

From: Tim Beadle tbeadle@transformcma.ca
Subject: Keeping Connected
Date: June 17, 2016 at 12:37 PM
To: Barry Pendergast barrypendergast@telus.net

TB

Hi Barry

I appreciate your response – and to meet first with Ray (which is different from what we agreed upon when we met.) I want to respect all parties involved and will now communicate with the church leadership (James and Les) related to this change for their response.

I am wondering, in light of what you have shared, if you are still attending the church? I was under the impression from the time we spent together that apart from this one area of ministry – things seemed well with your soul at First Alliance in the other areas of ministry (nursery – taking photos, etc)

Also in light of what you shared and the reality of my district responsibilities, I can only offer a certain amount of time in this journey. I need to be up front with you on this. My role and responsibilities with the district finds me entrusted with working alongside church pastors, and elders.... Not congregational members. However, In light of your expressed concern through the 'Plan to Protect' contact – my desire is to connect you with the church leadership so that you can express your concerns in a safe manner.... Which is still my intention. Please hear my heart in this Barry and Jennifer.

So now I will relay your desire not to meet with Les, but rather with Ray.

I am wondering if it would be more practical for Ray to contact you directly?

Thanks and blessings to you today.

Tim
Church Coach

From: Barry Pendergast <barrypendergast@telus.net>
Date: Friday, June 17, 2016 at 9:05 AM
To: Tim Beadle <tbeadle@transformcma.ca>
Cc: Jennifer Pendergast <jenniferpendergast@telus.net>
Subject: Re: Keeping Connected

Tim

Thank you for your care and concern for us. It is very much appreciated .
The following comments reflect a few of our concerns in the direction of moving forward to accomplish a God pleasing resolution.

We have just finished working through the Plan To Protect Webinar. Really quite a lot of information we were already aware of and had in fact studied previously. Even though we feel it lacks any indication of how the process should work it does give us the confidence to make the following comments.

1. We are feeling even more grieved than when we met you. Its been extremely painful period and our respective doctors are very concerned about our fragile state over the hurt done to us psychologically, emotionally and physically. We will be following their prescribed treatment.

- 2 Our faith in First Alliance Church as a safe place to worship and serve is at an all time low

2. Our faith in First Alliance Church as a safe place to worship and serve is at an all time low

3. In spite of that state we are ready to blow the whistle loud and clear on what has happened to us and request an opportunity to share our testimony in a safe environment and over a reasonable time period.

4. We respectfully request an immediate investigation of our claims that we have been systematically spiritually and emotionally abused by a leader and/or leaders at First Alliance Church and grievously robbed us the joys and gifts we both had in serving the Lord in marriage & family ministry. We believe a review of the systems that failed to keep this abuse in check need deep examination. We are confident our story is not a one time happening either within this ministry or others in the church as a whole. Healing must come however painful the process will be.

5. In our first meeting we will not be prepared to meet with Les Bon-Bernard. His presence will not create the safe atmosphere necessary for us to share our story. Its unclear to us just how aware he was of what actions had been taken to harm us, remove us from ministry nor the level at which he supervised those under his command and responsibility. We suggest that for an initial meeting Ray Matheson as the right person.

6. We anticipate the process to build a safe atmosphere of trust for whistle blowers to come forward requires a period of prayer and those willing to work through some very difficult topics. Several Christian friends a few years back likened the end product to something based on a hospital triage unit. Another trusted colleague in this area is Barbara Orlowski who received her PhD on this topic and has studied this difficult topic for many years and its effect on those it impacts. We would like her involved at some time in the process. She is the kind of independent expert required to make any progress, willing to ask tough questions that lead to breakthroughs that honour God.

7. If the evidence confirms our claims it is our sincere desire to see those leaders who we claim have abused and harmed us to be counselled and fully restored eventually for service again.

8. We hope that following this process consideration be given to rebuilding the marriage & family ministry to become a cornerstone of the church reaching well beyond the walls the church. That a new pastoral leader be appointed with demonstrable skills in the area of marriage & family and willing to put in the effort to build a solid team work required to make this ministry healthy again.

As far as to the meeting place for our initial meeting with you and Ray we suggest the Calgary Jewish Centre. Its close and convenient for us and as members we should be able to find a private space there.

Thanks you for being on this journey with us.

Blessings
Barry & Jennifer

On Jun 16, 2016, at 11:20 PM, Tim Beadle <tbeadle@transformcma.ca> wrote:

Hi Barry and Jennifer

Just a note to keep in touch – Les has been in touch and will get back to me early next week re next steps.

Thanks for your patience

