

December 2013

I have known Ed for almost 11 years. Ed came to First Presbyterian Church (“FPC”) in January 2003 and as a member of the Chancel Choir, I at once sensed a passion for worship and a commitment to excellence. Ed’s passion and commitment has never lessened during his tenure at FPC.

Ed brought that same commitment and passion to the friendship that developed between him and me, as well as my family, including my son and husband. My son began participating in the youth choir in large part because of his friendship with Ed. This, of course, led to my husband and me chaperoning youth choir trips. The choir trips were always filled with fun – one example being when Ed “borrowed” my son’s hat (he likes to wear fedoras) as a prop to increase camaraderie amongst all the youth. Likewise, when my son’s school required him to begin logging community service hours, Ed was quick to provide opportunities relating to church and choir activities. His assistance was a blessing to Tim and also to my husband and me as we attempt to juggle the many demands of a student in a demanding school curriculum.

I could mention Ed’s charitable activities, his sensitivity-most recently evident with the loss of his beloved Aria-and his big heart which shortly after the loss of Aria opened up to take in two beautiful Labrador rescue dogs. Indeed, there is much to laud about Ed as a person.

On a much more personal level, I am honored to have Ed as a friend who is always there with an ear when needed, valuable advice-even when not requested-and an open mind to consider alternative viewpoints. He has a great sense of humor, which has been invaluable during these difficult church years of changing pastors. Throughout, he has remained a steadfast and true friend and if he leaves, we will miss not only his excellent choir direction, but his friendship.

Best Regards,  
Rebekah N. Plowman, Partner  
Jones Day  
1420 Peachtree Street, N.E.  
Suite 800  
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3053