

Barry Carter

From: Chris Cook [chris.saumc@knology.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2008 1:42 PM
To: Barry Carter
Subject: Re: directly from pastor chris

I guess I am pretty confused then - your e-mail says **all**. Does **all** not mean **all**?

This has Jacque's name on it and has been turned in to the SPRC Chair. It has been interpreted as a letter of resignation by the ones who have received it.

I understand you have an anger that has obviously been building but I will caution you - when a person speaks in anger there are consequences. Sometimes those consequences are costly for those you love.

The SPR meets Sunday to handle the 2 resignations before us.

Pastor Chris

----- Original Message -----

From: [Barry Carter](#)
To: '[Chris Cook](#)'
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2008 1:14 PM
Subject: RE: directly from pastor chris

No.

From: Chris Cook [mailto:chris.saumc@knology.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 02, 2008 10:50 AM
To: Barry Carter
Subject: Re: directly from pastor chris

Do I understand that this serves as a notice of resignation for Jacque Carter as the Maintenance person of the Saint Andrew United Methodist Church?

"Remove my family from all affiliation to SAUMC and all affiliation to the United Methodist Church as a whole."

Pastor Chris

----- Original Message -----

From: [Barry Carter](#)
To: '[Chris Cook](#)'; '[Ed Flack](#)'; '[Milton Acton](#)'; '[Norma Brunson](#)'; '[Jean P Fanning](#)'; '[Betty Gall](#)'; '[Ruth Howard](#)'; '[Pat Hudson](#)'; '[Avis Keen](#)'; '[Peggy Kundo](#)'; '[Yvonne Lilleston](#)'; '[Pam Percy](#)'; '[Jim and Jane Prater](#)'; '[Hugh and Carla Roche](#)'; '[Michelle Santiny](#)'; '[Fred Sutter](#)'; '[Trish Valle](#)'; '[Betty Wachob](#)'; '[Rita Chambers](#)'; '[Faye Myers](#)'; '[Betty Day](#)'; '[Wade Hudson](#)'; '[Winn Marsh](#)'; '[Mary Froelich](#)'; '[Thera Harris](#)'; '[A. C. Littleton](#)'; '[A. C. Littleton](#)'; '[Ginger Littleton](#)'; '[Alanna Cook](#)'; '[Eliese Moore](#)'; '[John Abramson \(GM\)](#)'; '[Errol Barnes](#)'; '[Carolyn Foosee](#)'; '[Frances Carr](#)'; '[Susie Seymour](#)'
Cc: '[Randy Woodham](#)'
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 8:23 PM
Subject: RE: directly from pastor chris

I'm not a choir member. I'm not a church attendee. I'm not even a church employee.
I was fired as a very limited part time maintenance man by the current pastor.

I received this e-mail. My children are not staff members. They are not a church attendees. They saw this e-mail since it downloaded via a POP 3 e-mail client server into Outlook.

My wife, Jacque Carter, had given her heart and soul to music and the SAUMC choir. She, most reluctantly, walked away based in part on the issue addressed here so vividly. Though it may have been unspoken it existed all along just pushed under the rug.

I speak as her husband and as the father of our two children. No one else. I'm offended in many ways. She was pushed aside as your choir director to pay this man much more money who traffics this kind of trash. If I seem angry, I hope you will understand my reasoning.

I'm no Biblical scholar, but in my humble pie opinion SAUMC got exactly what they deserved. In that, I mean there are consequences for actions and there is certainly enough action in the e-mail in question.

Remove my family from all affiliation to SAUMC and all affiliation to the United Methodist Church as a whole.

