

January 2013

To whom it may concern:

I had the pleasure of working with Arlin Strader for a period of 10 years at All Saints Church, Pawleys Island, SC. As music director and worship leader, my responsibilities included hiring a few professional musicians who could anchor our Praise Band, and provide continuity for the volunteers who served on a rotating basis.

When I hired Arlin in 2003, I hired an exceptional drummer with a strong desire to serve in whatever capacity I needed him. Neither of us knew that it would be the beginning of a long journey of personal and spiritual growth, mentoring opportunities and strong friendships. His value as a team player who connected with the entire music ministry team was remarkable to witness, and continued to grow stronger in his years at All Saints.

As music director, I could always count on Arlin to be the first person to arrive. He would be warming up as I turned on the lights and equipment each week. He quickly learned what style of percussion we needed in a blended worship service, and provided a perfect unobtrusive yet tasty element to the ensemble. His role on certain weeks was to rhythmically pull together an amateur group who played together infrequently, and he was able to do it with tact and humor.

If you are fortunate enough to acquire Arlin Strader's expertise and enthusiasm for serving, you will be blessed. His musical sensibilities as they relate to worship have grown tremendously in the ten years that we worked together, and I would expect him to quickly adapt to any situation.

Sincerely,

Debora Bellamy  
Adjunct Collaborative Pianist  
Furman University

Former Director of Music  
All Saints Church, Pawleys Island