

Mr. David A. Weihe
Rose Hill, Kansas

John Wesley warned us to not engage in unprofitable or uncharitable conversation about our national leaders or church leaders.

During the past five years there has been a consistent unwavering attack on our President by bishops, pastors, Methodist leaders in world church organizations, and even our own women's organization's leaders. The archives of UMC.org contain many specific examples.

Recently a pastor in Texas even said that the presidential library shouldn't be built at Southern Methodist University. His reason for voicing his opposition was that Methodist bishops had declared the Iraq war unjust.

Much deeper in this movement within our organization is the subtle handling of cares and concerns. Instead of praying for our leaders, church bulletins contain prayers for the Iraqi people more frequently than for our soldiers, sailors, and airmen. There is also a movement within the church to downplay military service, limit support for our troops, and a movement to provide sanctuary for service personnel who might have conscientious or religious objections to military service.

My requests to address these issues concerning the state of the church have largely gone unattended. It would be nice to see what services various conferences have provided to honor our President, national leaders, and military personnel.