Barry Carter
Jacqueline Carter
Kristi Carter
Stan Carter

Barry Carter

From: Chris Cook [mailto:chris.saumc@knology.net]

Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 5:47 PM

To: Ed Flack; Milton Acton; Norma Brunson; Jean P Fanning; Betty Gall; Ruth Howard; Pat Hudson; Avis Keen; Peggy Kundo; Yvonne Lilleston; Pam Percy; Jim and Jane Prater; Hugh and Carla Roche; Michelle Santiny; Fred Sutter; Trish Valle; Betty Wachob; Rita Chambers; Jacque Carter; Faye Myers; Betty Day; Wade Hudson; Winn Marsh; Mary Froelich; Thera Harris; A. C. Littleton; A. C. Littleton; Ginger Littleton; Alanna Cook; Eliese Moore; John Abramson (GM); Errol Barnes; Carolyn Fooshee; Frances Carr; Susie Seymour

Cc: Randy Woodham

Subject: directly from pastor chris

As your pastor I would like to apologize for the offensive e-mail sent by a member of the staff of Saint Andrew UMC. Obviously it was not intentional. But the truth is - it is offensive. I am so sorry this has happened. I understand many of you will be outraged and offended and I understand - believe me - I do - my 14 year old daughter received the same e-mail.

Ed was the first to call to tell me what happened. I then called the SPR Chairperson, Buddy Hale and our District Superintendent, Randy Woodham to receive council and advice. I then went to Scripture and spent time in prayer for Ed and for our church. I want you to understand that what I am writing is not just a reaction, but my prayer is, it is a godly response after seeking council and guidance from others but most importantly from above.

My Scripture reading took me to John 8 which tells of a woman caught in the very act of adultery. By law she deserved death by stoning. The teachers of the law and Pharisees brought her before Jesus so he could judge her. They said, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women, now what do you say?"

I now find myself in a similar situation as Jesus - with a choice - you are here with me.

Jesus ignores the men - but they would **not** be ignored - they had their rocks ready to stone her - it is what the situation **demand**ed. She was wrong - she knew she was wrong. She deserved their ridicule, scorn and their rocks.

Jesus looked at the ones with the rocks and said to them, "If any one of you is without sin, let him be the first to throw the stone at her."

Scripture tells us that one by one the dropped their rocks and went away - the oldest first. When the woman looked up - she was expecting to see a crowd with rocks that would hurt and destroy instead she saw eyes of love and compassion.

Jesus asked her, "women, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

"No one, sir," She said.

"Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared.

So I ask all of you - what are we going to do? Ed has offered his resignation. I have not accepted it. After prayer and reflection **I am asking us to offer grace and love**. I am asking with tears in my eyes because I can see that this is the whole reason the church exists - to take sick, lost sinners and offer them grace - the same grace that we each receive. I can do nothing but ask this of each of you.

I do not believe in cheap grace, though. I do not believe that Jesus is one who just forgives and lets us go on our merry way. Look at the rest of the story in John 8. Jesus states that he does not condemn this woman but holds her accountable for that which she has done. **"Go now and leave your life of sin."** That is the other part. **The behavior is to change**.

We now have been exposed to internet pornography. I am sorry for this but want each of you to understand what a problem this is in our society today. With the invention of the internet pornography has taken off reaching audiences never before reached. Many of our youth are bombarded with this at a constant rate as are our husbands, children, brothers, sisters. Pornography is very addicting. There is help for those who have these addictions. Through counseling and prayer and support the hold of pornography can be broken. I will offer this to Ed as I will to anyone who finds themselves, through curiosity, interest or need opening such sites.

By ignoring these issues they do not go away - only underground.

My prayer is that you ask yourself - **what would Jesus do** in this instance - and **then do it**.

I am available to any one who would like to talk with me about this.

I will be meeting with the choir Wednesday night at 7:00pm and we will discuss the situation. All who have received the offensive e-mail are also invited to attend. Through prayer and love we will move forward as a church. The choir will practice their songs after our discussion.

