RELIGION

Group sues celebrity church over mural art

BY ANDREW CHUNG
REUTERS

NEW YORK — A group of street artists say a church led by a pastor to celebrities such as hip hop mogul Kanye West used their artwork from a Miami public school in an advertising campaign without their permission, according to a lawsuit.

In a copyright infringement complaint filed in federal court in Miami on Wednesday, the eight artists alleged Trinity Church Inc. and its youth-oriented Vous Church satellite made ads out of giant murals they painted on the school's outer walls as part of a revitalization project.

The complaint says the ads were placed on social media sites last summer as Vous prepared to launch services in Miami's Wynwood district, where the school is located.

Trinity Church is a large-scale Pentecostal ministry, which also has campuses in San Diego and soon, New York City. Representatives for Trinity and Vous could not immediately be reached for comment on Thursday.

Vous' pastor, Rich Wilkerson Jr., is known for officiating at West's marriage to reality TV star Kim Kardashian. Wilkerson is also the star of his own reality TV series called "Rich in Faith."

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In the complaint, the artists, including well-known Miami graffitist David Anasagasti, better known as "Ahol Sniffs Glue," said they would never have agreed to license their work to Trinity or Vous.

They created the murals to benefit the school, they said, "not a well-funded celebrity church brand or its prosperous pastors."

The artists are seeking unspecified damages. Their lawyer, Andrew Gerber, said, "We are still very much open to resolving this matter."

Anasagasti previously sued American Eagle Outfitters in 2014 for copyright infringement, also over an ad campaign. That case reached a confidential settlement.

As part of the revitalization plan for Wynwood's Jose de Diego Middle School, the artists came together in December 2014 to paint murals, some nearly three-stories tall, that included a playful dog, a dancer, an upside-down rose, and the familiar work of Anasagasti — rows of eyes that appear half-asleep.

The school draws students from several poverty-stricken neighborhoods around Wynwood, located just north of downtown Miami, according to the complaint.

Vous now rents the school's auditorium for its services, but the agreement does not include use of the murals. School officials told Trinity they must seek permission from the artists, who own copyrights on the murals, in order to use them, the complaint said.

The school is not part of the litigation.

Things to Do
Religion

BANGOR — Glad Tidings Church Thrift Store, 1033 Broadway, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. gtcbangor.com or facebook.com/gtcbangor.

BANGOR — Bangor Community Chorus welcomes singers to participate in this nonaudition, diverse chorus, which rehearses weekly, 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, First United Methodist Church, 703 Essex St. Winter seasonal program will be "Under Winter Moon." Stacy George, 333-0980 or sgeo8@roadrunner.com.

BANGOR — Sermon "Listening as Spiritual Discipline" by the Rev. Arthur Vaeni, Sunday, Jan. 10, Unitarian Universalist Society of Bangor, 120 Park St. 947-7009 or UUBangor.org.

BANGOR — Kids Bible Club, 5:30-7 p.m. Wednesdays, Glad Tidings Church, 1033 Broadway. For kindergartners through eighth-graders. Choose from sports or crafts, followed by Bible time and a light meal. 947-0324, ext. 15, or Facebook.com/GTCBangor.

BANGOR — Free community meal, 12:30 p.m. Sundays, Columbia St. Baptist Church, 63 Columbia St. 945-6616.

BELFAST — Belfast Area Friends Meeting, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), silent, unprogrammed meeting for worship, 11 a.m. Sundays, The Lounge at First Baptist Church, 95 High St. Take the path through the Peace Garden to enter the Friends' worship space. Handicapped accessible. Child care available. 338-3080 or 930-3518.

BELFAST — Annual Martin Luther King Jr. candlelight walk and community celebration, 4:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 18. Starting at the post office and proceeding to the First Church Parish House for a gathering with music, readings from King's dedicated work, and a community speak out to continue the struggle for racial justice. Sponsored by Waldo County Peace and Justice. 338-5089.

BLUE HILL — Simmering Pot free community meals, 2:30-6 p.m. Mondays, First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, 22 Tenney Hill. Local produce often featured. Worship services, 10 a.m. Sundays. Donations accepted. 374-2891.

CAMDEN — Coffee and Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; worship service, 10:45 a.m. Sundays; prayer, 7:30-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays; devotion and prayer gathering, 7 p.m. Wednesdays; men's group, 7-9 a.m. Saturdays, Chestnut Street Baptist Church, 29 Chestnut St. 236-2195. For men's group information, call Brian Vanden Brink at 236-3922.

CAMDEN — Testimony meetings, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays; Sunday service, 10-11 a.m.; Sunday school for up to age 20, 10-11 a.m., Christian Science Reading Room, 1 Central St., open to listen to chats, lectures and read inspirational magazines, noon-3 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Men's group, 7-9 a.m. Saturdays, second-floor high school classroom. 236-4040.

