

July 15, 2022: Culpeper Baptist Church's Personnel Committee, in consultation with the Leadership Council, have terminated Alex Smith's employment with the church.

July 13, 2022 statement updated July 15, 2022

On Tuesday afternoon July 12, 2022, Pastor Dan Carlton received an allegation that our part time elementary substitute in the Child Development Center had engaged in grooming behavior with a person under the age of 18. The allegation did not involve a child in our center. The allegations were reported to the authorities in accordance with Virginia law and it was also reported independently. The Culpeper Sheriff's Office made a statement on its social media regarding the allegation and has charged Craig Alexander Smith with a violation of VA. Code Section 18.2-374.3 - Use of communication system to facilitate certain offenses involving children. On July 14 the Culpeper Sheriff's Office added a charge of felony taking indecent liberties with child by person in custodial or supervisory relationship and is being held without bond. The Sheriff's Office asks that anyone with information of other victims or incidents to please contact the Sheriff's Office at 540-727-7520 or MKeene@CulpeperCounty.gov. We stand ready to fully cooperate with the Sheriff's Office and to assist any persons with concerns or who are victims of improper or illegal conduct with respect to children.

Alex is no longer employed with the Child Development Center.