

To My Dear Friends at Bangor Liberty,

In August of 2011 we came to this church not knowing much other than we felt God was calling us to come here. We obeyed and God began doing a work in our lives and in the life of this church that has exceeded our greatest hopes and dreams. We've laughed, cried, celebrated, and mourned together. You've seen us at our best and at our worst, and you loved us anyway. I am truly grateful for the friendships that we've been blessed with in our nearly 4 years of ministry and life with you. I can honestly say we are better people because of you all and I hope the same can be said of you because of us.

It is for these reasons, and many more, that my heart is heavy as I submit to you my resignation. Over the course of several months we have been exploring God's leading with Northridge Friends Church in Wichita, KS and we have felt His continued peace with each step of this explorative journey. At this point it becomes a matter of integrity for me to submit my resignation as I continue to pursue what will, more than likely, become my next ministry call.

This has easily been the most fruitful and enjoyable portion of my ministry so far, and I'm convinced that part of that is due to my family and my obedience to God's call and leading. We desire to continue to feel His pleasure and see fruit in our work, and to do that we believe obedience is a key factor. It is for this reason and no other that we feel that this is our next step. We haven't been hurt by anyone, we are not angry, and there is no bitterness in our hearts. We feel nothing but love for you and plan to leave here in 4 months with that love fully in tact so that when we return to visit, and we will, that we can celebrate with you all that God has done.

If it meets your approval, my final Sunday will be June 21 of this year and my last official day as pastor of Bangor Liberty Friends will be Thursday, June 25. With that in mind I need you to know that you will continue to get the same passion and dedication from my ministry here as you have grown accustomed to, right up to my last minute with you. There is still much work to do and I am still your pastor.

I understand that this news will cause a multitude of emotions and reactions and I want to make sure that I have ample time to answer your questions and hear your thoughts. Please don't hesitate to call me or stop by the office to talk. Whether you're angry, sad, excited, or something else, I want you to feel free to share your thoughts and allow me to help you process them the best I can.

Thank you all for a being the most loving and genuine group of people we've ever known. There will always be a special place in our hearts for this church. Let's make the next 4 months the best part of our journey together!

Sincerely and with Love,

Manny, Jenalee, and Family