

HIỆP HỘI TRUYỀN GIÁO PHƯỚC ÂM LIÊN HIỆP VIỆT NAM THẾ GIỚI

The Worldwide Association of Vietnamese Alliance Churches (WAVAC)



15627 - 85 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5Z 3B5
Tel: (780) 472 8879 Mobile: (780) 660-2897
Fax: (780) 472-8879 E-mail: drttle@yahoo.com

11 October 2007

Dr. Gary Benedict, President
The Christian and Missionary Alliance of USA
8595 Explorer Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Dear Dr. Gary Benedict:

Greeting in the Name of Jesus Christ.

I am Rev. Dr. Thanh Trung Le, the International Coordinator of the Worldwide Association of Vietnamese Alliance Churches (WAVAC) and the Director of the Association of Vietnamese Alliance Churches in Canada (AVAC). WAVAC is a global effort to reach the Vietnamese for Christ. AVAC's relationship to the C&MA (Canada) is akin to the Vietnamese District's relationship to the C&MA (USA). I would like to present my concerns about the letter that Rev. Tai Anh Nguyen, the superintendent of the Vietnamese District of the C&MA (USA), wrote about Rev. Dr. Nha Tran.

First of all, I am skeptical about the intent of Rev. Tai's letter. He stated that he wanted to explain Rev. Dr. Nha's dismissal. Instead of keeping the letter within the Vietnamese District of the C&MA (USA), he sent the letter to Vietnamese leaders around the world. This is inappropriate conduct as this matter was an internal affair and did not need to be brought to the world stage. Rev. Tai accused Dr. Rev. Nha of working behind Rev. Tai's back to secure and take credit for the relationship between the C&MA (USA), Simpson University, the Evangelical Church of Vietnam (South) (ECV), and the Institute of Bible and Theology (IBT). Rev. Tai's tone suggests that there is a power struggle or a popularity contest between the two. Sadly, this struggle has been made public and has weakened the unity of the Church.

Secondly, Rev. Tai's decision to circulate his letter around the world has consequences on Vietnamese believers. The manner in which Rev. Tai reacted communicated to the Vietnamese believers that any activity that involves Vietnam must go through the Vietnamese District, whether the initiative comes from the C&MA (USA) or the EVC. This simply is not true: the district leadership cannot dictate the activities of the national leadership. Vietnamese Christians recognize that Rev. Tai's actions were not consistent with Christian conduct, but

Phúc Âm Truyền Giảng
Liên Hiệp Việt Nam Thế Giới

Phúc Âm Truyền Giảng
Liên Hiệp Việt Nam Thế Giới

they are discouraged that Rev. Tai is not being held accountable for his actions. It appears to them that the Vietnamese District has no accountability to the C&MA (USA). Vietnamese Christians may start to distrust the church leadership and be unwilling to financially support the partnership between Simpson University and the IBT. This is alarming because there is a great need for soundly-trained Vietnamese leaders around the world.

It is my hope that you will intervene in this situation to settle the dispute. The name of Jesus is not being lifted up by this conflict. I have a few suggestions for further action, but I want to respect your authority in your jurisdiction. If you want to discuss anything that I have raised, please do not hesitate to contact me at drttle@yahoo.com or (780) 660-2897.

Thank you for your time. May God give you the wisdom to resolve this situation.

In Christ,



Rev. Dr. Thanh Trung Le
International Coordinator, the Worldwide Association of Vietnamese Alliance Churches
Director, the Association of Vietnamese Alliance Churches in Canada

cc:

Dr. John Soper, Executive Director for National Ministries
Rev. Joseph Kong, Director for Intercultural Ministries
Dr. Robb Redman, Dean of A. W. Tozer Theological Seminary
Dr. Larry McKinney, President of Simpson University
Rev. Nguyen Anh Tai, GHT
Rev. Dr. Nguyen Thanh Phien
Rev. Dr. Le Vinh Thach
Rev. Dr. Nguyen Van Nghia
Rev. Ho Hieu Ha
Rev. Tran Thien Minh
Rev. Doan Trung Chanh
Rev. Antoine Ai Hoang