

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

North Logan Utah Stake

June 7, 2014

Brother John Dehlin  
2754 North 920 East  
North Logan, UT 84341

RE: Your Membership in the Church

Dear Brother Dehlin,

As your stake president, I hope you know I care deeply for every member of the stake, including you and your family. Because of the love I have for you, I have become concerned about some of your recent statements and actions regarding the Church and your place in it. That includes your recent public posting from earlier this month that you "no longer believe many of the fundamental LDS church truth claims . . ." I am greatly concerned about the impact these and other statements and actions are having upon the members of the stake.

Ordinarily, I prefer to speak in person and in private about such matters and I offer you the opportunity to do so. I am aware of your recent email to Bishop Hunt, dated January 2014, in which you requested that you not be contacted by ward members or church leaders. The email also requested that you not be considered a member of the ward, and that your names be removed from the home teaching and visiting teaching rolls of the Church. Although I wish it were otherwise, I respect this request. But at the same time, given your recent actions and statements, I need to know exactly where you stand regarding your membership in the Church.

I have chosen to write this letter to you and inquire whether, by your earlier email to Bishop Hunt and your recent public statements, you desire to have your name removed from the records of the Church. As you know, if you make such a request I am bound to honor it. You should know, however, that such name removal will revoke your temple and priesthood blessings. I would urge you to consider this carefully, as it is a very important decision.

If you choose not to have your name removed, then I think we are to the point where I should convene a formal disciplinary council on your behalf for apostasy. Together we would need to arrive at an acceptable time to hold such a council.

If you desire to have your name removed from Church records, please inform me in writing no later than June 18, 2014. If I do not hear from you by that time, I will assume that you do not desire to avail yourself of this option, and I will proceed to schedule a disciplinary council.

You should also be aware that if you choose to have your name removed from Church records, I feel it is important to make an appropriate announcement to the adults in the stake that you have chosen this option.

I have a deep love for you and your family. I am very willing to confer with you in person about these issues. I hope you will carefully consider your options. If you choose not to meet with me I want you to know my love and concern for you and your family will remain.

May the Lord bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Bryan C. King". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Bryan C. King  
Stake President

August 11, 2014

Dear Brother Dehlin:

Thank you for sending the letter from you and Margi. I fear that in my willingness to engage in a discussion on all of the issues that you chose to address during our lengthy conversations, the direction of my true concerns may have not been clear. As the letter I gave you states, I am focused on five core doctrines of the Church: (1) The existence and nature of God; (2) Christ being the literal Savior of the World and his Atonement being absolutely necessary to our salvation; (3) the exclusive priesthood authority restored through the Church; (4) The Book of Mormon as scripture and the revealed word of God; and (5) the governance of the Church by doctrine and revelation through inspired leaders. As you know, and as my letter outlined, in the past you have written and spoken out against these core doctrines on numerous occasions and in numerous public contexts. Your requirement of scientific proof to resolve your doubts is not the Lord's plan of asking us to walk by faith in this life.

If you are prepared to renounce your previous statements we can move forward together. From your letter, I take it that you are not intending to comply with the conditions stated in my letter. If that is the case, I will simply move forward to schedule the council.

Finally, as I read your response, it reinforces my concern that your letter is an attempt to produce an official document of what occurred during our meetings. I feel that it is impossible to fully recount the spirit and context of our discussions in a written document. I hope that in the spirit of confidentiality, you will not be releasing it to the media and posting it on your web site. I hope that I am mistaken about this, because I believe it would undermine the trust we need to have in order to move forward. But if you nevertheless decide to post your letter, I hope that you will have the fairness to post mine along with it, making clear that I presented my letter to you at the beginning of our meeting and that it contains the true focus of my concerns about your conduct.

Sincerely,

Bryan King  
North Logan Stake President