

## Warning Against Publishing "The Dash" by Lisa Ellis in ANY FORM

An important note from Heather E. Kimmel, General Counsel for the United Church of Christ, on the poem "**The Dash**" by **Lisa Ellis**. The main thrust: Do NOT republish this poem in ANY FORM.

"If UCC churches have any portion of the poem "The Dash" by Linda Ellis included in their hard copy or online publications including websites, Facebook, Instagram, etc., they are at risk of being threatened with a copyright enforcement action by The Dash Management, the company that enforces the copyright.

"This company essentially makes a living by finding copyright violations and threatening a lawsuit. Publishing any portion of any work without permission may result in a church's liability for statutory damages, which are generally not covered by insurance. Properly attributing the work is not a substitute for getting a license (permission) from the copyright owner, and copyright owners are entitled to enforce their copyrights. We have discussed this particular poem before as several of our churches have fallen victim to it, and more are continuing to do so."

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