfgang Werk

18. People about whom the additional inappropriate remarks were made include:

- A. [REDACTED]
- B. [REDACTED]
- C. The Grace Church congregation
- D. [REDACTED]
- E. [REDACTED]
- F. [REDACTED]
- G. [REDACTED]
- H. [REDACTED]
- I. [REDACTED]

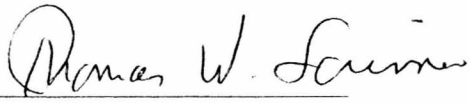
19. Respondent's actions, as set forth above, are in violation of Canon IV1.1(j) because they constitute disorder and neglect prejudicing the reputation, good order and discipline of the Church, and constitute conduct which brings material discredit upon the Church and the Holy Orders conferred by the Church.

DATED this 24 day of April, 2006.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE  
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

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