CASTINE — Epiphany 1: The Baptism of Christ and Holy Eucharist with the Rev. Emily Blair Stribling, celebrant and preacher, 9 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, Trinity Episcopal Church, 150 Perkins St. Refreshments. Church school, 9 a.m. second and fourth Sundays.

CASTINE — Sermon "Resolutions Revisited" by the Rev. Albert Boyce, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Castine Meeting House. 326-9083, minister@uucastine.org or office@uucastine.org.

CASTINE — Sermon "Affirmed by Love" by the Rev. Tim Hall, with Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 10, Trinitarian Congregational Parish of Castine, 68 Main St. Refreshments. 326-9486 or tcpoc.org.

DEXTER — Kids Bible Club for children in kindergarten-grade five, 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, New Hope Baptist Church, 130 Spring St. 924-7419 or NHBCDexter Facebook page.

DEXTER — Coffee fellowship, 8 a.m.; prayer in pastor's office, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9 a.m.; worship services, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wired Youth Fellowship for grades six-12, 5:30 p.m. Sundays, New Hope Baptist Church, 130 Spring St. Prayer meetings, 6 p.m. Wednesdays; Ladies Bible Study on "The Fruit of the Spirit," 10 a.m.; special Sunday school class for couples who have children or plan to have children, focusing on marriage. Food pantry distribution, 8:15-9:15 a.m. first and third Saturdays each month. NewHopeDexter.org or NHBCDexter Facebook page or 924-7419.

ELLSWORTH — New CityReach ministry, 10:30 a.m. Sundays, 27 High St. Free food and testimonies Tuesdays. Jermel Mcwhorter at 249-0303 or church at 412-0660.

ELLSWORTH — Saturday sanctuary sessions explore faith, religion and spirituality, 4:30-6:30 p.m. second and fourth Saturdays, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 175 Downeast Highway. Supper is potluck with theme, topic and menu posted on StAndrewME.org and Facebook usually Wednesday before. No alcohol or tobacco. 667-7641.

GUILFORD — Food cupboard, 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesdays, Guilford United Methodist Church, 3 School St. For Elliotsville, Williamantic, Blanchard, Abbot, Guilford, Sangerville, Parkman, Wellington and Cambridge.

GUILFORD — Worship, 10 a.m. Sundays, Guilford United Methodist Church, 3 School St. Coffee hour, 9-9:50 a.m. Choir rehearsal, 9:15 a.m., in the sanctuary.

HOWLAND — Exodus Bible study, 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays; $4 lunch, 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays; worship, 9-10 a.m. Sundays, Howland United Methodist Church, 23 Coffin St. 862-4281.

LIMERICK — Regular services by Pastor John Short Jr., 10 a.m. Sundays, Maine Life Gate Christian Church, 3 Foss Road. Saturday service, 6 p.m. Sermons posted at Facebook.com/MaineLifeGateChristianChurch. 793-2610 or info@mlgchurch.com.

LINCOLN — Acts Bible study, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Mondays; free community suppers, 5-6 p.m. Wednesdays; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; social hour, 10-10:45 a.m.; followed by worship, 11 a.m. Sundays; informal contemporary evening worship, 6-7 p.m. Sundays, First United Methodist Church, 8 Lee Rd. 794-8443.

PHIPPSBURG — VoXX "Music for the New Year" concert, 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 17, Phippsburg Congregational Church. $10. voiceoftwenty.com or info@voiceoftwenty.com.

ROCKLAND — Snow Day Camp, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., First Universalist Church, 345 Broadway. For elementary children ages 5-10 on days school is cancelled because of snow. Breakfast, lunch and two snacks. Organized activities. Deposit of $15 per child to reserve space, and $15 per child per snow day. If there are no snow days, the deposit will be returned. Limited to 30. 370-7887 or uursnowdaycamp@uurockland.org.

ROCKPORT — Down East Singers registration and voice placement checks for new singers, 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12, Nativity Lutheran Church, 179 Old County Road. Rehearsals, 7-9:15 p.m. Tuesdays. Carpooling available. Memorial Day concert, 5 p.m. Monday, May 30, Camden Opera House. Membership fee, $60; high school students, free. 619-0413 or www.downeastsingers.org.

SEARSMONT — Searsmont United Methodist Church seeks pianist or organist to play for its services, 9-10 a.m. Sundays. Elsa at 342-5294 or the Rev. Ed Bove at 785-4140 or 401-525-6866.

SEARSPORT — First Congregational Church is selling a collection of recipes from 1600s to today, including history, stories and original photographs, $20 each. Free ebook editions with each purchase. Pick up a copy at Hamilton Marine, Colonial Gables, Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, Searsport Antique Mall, Safe Harbor Church events and at the church, 8 Church St. Will ship for an additional $6 per book. Mail check or money orders to Jessica Hall, Searsport First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 261, Searsport 04974.

