

Official Statement Regarding Andrew Apple

February 26, 2025

It is with deep sorrow that we address a situation affecting our church family. We have been made aware of serious allegations against Andrew Apple, a former volunteer at our church.

Andrew Apple has been arrested and remains in custody on the following charges:

- **Rape** (Class Y Felony)
- **Sexual Indecency with a Child** (Class D Felony)
- **Sexual Assault in the Second Degree** (Class B Felony)

These charges pertain to alleged abuse involving two individuals who were minors and attended our church's youth ministry at the time.

The first victim came forward on **February 1, 2025**, and the report was immediately relayed to law enforcement that same day. A second individual later disclosed similar allegations to another church staff member, and that report was also promptly made to the authorities.

We have fully cooperated with law enforcement from the outset and will continue to do so. Our priority is to support the victims and ensure the safety and well-being of our entire church community. We encourage all parents to have open conversations with their children and reach out if any concerns arise.

We want to express our sincere gratitude to **law enforcement** for their diligence and professionalism in handling

this matter. Additionally, we are deeply thankful to **Lisa Reddy and Safe Church** for their guidance and expertise in helping us navigate this difficult time with wisdom and care. Their support has been invaluable in ensuring we take every necessary step to protect and care for our church family.

According to the affidavit, the alleged incidents took place **three to four years ago** when the victims were teenagers. At that time, Andrew Apple served as our **Media Coordinator**.

In **January 2024**, he became a volunteer youth mentor but was immediately removed from that role and all other church service positions on **February 1, 2025**, as soon as the allegations were brought to our attention.

As a church, we take this matter with the utmost seriousness. We do not and will not tolerate abuse in any form. We are heartbroken that this has happened within our community and grieve deeply with those who have been affected.

For many years, we have required **background checks and child safety training** for those serving in children's and youth ministries. However, in light of this situation, we are enhancing our policies and strengthening our training requirements to extend to **all** individuals serving in **any** capacity within our church. Additional measures include:

- **Expanded child safety training**, making it mandatory for all volunteers, leaders, and staff.
- **Increased security measures**, including updated and expanded security camera coverage to enhance monitoring and protection.

We urge any individual with relevant information to contact **Detective Quincy Hansen** at **(479) 254-2048**.

If you feel comfortable, you may also reach out to us directly so that we can provide additional support and pastoral care.

Our hearts and prayers are with the alleged victims, their families, and our church family during this difficult time.

We ask for your continued prayers for healing and wisdom as we navigate this painful moment together.

If you have personal concerns or questions, I am available for individual meetings.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Sincerely,

Chantry Dean
Lead Pastor
Calvary Church