

United Methodist Agency Backs Transgender Procedures for Minors, Sparking Backlash

An agency of the United Methodist Church is drawing sharp condemnation after voicing support for federal legislation that would expand access to sex-change procedures for minors.

As reported by The Christian Post, Bishop Julius C. Trimble of the General Board of Church and Society defended transgender individuals and criticized laws limiting access to gender-related treatments.

“Transgender youth often experience a combination of sexual harassment, bullying, school violence and estrangement from family members,” Trimble wrote. “They are also disproportionately placed in foster care and welfare programs compared to their peers.”

Trimble also condemned lawmakers who have enacted what he described as restrictive policies on gender identity, saying United Methodists are “called to stand with transgender people, rejecting laws that allow politicians to dictate their healthcare decisions.”

The agency expressed support for the proposed Transgender Bill of Rights, which seeks to “protect and codify the rights of transgender and nonbinary individuals” and ensure access to medical care. The legislation includes provisions to eliminate restrictions on so-called gender-affirming treatments for both adults and adolescents.

A spokesperson confirmed to The Christian Post that the statement reflects the position of the United Methodist Church’s advocacy arm.



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Critics quickly pushed back. Mark Tooley, president of the Institute on Religion and Democracy, said the position "affirms the dignity of transgendered people without citing the Christian teaching of male and female as God's gifts." He also warned it ignores the pressure placed on Christians to affirm transgender ideology.

The church agency, however, stated it does not engage in debates over medical specifics and believes such decisions should be left to individuals and doctors.

The spiritual implications of this are unmistakable.

When a church body departs from the authority of Scripture, it does not remain neutral. It moves. The rejection of God's design in Genesis 1:27, that He created mankind male and female, opens the door to redefining identity itself. What begins as compassion untethered from truth quickly becomes affirmation of what Scripture forbids.

This is the progression of apostasy. Truth is exchanged for cultural approval. Biblical clarity is replaced with shifting language and always-moving goalposts. The result is a church that no longer corrects the world but mirrors it.

The slippery slope is clearly visible. A church that once proclaimed repentance now promotes autonomy. A body called to shepherd souls now defers to the spirit of the age.

Scripture warns that such a turning will come. When truth is abandoned, deception fills the vacuum. And once that line is crossed, there is no stable ground, only further departure from what God has clearly established.

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