

Jeff Thayer steps down as worker

May 10

Dear friends in Minnesota and Iowa,

We are collectively sorry for lapses in communication in the past. We are working together to correct this. We are sorry for the confusion and uncertainty you have felt.

Around 15 years ago there was an allegation against Jeff Thayer regarding a relationship with an adult woman. Some of the concern is with how it was handled. Monday Jeff returned early from his Orient tour because of this issue. He is stepping aside from the work and will be going to his brother's home in another state. We want to assure you the case is not closed. We will keep you posted as this develops.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to any worker you feel comfortable with to answer questions or share concerns.

Shari Stamps and John Simons are available as a resource for the S Minneapolis field.

Shari Stamps [*phone and email redacted but available from WINGS on request*]

John Simons [*phone and email redacted but available from WINGS on request*]

With sincere care,

The IA/MN staff

WINGS Note:

A worker has been defending Jeff, stating "Unfortunately Jeff is being 'attacked' by people who are no longer part of our fellowship. Some of you may have seen the letter which appeared on Facebook. It depicts something that may have occurred 15 years ago... some inappropriate sexual behaviour. It seems to me that all is blown way out of proportion & I feel very deeply for Jeff in this humiliating experience".

WINGS understands that the matter was reported by a person who is a member of the fellowship.

Jeff Thayer has previously stated "I found myself investigated twice. Both times yielded up no evidence for the allegations..."