Pastor Chris

----- Original Message -----

From: [Ed Flack](#)

To: [Milton Acton](#) ; [Norma Brunson](#) ; [Jean P Fanning](#) ; [Betty Gall](#) ; [Ruth Howard](#) ; [Pat Hudson](#) ; [Avis Keen](#) ; [Peggy Kundo](#) ; [Yvonne Lilleston](#) ; [Pam Percy](#) ; [Jim and Jane Prater](#) ; [Hugh and Carla Roche](#) ; [Michelle Santiny](#) ; [Fred Sutter](#) ; [Trish Valle](#) ; [Betty Wachob](#) ; [Chris Cook](#) ; [Rita Chambers](#) ; [Jacque Carter](#) ; [Ed Flack \(CC\)](#) ; [Faye Myers](#) ; [Betty Day](#) ;

[Wade Hudson](#) ; [Winn Marsh](#) ; [Mary Froelich](#) ; [Thera Harris](#) ; [A. C. Littleton](#) ; [A. C. Littleton](#) ; [Ginger Littleton](#) ; [Alanna Cook](#) ; [Eliese Moore](#) ; [John Abramson \(GM\)](#) ; [Errol Barnes](#) ; [Carolyn Foosee](#) ; [Frances Carr](#) ; [Susie Seymour](#)

Cc: [Larry Cox](#)

Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 8:54 AM

Subject: Choir News - 12/01/2008

CHOIR NEWS

Monday, December 1, 2008

HAPPY DECEMBER! THANKS to everyone for a wonderful Sunday - morning and afternoon - of music. At the beginning of the service we lit the first Advent candle. Your singing of our morning anthem "Every Valley" by John Ness Beck was good. Singing with us Sunday morning were Sopranos Alanna Cook, Betty Day, Ruth Howard, Jo McQuagge, Maris McQuagge, Eliese Moore, Trish Valle, and Betty Wachob; Altos Serena Cook, Carolyn Foosee, Pat Hudson, Ginger Littleton, Pam Percy, and Jane Prater; Tenors John Abramson and Kane Bouchard; and Basses Jim Prater and Fred Sutter. That's 8-6-2-2, total 18. Avis Keen and Peggy Kundo accompanied on the organ and piano. For the prelude Avis played two selections: an exciting arrangement of "Nun Danket alle God" (Now Thank We All Our God) by Sigfrid Karg-Elert, and a beautiful arrangement of "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." For the offertory Serena Cook played a beautiful arrangement of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" on the piano.

Later in the afternoon most of us returned at 3 to help with the decorating of the church. When it comes to Christmas decorations, SAUMC has the best! So many folks have that special and tasteful decorating talent and knack to make it all really incredible. John took lots of photos and some of them will be sent to Suzanne Strickland and hopefully placed on the website. Just the sheer beauty of the inside of SAUMC makes the church a very welcoming place for visitors, not to mention the great people of the church - YOU!! At 5 was the brief Hanging of the Greens service and the choir sang "The Holly and the Ivy" for one of the hymns. Singing with is were Alanna, Betty D., Ruth, Jo, Maris, Betty W., Serena, Carolyn, Pat, Pam, Jane, John, Kane, Jim, and Fred. That's 6-5-2-2, total 15. Peggy Kundo accompanied on the piano.

We have TWO rehearsals remaining before we sing "Christmas Canticles" on Sunday morning, December 14: this Wednesday, December 3, and the following Wednesday, December 10. We REALLY, REALLY, REALLY need EVERYONE at rehearsal for both Wednesdays. PLEASE do whatever it takes to be at these two rehearsals and of course, PLEASE sing with us on Sunday morning December 14. A FULL choir of 26 singers (11-9-3-3), all of our "regular" singers, will make for a beautiful and wonderful offering of praise with "Christmas Canticles" !! (If four "irregular" singers would like to join us to help full all 30 choir seats that would be great!) And, please do not forget our children and youth will present their Christmas musical "The King is Coming to Town" followed by the Church Christmas Party on Sunday evening at 5 p.m. It will be a FULL day of music for us all.

