

September 23, 2024

Statement of Support and Call for Accountability

We the undersigned publicly and emphatically stand in solidarity and support for the victims of sexual abuse at MorningStar. Each of us had some level of experience with the many facets of MorningStar ministries, whether their K-12 school, the ministry school MSU, or the Sunday morning congregation. We were students, church attendees, MorningStar staff, CSCL teachers, and volunteers.

Many of us live in different places now, and we approach this statement with a spectrum of beliefs about God, religion, and our time at MorningStar. **One thing we share is a firm belief that corruption, negligence, and abuse of power has gone on at MorningStar and its affiliated organizations for decades.** We believe it is this corrupt and toxic leadership culture that enabled various forms of abuse to take place, including a child predator being able to abuse children for years.

We strongly condemn the MorningStar Board, its leader Rick Joyner, and other executive church leaders for their inadequate response to grave allegations. Their attempts to ignore, downplay, and discredit victims and the severity of their claims are not only morally reprehensible but also betray the trust placed in them.

We call for the following:

- 1. Leadership accountability.** Rick Joyner should immediately resign from the church and hold no further positions of authority in the future. His comments on the allegations demonstrate a lack of empathy, conviction, and commitment to protect the most vulnerable among us.
- 2. Independent audit of the board.** An independent, third-party review of MorningStar's Board should be conducted and the findings disclosed publicly. The audit should include review of all board members' credentials, background checks, the Board's decision-making policies and procedures, and the minutes of all board meetings and financial statements.
- 3. Independent audit of child protection practices.** An independent, third-party audit should be conducted of the policies and procedures governing all positions of authority over children and the findings and recommendations published publicly.
- 4. Immediate consultation with organizations skilled in victim protection, safe environment policies, and preventing clergy/church sexual abuse of minors, followed by mandatory training.** Based on these consultations, every individual (staff & volunteers alike) with a role that involves interacting with children should be given mandatory training on sexual abuse against minors and annual training should become standing policy.

These investigations must be conducted by an external, impartial body with no ties to the church or its leadership.

Finally, we encourage current members, supporters, students, staff, and volunteers to review all available information regarding the allegations made against MorningStar's leadership and to carefully reconsider your continued support (financial or otherwise) to MorningStar. Absent significant MorningStar actions toward ensuring transparency, accountability, and prevention of abuse in the future, continuing to support this organization may contribute to continued abuse.

#TimesUp #BetterAMillstone

Signed,

Emily Elston
Emily Williams
Lacy Anderson
Daniel Anderson
Jon Thompson
Laura Strite
Rebekah Carpenter
Destiny Edwards
Ruth Meharg
Calvin Elston
Bethany Cord
Kaitlin Mathis
Owen Bergeron
Anastasia Merriken
Wendy Hawley
Chad Hawley
Jessie Wimmer
Anna Hollingsworth
Caleb Doyle
Rachel Reeher
Arias (John) DeRienzo
Jason Healey
Miranda Escalante
Richard Hirth
Maeve Smith
Megan Escalante
Barbara Escalante
Cindy Irving
Josiah Carr
Sophia Kim
Jeremy Merriken
David Rowan
Rachel Souza
Valerie Cordell
Jolie Rempel
Micah Griffith
Courtney Blake
Mary Williams
Liz Corwin Seegers

Joel Arndt
Leah Wolf
Clyde Vreeland
Deanna Christal
Wes Strite
Robert Fulton
Austin Crump
Leah Bergeron
Emily Megown
Richard Irving
Jonathan Pollina
Matthew LaFlamme
Daniel Mullin
Landon Hawley
Sara (Townsend) Russell
Raquella Rivera
Chris Gladden
John Emery
April Sechrest
Ashton Crain
Mikayla Emery
Amanda (Bryant) Mitchell
Robbie Roberts
Julia Willett
Karissa Dean
Gloria Quental
Taylor Dejaegher
Rachel DeRienzo
Ginesa Wilmot
Victor Rosenzweig
Elyse Nagy
Adam Short
Anna Livingston
Brooke Barsell
Kim Miller
Chloe Kesler
Greg Miller
Bruce Shafer
Korynne Feliu

Candace Williams
Christine Orrick
Linda Abdelmalak
Mark Mathis
Abbi O'Leary
Hannah Richardson
Hannah Kimel
Rachel Saylor
Jessie Bernal
Ethan Crawford
Talia Buksbazen
Rian Buksbazen
Chellie Cloud
Josiah Williams
Jason Hills
Delaney Andersson
Glory Irving
Nicholas Livingston
Jack Abdelmalak
Erica Dawn
Joshua Fajardo
Sarah Williams
Laurie Stasi
Chad Cunningham
Hallie Cunningham
Paul Stasi
Dee Saddler
Andrew Farmer
Grace Wagner
Elizabeth Thomas
Brienne Thorsen Mazzone
Gloria Carr
Susan Tuma
Shirah Eckert
Lindsay Bailey
Ryan Bailey
Suzanne Anderson

Additional Signatures calling for above mentioned Accountability Measures:

Sarah Carr	Arne Mathingsdal
Suzi Dewing	Faith Mathingsdal
Sean Eberly	Maura White
Will Cabrera	Teresa Ali
Mark Ryder	Maranda (Nelson) Gullett
Nichole (Stasi) Ryder	Vachelle Fleming
Charity Johnston	Anna Parrott
Amanda (Stasi) Flowers	Heather Griffin
Chris Petkau	Daniel Faludi
Sarah Petkai	John Elving
Yaneisy del Corral	James Klein
Ulrich Tofack	Julie Diminyatz
Marcus Butler	David Lackey
Amanda Ferres	Kathleen Lackey
O Douglas	Doria Stewart
Holly Marth	Carly McLaughlin
Melody Bowling	Teresa Phillips
Sarah (Luffman) Petkau	Chastity Harris
Madeleine Vest	Tracy Osborne
Robert Foster	Stephen Powell
Christina McBride	Olivia Thompson
Alyssa DeGraff	Tiina Kuukka
Brantley Smith	Lindsey Calverley
Geraldine Edrei	Alex Mavrogenis
Rebecca Faludi	
Zachary O'Flynn	
Sarah Corcoran	
Kyra Lewis	
Sharie Favors	
Robert DeFelice	
Joshua Bacon	
Brenda Elkins	
Sabine Cioto	
Josh Thompson	
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Rona Wallace	
Anshit Mehrotra	
Keith Fauchaux	
Toby Kreiselmaier	
Corrie Byers Gardner	