THOMASTON — Thomaston Baptist Church's 200th anniversary in 2016 with an old-fashioned Sunday morning worship service featuring music from the historic period and the first of its "History Moments," a collection of short items from the church's history, 11 a.m. Jan. 17. The Rev. Wayne Sawyer at 354-6706.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

let us Worship together

United Methodist

Orono United Methodist Church
36 Oak St, Orono • www.oronoumc.com
Orono United Methodist Church • 866-4605
email: oronoumc@gmail.com
9:45am Adult/Youth Sunday School
11am Worship
w/ Children's Sunday School
Pastor Steve Smith
Handicapped Accessible (Parking Lot)

Grace United Methodist Church
193 Union Street, Bangor
942-8320
Worship Service & Sunday School
10AM
Everybody Welcome
www.gbgm-umc.org/graceumcbangor
Handicap-Accessible • Nursery Provided

Hampden Highlands United Methodist Church
44 Kennebec Rd., Hampden
Worship & Sunday School
10 a.m.
Nursery Provided • 862-4195
www.hampdenhighlands.me
office@hampdenhighlands.me handicap accessible

Baptist

HERMON BAPTIST CHURCH (848-5749)
S.S. 8:45 a.m., Worship at 10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Wednesday 6:25 p.m.
AWANA, Teens & Prayer Mtg.
Come & Worship at a growing family centered church!
www.hermonbaptistchurch.org
(www.truelife.org)

Bible Baptist Church
Preaching The Lord Jesus Christ
KJV Bible • Great Hymns
"The Way Church Used To Be"
Sun. 10 AM, 6 PM; Thurs. 6:30 PM
Children's Church Sun. 10 AM
Caring nursery provided for all services
945-9952 619 Hammond St., Bangor

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. David Henry
Worship Service 10:15 am
Loving Childcare Provided
Sunday School 9:00
56 Center St., Bangor • 945-9694
fbcbangor.org

Presbyterian

Pilgrim Orthodox Presbyterian
"Living New Lives in Christ"
Worship Services 9:30am & 6pm
375 Mt. Hope Ave., Bangor
942-8054
www.pilgrimopc.org

GOOD NEWS BAPTIST CHURCH
Independent, Fundamental, King James Bible
Sunday School for everyone 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Services 11 a.m.
& 6:00 p.m., Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Currently meeting @ 750 Hogan Rd.
in the Quality Inn conference room
www.gnbcbangor.com

Catholic

SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE PARISH
BANGOR • BREWER
HAMPDEN • WINTERPORT
217-6740
WEEKEND MASSES
Saturday
4:00PM St. John's ..... Bangor
4:00PM St. Joseph's ..... Brewer
Sunday
7:00AM St. Mary's ..... Bangor
8:30AM St. Gabriel's ..... Winterport
8:30AM St. Mary's ..... Bangor
10:30AM St. John's ..... Bangor
10:30AM St. Matthew's ..... Hampden
5:30PM St. Teresa's ..... Brewer
Confession:
Saturday
2:30 PM to 3:45 PM, St. John's, Bangor
3:00 PM to 3:45 PM, St. Joseph's, Brewer
Sunday
4:30 PM to 5:15 PM, St. Teresa's, Brewer

The Parish of the Resurrection of the Lord
827-4000
MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday
4PM - Holy Family, Old Town
5:30PM- St. Ann's, Indian Island
Sunday
8AM- Holy Family, Old Town
9:30AM - St. Ann's, Bradley
11AM - Our Lady of Wisdom / Newman Center, Orono

Quakers - Friends

Meetings for Worship
Bar Harbor Area 207-610-0555
Belfast Area 207-930-3518
Eggemoggin Reach 207-348-6686
Narramissic Valley (Bucksport) 207-326-8789
Orono 207-884-4763
For details go to: quakerfinder.org

Christian Science

First Church of Christ, Scientist
939 Broadway at Hobart St., Bangor
Service Times: Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Christian Science Reading Room
Tue & Sat 10-1; Wed 4:30-6:30
Nursery Provided at all services, 947-7421
www.christiansciencebangorme.com

Second Congregational Church CCCC
607 S Main St., Brewer • 989-7930
An Evangelical, Congregational Church
Sunday School ... 9:15
Worship 10:30
Reverend Dick Reynolds • Brewer4CChurch.org

To list your service contact Barb at 990-8140 or email bmower@bangordailynews.com

Episcopal

St. John's Episcopal Church
225 French Street, Bangor, Maine
ANCIENT & MODERN
947-0156
Holy Eucharist
Sunday 8 & 10 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
www.stjohnsbangor.org
Child Care Provided

Congregational

First Congregational Church of Brewer, UCC
35 Church St., Brewer • 989-7350
www.firstcongregationalbrewer.org
fcongobrw@oxfordnetworks.net
Worship Services
Sundays 9:30am and 6pm

Orthodox

Scriptural Traditional Worship
+
God's Peace and Love
An evangelical outreach of the Orthodox Church (OCA) is now organizing in Bangor.
Sunday Worship, teaching and Lunch: 10:00 am at 243 French Street (in the rear).
Come, taste and see that the Lord is good!