This coming Sunday, December 7, at 6 p.m., Music at St. Andrew will present PREMIER HARPS with Katie Ott and a special appearance by Maestro David Ott on the organ. This is a program you do not want to miss. Looking ahead, Avis and Thera will be presenting their organ/piano duet program on Sunday, January 25 at 6 p.m. Last year when Avis and Thera

played before Christmas the choir gave them a reception afterward. I am hoping we can do the same this year, so please begin to think about what we can do to make this fellowship time after their performance extra special. (YEA, like we all have time to think about this before Christmas!)

Sunday morning we sing "Advent Message" by Martin How. Larry Cox will be our organist, substituting for Avis who will be away. THANK YOU, LARRY! Larry will be playing a very special organ introduction to our first hymn, "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

Christmas Caroling Saturday morning, December 20. By now I hope you know the routine: meet at the church at 9:15 for car-pooling, Lisenby at 9:30, Betty Gall's at 10:30, Benton Village at 11:30, followed by LUNCH at Five Guys Burgers and Fries. YUMMY! If you have not been there yet, they have big cartons for peanuts for your snacking pleasure - all you can eat!

On Tuesday, December 23, we will have another Tuesday rehearsal from 6 to 7. Christmas Eve Candlelight service Wednesday at 6, preceded by the Living Nativity on the church lawn at 5:30. There will be NO rehearsal on Wednesday, December 31, New Year's Eve, unless of course you have some burning desire to sing at the church as we welcome the new year.

In an addition to the last Choir News I mentioned the possibility of a "telephone ministry" for our shut-ins and others who cannot make it to a Sunday morning service. So far Betty G., Betty W., and Pam have "volunteered" a cellphone for Sunday morning calls. We have three (so far) phones, NOW we need some shut-ins to call. If you know of someone who cannot get to church on a Sunday morning, please ask them if they would be interested in hearing the service (or part of the service) over their telephone. Be BOLD here, just call or visit and ask. Once folks know they can be a part of the service, they will enjoy being a part of it at home. If you can volunteer your cellphone, in case we get more requests, that would be appreciated. This is a great way to bring our shut-ins and others closer to the church, especially Sunday morning worship.

NEW CHOIR ROBES: Our "committee" to date is President Jean, Treasurer Betty D., Ruth, Peggy, and Yvonne. LAST CALL if you are interested. As soon as the information about robes arrives in the mail, hopefully in the next few days, we will begin the process of reviewing styles, materials, and colors. We hope to have the new robes for Palm Sunday, April 5.

STILL a couple of new choir folders waiting to be claimed by their "Singing Masters" (like Jedi Master, haha).

PRAYERS: Ramona, Thera and Ray Harris on the sudden passing of husband and son-in-law; Betty Gall; Yvonne Lilleston, home sick yesterday; A.C.'s Mother Alma Littleton; Jesse and Nellie Wachob; Norma's Dad home and recovering; student Gabby (blind) with a brain tumor; Michael McPhail, Carla's friend; Pastor Chris, Wade, Lorraine, Rita, Jacque, and Dianne; holiday travelers: Hugh and Carla - any other travelers, PLEASE let us know; the Bay County Schools. Our missing singers on Sunday: Merial, Mary Claire, Faye, Carla, Norma, Jean, Betty G., Yvonne, Errol, and Hugh. Any other prayer requests, please "reply all" and let us know!

It is a beautiful sunny day outside and I cannot wait to head over to the church to mail out some choir news to those of you who do not have email - the ride over on a beautiful, bright day is always special. For three days it will be (is supposed to be) SUNNY, today high 61, low 40; Tuesday high 56, low 38; Wednesday (CHOIR DAY!) high 63, low 50. Did I mention SUNNY and beautiful for three days? The SUN is shining outside, the SON is shining inside. We are blessed! May the outside sun and the inside SON keep our hearts filled with love, thankfulness, and beautiful music as we sing together. Hope to see and hear EVERYONE at rehearsal on Wednesday. Ed

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Ed Flack

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