



STATEMENT FROM THE ELDERS OF IMMANUEL CHURCH

In spring of 2024, the Immanuel Elders were made aware that Pastor Sam Allberry engaged in an inappropriate relationship with an adult man in 2022. This relationship concluded prior to Sam being called as a pastor at Immanuel in 2023. Being made aware, the Elders immediately began a thorough investigation. After considering the information available at that time and the posture of Sam and the other party, the Elders ruled that though Sam's conduct was unwise, it did not rise to the level of disqualification. However, in January of 2026, the Elders received new information about this relationship that had not been disclosed previously. This initiated a reopening of the investigation, the findings of which led the Elders to conclude that, while the relationship did not go as far as it could have, Sam's conduct constituted a serious breach of trust and a failure to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel. The Elders are unanimous in their decision that Sam is currently disqualified from gospel ministry. Sam agrees with this decision and has resigned from Immanuel Church.

Throughout this process, Sam has been repentant, humble, and cooperative with the Elders and outside counsel. The Elders continue to care for Sam as a brother in Christ and Member of Immanuel. We will continue to support Sam and the other party with counseling, and we are determined in so far as we are able to "restore him in a spirit of gentleness" to full fellowship in the church (Galatians 6:1).