



Church defies federal order Guys church repaints church signage

By Jeff York
For the Daily Corinthian

GUYS, Tenn. — A small church in Guys has defied a federal court order to stop using the Seventh Day Adventist

name and has repainted the sign on their church this week.

Lucan Chartier, acting pastor of the church, said the members of Creation Seventh Day Adventist would be willing to go to

jail for their beliefs.

"We believe God gave us the name to use," said Chartier. "We do not want to be arrested, but we would do that for our convictions."

A federal judge had of-

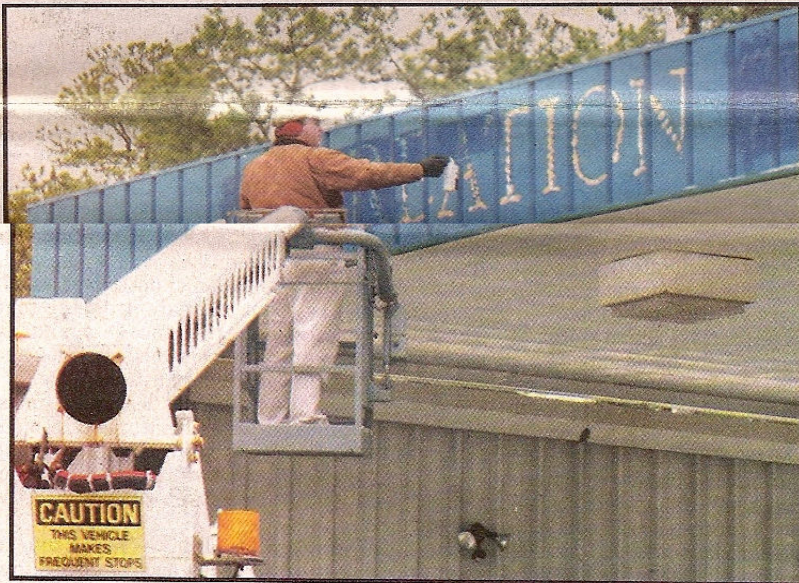
ficials remove the name from the Guys church because of a violation of the trademark of the Seventh Day Adventist church. The church sign was painted over on Feb. 15.

The church in Guys did try for a short time using the name A Creation Seventh Day & Adventist Church to avoid problems with the international Seventh Day Adventist church. The Guys church was formed in 1991.

"We tried to satisfy them with a different name and that did not work," Chartier said. "When the change did not satisfy them, we went back to using our original name."

Chartier said the church had no attendance the past few weeks and he believed the controversy over the name is a reason no one has been to the Saturday services. "We do have some people out doing mission work and that is a reason why they have not been coming to church," said Chartier, who lives in Hardin County.

Church pastor Walter McGill has been found in



Photos by Jebb Johnston

Although the lettering of its sign was removed Feb. 16 by court order, the Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church in Guys, Tenn., has painted it back in defiance (top). John Orman with Nickels Signs & Graphics paints over what remains of the white lettering of the name of Creation Seventh Day Adventist Church in accordance with a court order in February.

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civil contempt because the Guys church violated the federal injunction preventing them from using the Seventh Day Adventist name.

Chartier said McGill is in East Africa doing mission work. McGill will allegedly be arrested for contempt of court when he returns to the United States.

The Guys church believes in a total separation of church and state. Chartier feels that is a reason does not have to obey a civil court ruling.

The General Conference of Seventh Day Adventist could not be reached for comment on the Guys church repainting the sign.

Chartier said the Guys church uses www.loudcry.eu/ as their Web site.