JOINT STATEMENT FROM PROVINCE IV BISHOPS REGARDING RACIST INCIDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is with great sadness and in my capacity as a diocesan bishop of constituent dioceses (Province IV) for the University of the South that I share with you the joint statement below condemning recent racist incidents at the university. To learn more, please read this article - "Sewanee seeks to identify students who shouted racist slurs at opposing lacrosse team." I ask for your prayers for the Vice Chancellor of the University of the South, Reuben Brigety, as well as for the university's students, faculty and staff.

Grace to you,

+Greg Brewer

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18 March 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

As Bishops of Province IV of The Episcopal Church (also known as The Province of Sewanee) who share in the oversight of the University of the South, we in no uncertain terms condemn the harassment of the Vice Chancellor of the University last month by, as of now, unknown vandals and the more recent racial epithets hurled at scholar athletes from a visiting college by young people in the crowd during a lacrosse game. We hope and pray those engaging in such despicable behavior are not students at the University. In our minds, any racist behavior is intolerable, does not represent the virtues of our faith, and we denounce it emphatically. We trust the Vice Chancellor and the University Regents will together address these hateful acts with all deliberate speed.

The Right Reverend Scott Benhase, Vice President, Province IV
The Right Reverend Robert Wright, Bishop of Atlanta
The Right Reverend Frank Logue, Bishop of Georgia
The Right Reverend Phoebe Roaf, Bishop of West Tennessee
The Right Reverend Brian Cole, Bishop of East Tennessee
The Right Reverend Mark Van Koevering, Bishop of Lexington
The Right Reverend Rob Skirving, Bishop of East Carolina
The Right Reverend Neil Alexander, Bishop of Atlanta, Res.
The Right Reverend Peter Eaton, Bishop of Southeast Florida
The Right Reverend Morris Thompson, Bishop of Louisiana
The Right Reverend Terry White, Bishop of Kentucky
The Right Reverend Glenda Curry, Bishop of Alabama
The Right Reverend Sam Rodman, Bishop of North Carolina
The Right Reverend Jose McLoughlin, Bishop of Western North Carolina
The Right Reverend McKee Sloan, Bishop of Alabama, Res.
The Right Reverend Russell Kendrick, Bishop of Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend Andrew Waldo, Bishop of Upper South Carolina
The Right Reverend Dabney Smith, Bishop of Southwest Florida
The Right Reverend Greg Brewer, Bishop of Central Florida
The Right Reverend John Bauerschmidt, Bishop of Tennessee
The Right Reverend Henry Parsley, Bishop of Alabama. Res.
The Right Reverend Brian Seage, Bishop of Mississippi
The Right Reverend Anne Hodges-Copple, Bishop Suffragan of North Carolina